

A woman and a young girl are sitting on a low wall, engaged in a conversation. The woman, on the right, is wearing a blue long-sleeved shirt with "HIAS" on the sleeve and a tan vest. She is looking down at the girl with a smile. The girl, on the left, is wearing a white t-shirt with "XBTO" and a soccer ball logo, and khaki pants. She is pointing her right index finger upwards and looking up at the woman. The background is a blurred indoor setting with wooden beams.

Standing for Welcome Fighting for Hope

2025 Annual Report

HIAS stands for a world in which forcibly displaced people find welcome, safety, and opportunity.

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Letter from HIAS President & CEO, Dr. Beth Oppenheim

Some years stay with us long after they are over. 2025 is one of those years. In 2025, HIAS went through so much change, reminding ourselves and our community of the power of resilience. To be Jewish and humanitarian is to believe in the power of community, of change, and of bravery. As HIAS' new President & CEO, I am reminded of this every day. Not only in the fights we are proud to take on to stand up for refugees and immigrants around the world, but also in the actions and the passion of the people we are proud to serve every day.

As a granddaughter of a refugee helped by HIAS, I would not be here were it not for the awe-inspiring ability of an organization to change and evolve not in spite of hard times, but truly because of them. As the first woman to lead HIAS in its long history, I am proud of the way that our communities, clients, and staff have shown up in a year that will be remembered in history books for what it taught us about our own courage. HIAS—as courageous as ever—leaves 2025 behind forever changed, but also forever committed to charting a new path for the welcome we wish to see every day into the future.



Beth

Dr. Beth Oppenheim
HIAS President & CEO



Displaced people in transit, including this mother and child, receive emergency support from HIAS Colombia in Capurgana, June 2025. (HIAS Colombia)

HIAS' Impact in 2025

In a year defined by extraordinary challenges, HIAS continued to provide welcome, safety, and opportunity to people forced to flee around the world.

544,081

People reached worldwide

203,899

Women and girls reached directly through HIAS programs

127,133

Children directly assisted through youth-tailored programs

1,725

People resettled in the United States

HIAS' 2025 ACTIVITIES

This report lays out our key activities in 2025. These include:



Standing with refugees, asylum seekers, and immigrants across the U.S. during one of the most challenging years in recent history.



Providing essential services for refugees, displaced people, and local communities across five continents.



Advocating for the rights of refugees, and challenging threats to their ability to feel safe.

GEOGRAPHIC REACH

In FY2025, HIAS worked in Austria, Belgium, Chad, Colombia, Ecuador, Greece, Israel, Kenya, Mexico, Moldova, Panama, South Africa, Ukraine, the United Kingdom, the United States, Venezuela, and other countries around the world.

2025 in Review

January

President Trump is sworn in for his second term and immediately issues 200 executive orders, including the devastating decisions to suspend the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program (USRAP) and the ability to seek asylum at the U.S.-Mexico border. The immediate suspension of humanitarian aid programs across the world leaves millions of displaced people without basic services.

Humanitarian organizations such as HIAS are forced to shutter programs and offices.

March

President Trump invokes the Alien Enemies Act of 1798 to bypass due process and deport immigrants from the U.S. for alleged connections to gangs, often with little or no concrete evidence.

In a moment of deep unity and connection with Jews around the world, 280 congregations participate in HIAS' seventh annual Refugee Shabbat in Jewish communities worldwide.

June

The Trump administration announces a new travel ban restricting entry from 19 countries, significantly limiting lawful travel based on nationality.

HIAS publicly opposes the policy and advocates against it through legal and policy channels.

HIAS organizes a month-long series of vigils across the U.S., where people gather to speak out against the Trump administration's assault on refugees and immigrants.

October

The Trump administration slashes refugee admissions to a historic low of 7,500, which is a fraction of the 125,000 authorized in the prior year, and by far the lowest in the history of the program. Nearly all slots are reserved only for white South Africans.

November

The tragic shooting of National Guard members in Washington, D.C., is used as a pretense for sweeping and unprecedented restrictions on refugees and asylum seekers, particularly from Afghanistan. The changes include the threat of re-screening already resettled refugees, pausing all asylum decisions indefinitely, blocking immigration processing for people from 19 countries, and halting all visas for Afghans, including Special Immigrants Visas (SIVs) for people who supported U.S. efforts in Afghanistan.

HIAS mobilizes legal, pro-bono, and advocacy efforts to help clients navigate the rapidly changing immigration policies. HIAS staff work directly with clients whose immigration pathways are disrupted, providing legal support, information, and case management. HIAS also advocates against the restrictions and works with partners to safeguard access to protection, family reunification, and due process.



Fighting for Refugees and Immigrants

In HIAS' long history, there has never been a year quite like 2025. As attacks on refugees, immigrants, and the systems that protect them intensified, HIAS remained at the forefront, speaking out and standing up for those seeking safety. The moments here capture a defining year in the U.S. and their impact around the world.

February

HIAS joins two lawsuits to fight back against harmful Trump administration policies that have forced millions into further vulnerability.

In *Pacito v. Trump*, HIAS challenges the halt in admission of tens of thousands of vulnerable refugees destined for new lives in the United States. In *Global Health Council v. Trump*, HIAS fights to restore humanitarian aid funding worldwide.

April

The Trump administration expands its use of deportation, sending immigrants to countries where they are not citizens, don't speak the language, and have no ties. Many of these removals violate international law, including sending vulnerable people to countries where they could face persecution.

Over 500 Jewish clergy members across the U.S. sign on to HIAS' letter condemning the administration's misuse of law to target immigrants, and warning that the legal system is being manipulated in ways that undermine dignity, due process, and fundamental rights.

July

President Trump signs the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA) into law. The OBBBA inflicts devastating harm on whole communities across the United States.

HIAS mobilizes quickly to provide support and information to refugees and immigrants as federal benefits are cut in order to turbocharge the Trump administration's draconian immigration enforcement efforts.

December

3,000 immigration enforcement officers are deployed in the Twin Cities and throughout Minnesota. Operation Metro Surge is characterized by brutally violent arrest tactics and a powerful community response.



LOVE
KNOWS NO
BORDERS
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

Love the Stranger.
Love Your Neighbor.
Together in Welcome.
HIAS

We Stand For
Welcome
Together in Welcome
HIAS

We Stand For
Welcome
HIAS

U.S. Impact

While the U.S. government launched attack after attack on refugees and asylum seekers, HIAS worked overtime to provide critical support to thousands of people across the country.

Advocacy and Community Engagement

HIAS educates, organizes, and mobilizes American Jews to put their values into action and fight for the rights of refugees and immigrants, including through HIAS' annual Refugee Shabbat event. HIAS' advocacy work in the U.S. is guided by over a century of expertise in assisting displaced people, and we advocate for the rights of refugees and immigrants, regardless of their national, ethnic, or religious backgrounds. In 2025, an onslaught of anti-immigrant policy changes put millions of refugees and immigrants in acute danger through deportation and detainment, the removal of legal status and rights, the decimation of humanitarian funding, and the closure of pathways to safety for vulnerable populations.

Through targeted actions applying pressure to local and national representatives, training and educational resources, and community events and protests, HIAS mobilized thousands of Americans to fight for refugees, asylum seekers, and immigrants in 2025.

BY THE NUMBERS

20,400

people contacted their representatives more than 41,600 times through HIAS action alerts

3,000+

supporters attended HIAS Advocacy and Community Engagement webinars

284

congregations participated in HIAS' seventh annual Refugee Shabbat, in the U.S. and around the world



IMPACT STORY

In Vigils Across the Country, Americans Gathered to Demand Welcome

In response to the U.S. government's hostility towards refugees and immigrants, HIAS created a month-long series of vigils in a national "Together in Welcome" campaign. Across the country, people gathered to speak out against the Trump administration's assault on American values and demonstrate our commitment to those who seek refuge.

More than 20 national partners across faith communities supported the effort, with more than 20 vigils taking place across 14 different states. Most vigils were multi-faith events,

in partnership with synagogues, churches, mosques, mutual aid groups, activist coalitions, and sanctuary networks.

The vigils represented the power of HIAS' approach, creating spaces where communities could come together, share stories, and build lasting partnerships that protect welcome for all people. They bolstered existing coalitions and forged new connections, while pressuring public officials and inspiring local communities to support their neighbors under threat.

ABOVE Participants listen to faith leaders speak at a "Together in Welcome" vigil in New York City, June 2025. (Lindsay Kagalis/HIAS)

STRATEGIC LITIGATION

HIAS Files Multiple Legal Challenges to the Trump Administration’s Attacks

Throughout 2025, the Trump administration deliberately dismantled refugee protection, asylum, and humanitarian systems—causing extraordinary harm to people fleeing danger and persecution around the world. HIAS fought throughout the year as a plaintiff in two landmark lawsuits challenging these inhumane policies.

BELOW Supporters of HIAS and its partners attend a press conference following oral arguments in the *Pacito v. Trump* class action lawsuit, in Pasadena, California, September 4, 2025. (Brenda Bravo for IRAP, HIAS, CWS, and LCSNW)

RIGHT A family arrives in the U.S. with the help of HIAS resettlement partner JFS of Western Massachusetts. The arrival comes as a result of the *Pacito v. Trump* lawsuit. (Lindsay Kagalis/HIAS)



Pacito v. Trump Fighting the Suspension of Refugee Admissions

Within the first few weeks of the Trump administration, HIAS joined as a plaintiff in *Pacito v. Trump* and has been fighting in courts for more than a year against the halt to refugee admissions that left hundreds of thousands of refugees stranded around the world. The case was responsible for forcing the Trump administration to resettle a small number of vulnerable refugees in the summer of 2025.



Global Health Council v. Trump Fighting the Halt in Humanitarian Assistance

HIAS joined several other organizations and corporations to fight for the restoration of U.S. humanitarian and development assistance after the U.S. government halted funding to organizations like HIAS that provide food, water, medicine, and other support to millions around the world. *Global Health Council v. Trump* was directly responsible for the disbursement of much-needed humanitarian aid funds in its ascent to the Supreme Court.

Direct Support

for Refugees and Immigrants in the U.S.

In 2025, refugees and immigrants in the United States were plunged into fear and uncertainty, as shifting policies and unpredictable systems undermined their safety. HIAS clients were dramatically affected—facing deportation, detention, family separation, loss of legal status, loss of benefits and work authorization, and the closure of many established pathways to safety.

HIAS staff worked around the clock, adapting in real time to provide assistance to thousands of newcomers in the United States. Every hour brought new challenges, yet we refused to let any of the people we serve face them alone.

Alongside our resettlement partners around the U.S., HIAS supported resettled refugees, asylum seekers, and other displaced people. We provided housing assistance, employment training and career development, mental health support, social services, and legal support.

BY THE NUMBERS

13,400+

refugees, asylum seekers, and immigrants supported by HIAS programming in the U.S.

18,000

hours of donated legal services by pro bono partners, valued at over \$18.6 million

117

Afghan SIV holders assisted by HIAS-supported Welcome Circles, despite cuts to funding to support communities' ability to welcome



IMPACT STORY

HIAS Helps Asylum Seeker Reunite with His Family

By the time Fon reached the U.S., he had crossed 13 countries on foot to reach safety. Living with a disability, he relied on a wheelchair and crutches. Like many displaced people, he carried trauma from what he survived, grief for what he lost, and fear of what could still happen next.

After arriving in 2023, Fon sought protection and was granted asylum the following year. However, Fon quickly learned that obtaining legal status is only the beginning. Fon's wife and children were still in Cameroon. His wife, an activist advocating for the rights of people with disabilities, had been targeted for her

work and was forced into hiding. HIAS' legal team began working with Fon to petition for his wife and children to join him in the U.S., helping him take steps toward reunification.

Fon was referred to HIAS' social services team as he worked to rebuild his life. He had become disconnected from help and wasn't sure how to access it again. His food assistance benefits were reduced; rent was increasingly difficult to afford, and an administrative error in his immigration documents prevented him from renewing his driver's license or applying for health care.

ABOVE It's all smiles for Fon, an asylee from Cameroon, and his family, as they reunite in Washington, D.C., on December 5, 2025. (HIAS)



Getting [my family] here clears all my pain. Facing immigration challenges while having HIAS support me is a shoulder I won't forget.

Fon, an aslyee from Cameroon

Most urgently, Fon's wheelchair needed a new battery and at a cost of several hundred dollars, he could not afford to replace it. Without it, getting to work became harder. Missing work meant losing income, which meant falling behind on rent.

HIAS' unique approach to working with vulnerable newcomers means that supporting the legal needs of our clients is just the start; we take a comprehensive approach to ensuring the full range of their needs are met.

HIAS' social services team helped Fon meet basic needs by connecting him to food resources, providing Lyft vouchers so he could attend critical appointments, and linking him to a community center for people with disabilities. With HIAS' support, Fon corrected his paperwork, obtained a state-issued ID, enrolled in health insurance, and applied for financial assistance to repair his wheelchair. HIAS also helped him reconnect with refugee resettlement services for employment support and benefit renewal.

Then came the call Fon had been dreading: his wife was kidnapped in Cameroon. To help with the immense emotional strain, HIAS connected him with support, enabling him to manage his fear, anxiety, and distress during the crisis.

In early December 2025, after years of separation and uncertainty, HIAS finally reunited Fon with his wife and children in the U.S.

"Getting [my family] here clears all my pain. Facing immigration challenges while having HIAS support me is a shoulder I won't forget," Fon said.

Today, HIAS continues to support the family as they rebuild, navigating school enrollments, locating resources, and ensuring they can access the benefits that help families heal and move toward stability.



HIAS provided Fon with legal and social services and helped him reunite with his wife and children in the United States. (HIAS)



Global Impact

Despite devastating cuts to humanitarian assistance funding, HIAS rose to a moment of extreme challenge in order to deliver essential support to hundreds of thousands of displaced people worldwide, helping them survive and rebuild their lives.

Protecting Displaced People

Our protection programs focus on upholding the rights and meeting the core needs of refugees as they navigate legal challenges and start anew.

HIAS protects refugees and displaced people by offering legal support, preventing and responding to violence against women and girls, promoting children's rights, providing safe housing, and ensuring access to the essentials they need to integrate. These approaches are all tailored to local contexts and are designed to strengthen communities to support people forced to flee violence and persecution.

Our flagship legal protection programs are dedicated to ensuring that displaced people know their rights and can navigate the often-complicated legal systems that lead to permanent status and security. We are particularly focused on ensuring that the most vulnerable—including children, survivors of torture or sexual and domestic violence, and refugees with disabilities—can secure intensive legal aid.

With a focus on refugee community empowerment, HIAS works around the world to protect the fundamental human rights of displaced people.

BY THE NUMBERS

81,000+

displaced people provided with legal representation and support

80,500+

women, girls, and others participated in HIAS' violence prevention and support programs



IMPACT STORY

Helping Refugees in Kenya with Holistic Protection Services

Emmanuela*, a 27-year-old mother, arrived in Kenya in 2019 after fleeing from violent clashes that broke out between the government and opposition forces in Burundi, her homeland. The violence brutally impacted her family, with her parents and siblings killed in the conflict.

"I was afraid that since everyone else was killed, that it could also happen to me," Emmanuela said.

She made the long journey to Kenya with her two children alone and is their sole caregiver.

Once in Kenya, Emmanuela received support from a HIAS Kenya program that provides emergency assistance to refugees. The

program focuses on groups of refugees at risk of violence such as children, elderly adults, and caregivers.

HIAS' field teams provided Emmanuela with cash and voucher assistance (CVA) to cover urgent needs such as food and housing.

She also received childcare services through a small initiative run by HIAS Kenya which allowed her to work and continue providing for her family.

"The space helps me a lot. I can keep working knowing my children are in a safe place," she said.

* Name changed to protect Emmanuela's identity

ABOVE HIAS Kenya facilitates a Prevention of Sexual Abuse and Exploitation training session in Nairobi, November 2025. (HIAS Kenya)



“**HIAS came to my rescue. This support profoundly changed my life. I was able to shake off the sadness that was weighing me down.**

Sudanese refugee in Chad

73,100+
displaced people
supported by HIAS’
mental health
programs

Supporting Community Mental Health

A supportive environment is essential for healing and recovery in the aftermath of crisis or trauma. HIAS’ community-based mental health programs and psychosocial services strengthen existing relationships, networks, and practices that communities use to cope and heal.

We train key community members to recognize emotional distress after a crisis or emergency, and how to respond with empathy and respect. By developing community support and peer groups, facilitating opportunities for connection in a safe environment, and linking people with necessary services, HIAS promotes a culturally sensitive approach to help people cope with adversity.

IMPACT STORY

Fleeing the Civil War in Sudan, Refugees Find Recovery and Hope in Chad

In April 2023, civil war broke out in Sudan, forcing millions of people to flee to neighboring countries—including Chad. The country now hosts 1.8 million displaced people.

HIAS has provided services to refugees, displaced people, and host communities in Chad for more than 20 years. The conflict in Sudan has created the world’s largest displacement crisis and stretched Chad’s already limited resources. Cuts to humanitarian assistance by the U.S. government have left vulnerable people at even greater risk.

Despite all the odds stacked against them, refugees like Sara* are finding ways to rebuild their lives in Chad with the help of HIAS.

Sara fled to Chad with her mother and two children when Sudan’s civil war broke out and her husband followed shortly thereafter. Even

before she was uprooted by conflict, Sara had endured significant trauma in her life: She experienced genital mutilation at the age of 15 and then was raped. She was also abused by her husband.

In Chad, Sara sought help from HIAS—and her life has changed completely. She received community-based mental health care that helped her recover from the trauma she experienced. Now divorced, Sara has found a livelihood selling vegetables and can support her family.

“HIAS came to my rescue, providing essential mental health support,” she said. “This support profoundly changed my life: I was able to shake off the sadness that was weighing me down and to regain a certain stability.”

** Name changed to protect Sara’s identity.*

OPPOSITE Women who have fled violence in Sudan participate in mental health and psychosocial support programs conducted by HIAS Chad in the Alacha camp, January 2025. (Saam Kouakaine/HIAS Chad)

Promoting Economic Empowerment

Through our economic empowerment work, HIAS ensures refugees have safe opportunities to earn sustainable incomes and contribute to their communities.

HIAS' economic integration programs equip displaced people with the skills, tools, and knowledge needed to navigate local labor markets through job readiness workshops, vocational training, and financial literacy programs. We provide seed funding, credit-building tools, and business development to help displaced people launch and grow small businesses, fostering long-term economic stability.

By building partnerships with employers, we create job placement pipelines, mentorship opportunities, and fair hiring practices that connect refugees to long-term livelihoods. In 2025, HIAS provided more than 6,000 displaced people with economic support.

BY THE NUMBERS

6,000+

displaced people supported through HIAS' economic empowerment programs globally

205

refugee entrepreneurs assisted through 41 loans by HIAS' Economic Advancement Fund (EAF)

\$12,089

average loan size provided to refugee entrepreneurs by HIAS EAF

IMPACT STORY

Helping a Women's Agribusiness Collective Expand in Ecuador

Across Ecuador, HIAS works with displaced people and host community members who face economic insecurity, limited employment opportunities, and heightened risks of exploitation and abuse—particularly women. Through an agribusiness initiative supported by UNHCR since 2017, HIAS Ecuador helps program participants build emotional stability, strengthen community ties, and create sustainable livelihoods.

Starting in 2022, HIAS Ecuador held a series of mental health workshops for women in a rural area near the northern border with Colombia. The workshops fostered personal and group empowerment, addressing topics related to violence prevention and teamwork. HIAS Ecuador also awarded scholarships to group participants who became the founding members of INTIVA, a collective agribusiness specializing in herbal infusions and dehydrated fruits.

HIAS helped INTIVA purchase equipment to expand their production and awarded them seed capital grants. Simultaneously, INTIVA co-founders participated in financial education and business management training programs.

As the initiative entered its final consolidation stage in 2025, HIAS Ecuador provided training on teamwork, conflict resolution, and effective communication. Most recently, HIAS provided scholarships to the collective to learn how to promote their business online. Today, INTIVA members are not only growing their business, but also contributing to their community.

"All the support has been significant, whether small or large," Tatiana, one of the founding members of INTIVA said. "It has all come at the right time and at the right moment. Because there were times when, without moral support, we could not have done it, or without financial support, we would not have been able to get our machines."



Women-led agribusiness INTIVA, which HIAS Ecuador supported with training and technical assistance, tables at a community event in Tulcán, Ecuador, in September 2025. (Emily Primack and Lauren Pach/HIAS)

“There are times when, without moral support, we could not have done it.”

Tatiana, co-founder of agribusiness INTIVA



The Power of Partnership

For more than a century, HIAS has been a lifeline for people seeking safety, and a moral voice when it mattered most. During one of the most tumultuous years in American history, we were at the forefront of support for refugees and immigrants, stepping up to lead the fight for their rights and safety. Our work has always been about keeping families together, safe, and free. Whether it's helping a family reunite across continents or helping a mother build a business to support her family, the impact of our work is measured in the lives rebuilt, the dignity restored, and the futures made possible.

In 2025, HIAS stood firm in a world increasingly shaped by surging xenophobia and antisemitism. We showed up in refugee camps, in courtrooms, and in the streets. We showed up when governments cut lifesaving aid and legal protections vanished. We showed up because it's the right thing to do, because we are commanded to welcome the stranger, and because we won't turn away from those in need.

With your partnership, we will continue to speak truth to power, rooted in our Jewish values and history, so that more families can write the next chapter of their lives in safety, together.

HIAS' Resettlement Partner Network

California

Jewish Family & Children's Service of Long Beach and Orange County

Jewish Family & Community Services East Bay (Concord)

Jewish Family Service of San Diego

Jewish Family Services of Silicon Valley (Los Gatos)

Colorado

Jewish Family Service of Colorado (Denver)

Connecticut

Jewish Family Services of Greenwich

Delaware

Jewish Family Services of Delaware (Wilmington)

Florida

Gulf Coast Jewish Family and Community Services (Clearwater and North Port)

Jewish Community Services of South Florida (Miami)

Illinois

JCFS Chicago (Skokie)

Maine

Jewish Community Alliance of Southern Maine (Portland)

Massachusetts

Jewish Family Service of Metrowest (Framingham)

Jewish Family Service of Western Massachusetts (Springfield)

Michigan

Jewish Family Services of Washtenaw County (Ann Arbor)

New York

Commonpoint Queens (New York City)

Jewish Family Services of Western New York (Buffalo and Niagara Falls)

North Carolina

Carolina Refugee Resettlement Agency (Charlotte)

Ohio

Greater Toledo Newcomer Center powered by Jewish Family Services of Washtenaw County

Jewish Family Services (Columbus)

May Dugan Center (Cleveland)

Oklahoma

The Synagogue | Congregation B'nai Emunah (Tulsa)

Temple B'nai Israel (Oklahoma City)

Pennsylvania

HIAS Pennsylvania (Philadelphia)

Jewish Family and Community Services (Pittsburgh)

Rhode Island

Refugee Dream Center (Providence)

Texas

Endeavors (Austin)

Washington

Jewish Family Service of Seattle (Kent)

Wisconsin

Jewish Social Services of Madison

Financials

HIAS' fiscal year 2025 audited Financial Report covering October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025 is available [here](#) on our website.

A note on figures in this annual report: All figures reflect people reached directly and indirectly through families, communities, and systems strengthened by HIAS' work. They are from calendar year 2025 (January 1–December 31) unless otherwise noted.

How You Can Help



Support our critical work with a gift today.

hias.org/donate



Advocate for displaced people.

hias.org/take-action



Sign up for urgent updates and opportunities.

hias.org/newsletter



Volunteer your time.

hias.org/volunteer



A "Together in Welcome" vigil organized by HIAS and local partners in New York City, June 2025. (Lindsay Kagalis/HIAS)

Guided and inspired by our Jewish values and history, and working with host communities, HIAS provides vital services to refugees, asylum seekers, and other displaced and stateless people around the world and advocates for their fundamental right to rebuild their lives.



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