

utah valley
refugees

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DONATE



2022 ANNUAL REPORT

November 2021 to November 2022



Letter from the executive director

Dear Utah Valley Refugees donors and sponsors,

On behalf of Utah Valley Refugees and the client we serve, allow me to wish you a happy new year 2023 and thank you for making 2022 yet another remarkable year for Utah Valley Refugees! This year marks 6 years of existence of our organization, and we are grateful for your endless support. With your support, we were able to serve 210 families this past year. Our dedicated staff and volunteers have done an incredible job at expanding our outreach services while strengthening our programs.

Our future goal is to help more people, keep our overhead low while increasing our service in the field, and you truly make this possible! Utah Valley Refugees is stronger than ever due to our continually expanding community who comes together to donate time, resources, and talent to support our important mission.

Although the past year has been full of new and difficult challenges, we have been humbled and privileged to witness our community come together on multiple occasions to put other's needs first, to help the poor, the refugee and the dispossessed. This outpouring of love, support and service will never be properly appreciated, we want you to know that we do not take your love and support for granted. We will always remember.

By letting ourselves to help others, we share God's unconditional love and truly follow Christ. "In the poor and outcast, we see Christ's face; by loving and helping the poor, we love and serve Christ." I extend my appreciation and gratitude for your commitment to our community by choosing to donate/volunteer with Utah Valley Refugees and to walk alongside our refugee clients. We in turn, are committed to doing our part to provide a satisfying service and volunteering experience.

We wholeheartedly thank you for being a part of Utah valley Refugees movement. We are looking forward to much more in 2023

Leonard Bagalwa, MBA
Utah Valley Refugees
Executive Director



Utah Valley Refugees

This report contains yearly information about the Utah Valley Refugees operation activity and information about UVR services, partners, clients, funding, and programs, recent success, and other information related to UVR refugee case management programs.

About Utah Valley Refugees

Utah Valley Refugees is a private, nonprofit organization under Section 501(c)3 of the IRS Code and is a collaborative community partnership that works to improve the lives of refugees and immigrants who are adjusting to life in Utah County.



*“The best way to help people is to be their friend”
- Leonard Bagalwa*

Our Founder

Leonard Bagalwa, UVR’s founder and Executive Director, he is a former refugee from the Democratic Republic of Congo. As a child, he escaped from militant rebels and ended up in a refugee camp.

Arriving in Utah Valley in 2004, he received support, overcame homelessness, graduated from Utah Valley University with a Bachelors Degree in Public Health in 2011 and his Masters Degree in Business Administration (MBA) in 2021.

Utah Valley Refugees (UVR) was founded in 2016 to help refugees and immigrants in Utah County with the goal of helping refugees break language, cultural, educational and financial barriers.

UVR’s mission is to help enable them to become self-reliant and build new lives in the caring community of Utah Valley.

UVR serves refugees in our community who have been legally admitted to the country by the United States government. We are based in Provo and are currently the only refugee agency in Utah County.



Leadership and Employees

Utah Valley Refugees staff consists of 9 board members, 4 paid staff members, and 21 volunteers to list few:

- Board Chair
- Vice Chair
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Fundraising Director
- Refugee Representative
- Executive Director
- HR Director
- Accountant
- Case Managers
- Community Development Director

Our Mission

To empower refugees in their quest to become self-reliant, Utah Valley Refugees serves low-income refugees in Utah County.

Our programs rely on a self-sufficiency model where participants are assisted to find durable solutions through education, employment, and other supports such as case management, housing, languages, and health care to transition them to a more stable livelihood.

- Case Management

- Housing

- Connecting available housing
- Rent Assistance
- Housing search

- Education

- ESL Life Skills
- College and high school enrollment
- Mentoring and Tutoring

- Health

- Medical
- Dental
- Public health insurance

- Employment

- Job search
- Resume building

- Immigration services

Services Provided





Case Managers in Office



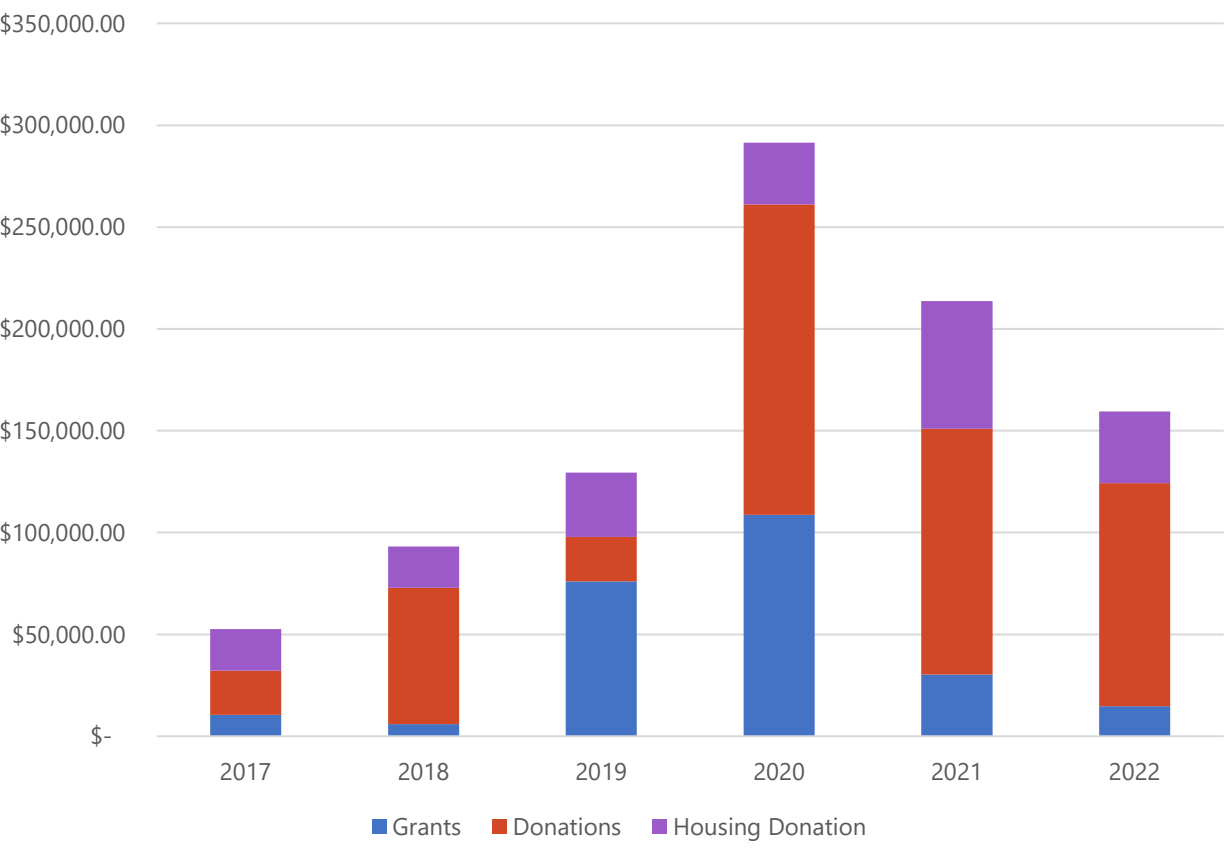
Funding and Partners

In addition to our private and individual donors, Utah Valley Refugees has received funds and in-kind donations. To name few:

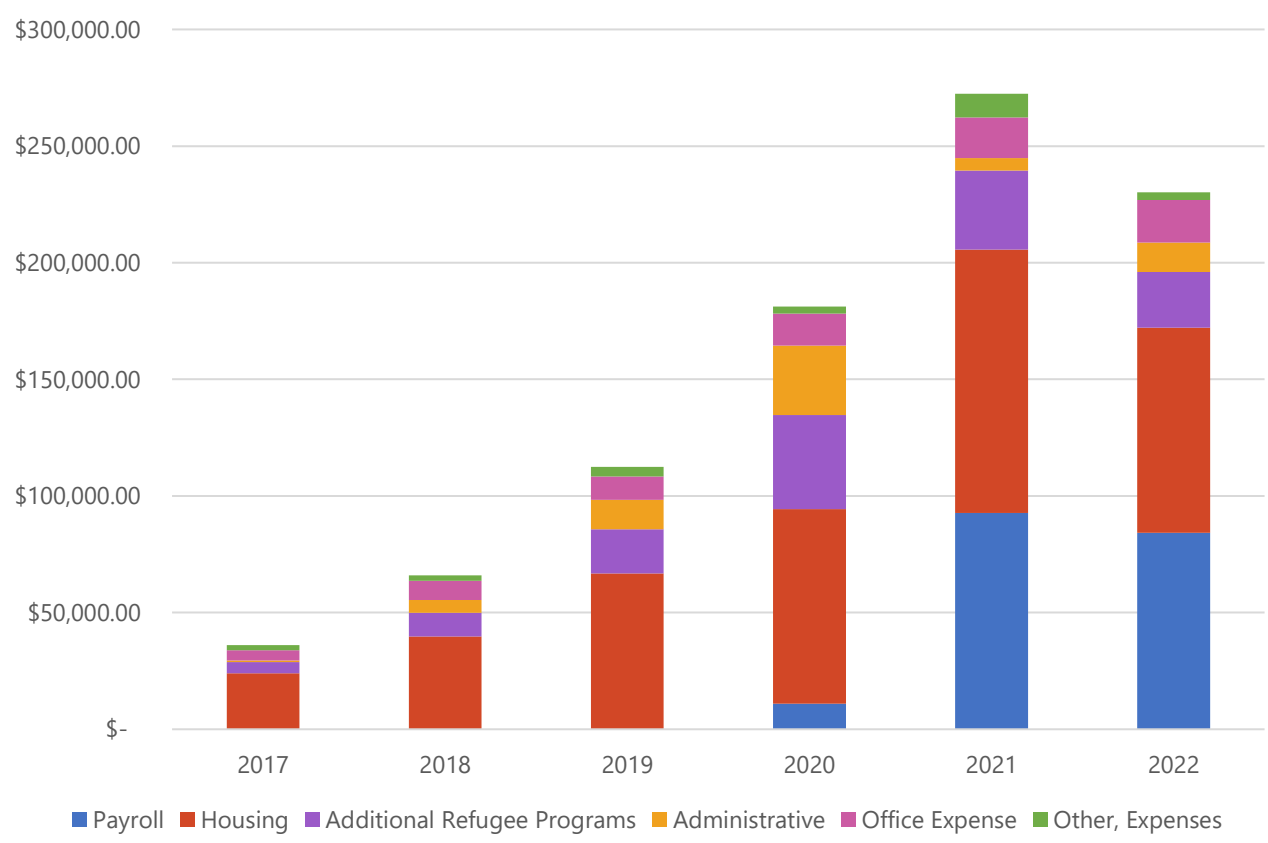


Historical Income and Expenditures

Historical Income



Historical Expenditures



*2022 through December 22

Who we Serve

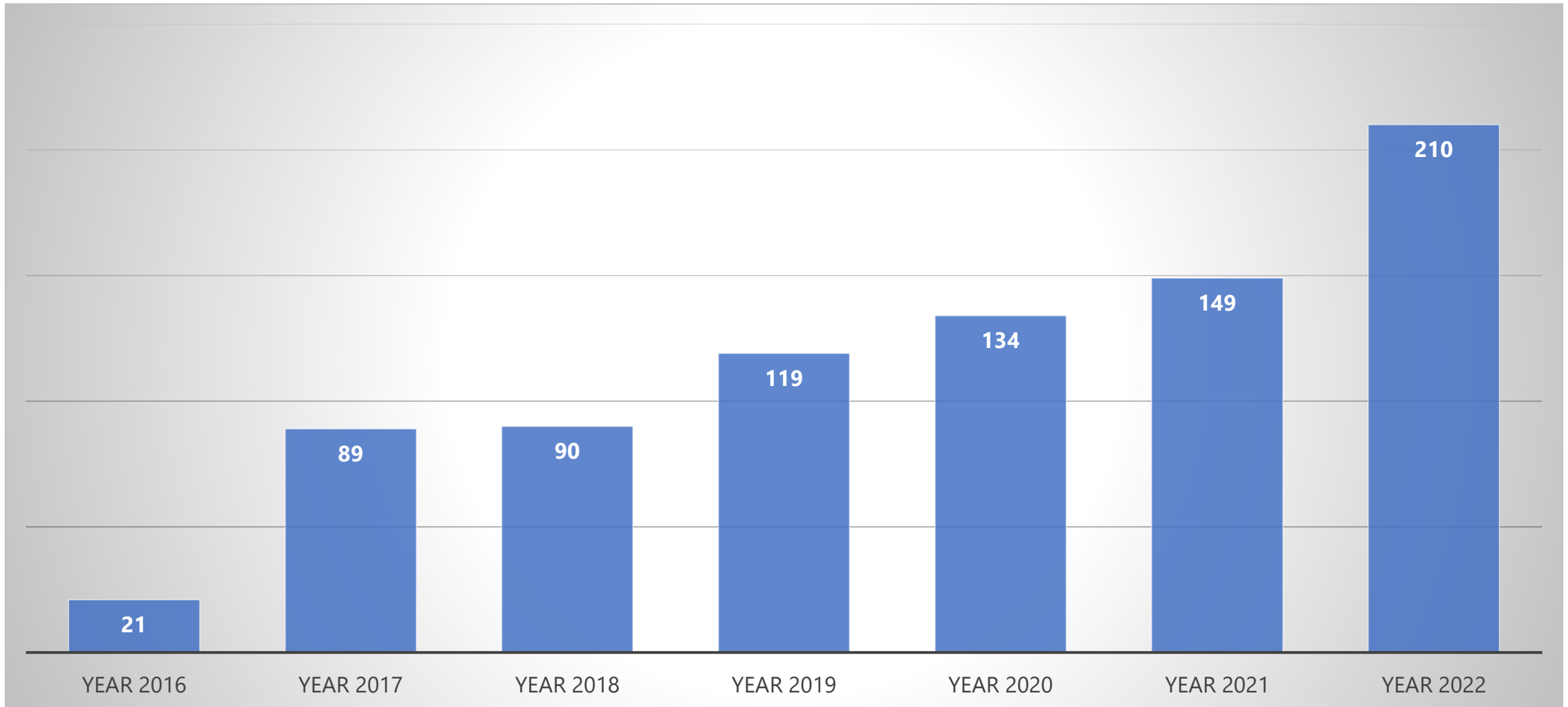
Utah Valley Refugees serves refugees who have been vetted and accepted to enter the United States legally. Most of those refugees have been forced to flee their countries because of the war, armed conflict, ethnic cleansing, regime change and other persecution. Client must be low-income refugees and reside in Utah County. All clients must be low income

- At or below 150% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines(i.e., \$20,385 for a single person or \$41,625 for a family of four).





Clients served per year

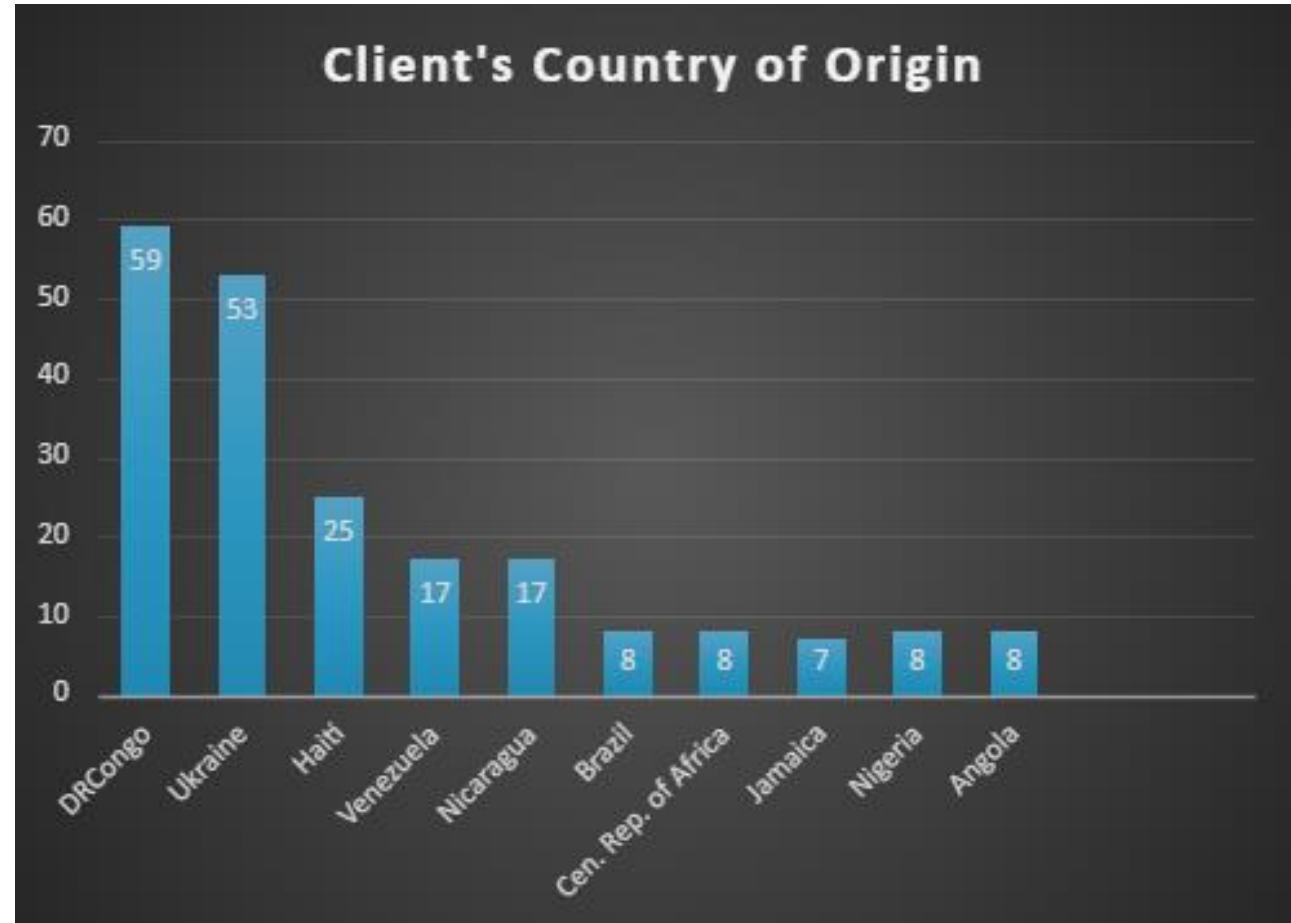


Client Demographics *

Female: 59%

Average
Household
Size: 4

Average Time
in United
States: 3 Years



*Demographic information usually comes from adults/head of household. Information on children in our program is not included here

2023 Housing Initiative

In addition to our current Refugee Family Alliance Housing initiative, Utah Valley Refugees is working on multiple housing projects that will provide both short and long term. This will create durable infrastructure to support the refugee housing needs in Utah County.

To meet the critical need of low-income housing for refugee families, this project will acquire several housing units to transition them from their initial government program after arriving to the United States. We are also focusing on helping refugees build or buy homes that fit their family needs.

Project #1

UVR Housing Project

- This project aims to raise over \$1 million to acquire two-plex and/or four-plex properties in Utah County
 - We are looking for properties
 - Close to UVR services
 - Provide more affordable rent
 - Place for refugees to work on self-reliance and build rental history
- \$300K appropriated by Utah State Legislature
- \$200K committed by private donor
- Goal is to raise another \$500K or more



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Project #2

Home Ownership Program

- This program aims to motivate and increase home ownership among refugees and immigrants in Utah County.
- We are committed to work with partners to help refugees achieve their dreams while living in Utah County.
- We do not provide direct financial support to refugee clients. We do:
 - Coach, educate and provide mentorship
 - Connect to local home ownership opportunities
 - Help clients build or repair their credit, and provide financial education



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Our Results

**Assisted to over
210 refugee
families (over 400
individuals)**

**110 families
graduated from
our program**

**100% families
received or are
receiving 50%
rent assistance**

**Over 8 refugees
enrolled in higher
education**

**7 families are
homeowners since
2016**

**\$12k donated in
charitable
medical care**

**98% of our clients
are employed**

**\$20k in-kind
(Goods) donation**



Support our Housing Initiative

Donate or fundraise for our housing initiative

Donate your unused property (house or land)

Join our Refugee Family Alliance (RFA)

Rent to a refugee family



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