



Note from the Executive Director

The New Year brought new hope to the IRC in Salt Lake City as we welcomed news of promises made by the newly inaugurated Biden-Harris Administration to increase refugee resettlement among many other important policy shifts. Though a Presidential Determination raising the ceiling for refugee resettlement has been unnecessarily delayed, the IRC expects to welcome more newly arriving refugee families in the coming months. Our team is working actively to prepare for increased arrivals through a Resettlement Ramp-Up Working Group where we are working through revamping curriculum and process improvements to ensure new arrivals receive the best possible services.

As a country, we still have so much work to do to reach equality in our communities. The IRC continues to center the voices and experiences of BIPOC staff and the New American individuals we serve, identifying and taking action on initiatives to increase equity and address racial inequality. Next month, the IRC in Salt Lake City will launch its New American Voices Council which will help ensure refugees and immigrants are driving the work of our organization within the local community.

In Salt Lake City, our health team leads the charge on pandemic recovery efforts. Each team member is pitching in to support education on vaccines to reduce vaccine hesitancy, conducting outreach to connect families with vaccination opportunities, and working through the logistics for ongoing programming related to food security, housing assistance and more.

In this report, you'll find a closer look at our education program. Over the past year, the team has supported students of all ages to navigate an ever-changing academic landscape while connecting families to digital access and education resources. Further, the team pivoted volunteer opportunities to ensure one-on-one support for students and families continued through Online Youth Tutors and the IRC Tech Squad.

As ever, thank you for your continued support of our work and the families we serve.

Warmly,

Natalie El-Deiry

Executive Director, IRC in Salt Lake City

JANUARY to MARCH 2021 AT A GLANCE

5 Newly arrived refugees welcomed from Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Iraq.

400 total resettled refugees currently received extended case management services.

253 new program participants enrolled across all programs at the IRC in Salt Lake City.

39 citizenship applications completed for hopeful New Americans.

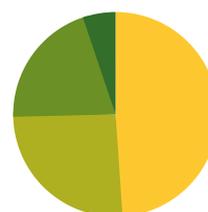
\$108,990 saved and matched to support the purchase of family assets, like a vehicle or a home.

\$10,170 given as direct assistance to cover essential expenses like rent and utility in moments of great need.

\$64,600 in net revenue earned by 14 Spice Kitchen Incubator businesses.

54% participants in credit building classes saw an increase in credit scores.

300 Total hours of one-on-one personal financial education completed.



One-on-one education included...

■ Financial capability: 146.5

■ IDA and asset support: 77

■ Financial literacy: 60.5

■ Other financial coaching: 15.5

PANDEMIC RECOVERY

143 individuals received education to reduce vaccine hesitancy.

6,375

culturally appropriate hot meals contributed to Nourish to Flourish Initiative by Spice Kitchen Incubator.

50 COVID-19 kits delivered, including PPE, hygiene items and kids activities

50 case managed individuals partially or fully vaccinated

State honors multilingual students

In early March, Utah lawmakers passed House Concurrent Resolution (H.C.R) 22, recognizing the importance of multilingual students and their families in Utah. Refugee students shared their stories and were among the biggest advocates for the bill. The passing of the bill was a moment of celebration for the IRC in Salt Lake City and for our advocacy team. [LEARN MORE»](#)

A CLOSER LOOK: EDUCATION

The IRC's Education Program in Salt Lake City supports youth empowerment and education access, college & career readiness, and digital inclusion & literacy. The team works to provide opportunities, tools and resources and remove barriers to equitable education access for refugee and other New American students. Now, the Education Program is planning for summer academic and social integration programs for refugee youth while continuing robust service provision, including delivering hot meals through the Nourish to Flourish Initiative to families impacted by the pandemic.

DIGITAL LITERACY & INCLUSION

The Digital Inclusion program provides digital skill training and devices such as laptops while connecting households to free or affordable internet. The program also works with volunteers who provide one-on-one technical support for refugees.



Photo: Jeri Gravlin

33

hours of tech support completed helping individuals troubleshoot device and software challenges.

5

hours of volunteer technical support to increase digital literacy.

YOUTH & EDUCATION

The Youth Program ensures children are enrolled in school and supports parents to understand the U.S. school system by partnering with faculty, schools and districts to ensure robust support for newly arrived refugee families

40 virtual tutoring sessions.

19 students served through virtual tutoring.

96 hours of direct assistance from Student Support Volunteers.



Partnering with Waterford UPSTART, refugee families with pre-school-aged students can opt-in to a year of virtual learning for their newest students.

Photo: James Roh

COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS

A college & career readiness specialist empowers refugee youth to take control of their futures, supports access to professional and academic opportunities, helps with college or technical school applications and enrollment, and provides tutoring, coaching, and skill-building workshops.

99

hours of one-on-one virtual tutoring for high school students.

10

new laptops provided for students to support academics.

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