



EXPANDING WELCOME IN CLEVELAND

Creating a place of dignity and opportunity for refugees

I was a stranger and you invited me in.
— Jesus





THE HOPE CENTER: OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S INVITATION

Since 2015 and as God continues to send the nations to Cleveland, **The Hope Center for Refugees and Immigrants** (THC) has been helping refugees move from surviving to thriving. Today, it serves as the only ongoing, faith-based drop-in community center for immigrants and refugees in Northeast Ohio, annually serving more than 2,700 international newcomers who walk through our doors.

FASTFACTS: THE HOPE CENTER

- **2,700+** served in 2022, a **25%** increase in daily visits.
- Provided **75+** adults with employment help or job placement. Partnered with BHITC's new social enterprise, **Peripeti Home**, to provide refugee women with work.
- **250** people became U.S. citizens thanks to THC's legal staff in 2022. Since THC began offering these services, over **1,450** refugees have become U.S. citizens!
- **128** adult students in English and adult basic education classes; **62%** progressed to a higher level of English.
- **60** school students enrolled in enrichment and summer programs, with an additional **90+** participating in soccer camp.
- Host **two Christian refugee churches** that hold weekly worship services at THC.



“My dreams came true when I found The Hope Center (THC). My wife’s English is improving day by day because of THC. She can now manage herself and her life better because she’s learning English. We also received tools for our home and other supports like consultations, help to find jobs, help with computers. Now when we face a problem, we come here.”

RAYAN, born in Afghanistan, arrived in Cleveland, August 2021



2023 MATCHING GIFT CHALLENGE

Help us raise
\$400,000 this year!

A generous group of partners have recently given \$200,000 as a **dollar-for-dollar matching gift** challenge to BHITC's supporters! If you haven't given yet to FLOURISH, now is the time! If you have already contributed, please consider making another gift this year to meet this match!

OVERVIEW OF FLOURISH

Launched by BHITC in 2022, FLOURISH is a 5-year ministry expansion effort that strives to transform communities through hope, opportunity and faith. The \$6 million campaign will:

- Construct 28 new affordable, supportive housing units in Stockyards to provide support to families that increases their economic mobility. Construction to start in 2023.
- **Expand BHITC's commitment to supporting its refugee integration programs.**
- Open the third location of Common Threads on the near west side, slated for 2025.
- Increase BHITC's capacity for developing faith leaders across our city.



FLOURISH progress report

\$4.4 million has been pledged or given to reach our \$6 million goal.



“At The Hope Center, they are helping everyone who comes here. The teachers are so nice and everyone is smiling. It is hard to move to a new country; there is a lot to overcome. The Hope Center is a fascinating idea, and they are doing a great job helping people and giving people a chance to discover themselves.”

MUHAMMED, born in Sudan, gained citizenship, employed at Common Threads



EXPANDING WELCOME AT THE HOPE CENTER

Creating a Place That Communicate Dignity and Hope

Communities where people are valued and understood help generate greater resilience. That's why over the next four years **FLOURISH will invest more than \$700,000 in The Hope Center**, including \$500,000 for needed staffing and program additions to keep pace with demand for services, and more than \$200,000 to complete the facility's needed renovations.

STAFFING AND PROGRAM EXPANSIONS: \$500,000 over the next four years

- THC Senior Manager, a new role, to oversee increasing daily operations and community demand for care and support.
- Expanded Immigration Legal Services team to support refugees through citizenship and family reunification processes.
- A new team of dedicated staff instructors for English and adult basic education.
- Support roles in administration, serving walk-in visitors, etc.

FACILITY RENOVATIONS: \$220,000 over the next 12 months

- Gathering Space (former sanctuary) including new HVAC, lighting, flooring and painting, that will allow for overflow classes, community events and future rental income.
- Childrens' Nursery, including the construction of a make believe play village for children, new lighting and wall mural. The nursery currently serves upwards of 30 children and toddlers while parents are in education classes.
- Commercial kitchen installation, which will serve as a test kitchen and future micro-enterprise homebase for future refugee caterers.
- Exterior improvements, including improved lighting, safety cameras, trim painting, etc.
- Restrooms including new fixtures, flooring, lighting and handicapped accessibility.

Become a THC Renovation Angel!

Naming opportunities are available for leadership gifts and pledges of \$50,000 or more!



“Many (Afghan) women don’t know what to do. They are homesick and under a lot of stress. People can come to me for help. I’m always here at The Hope Center and available to remind them they are going to make it.”

MAKAY, born in Afghanistan, currently serving as a THC mental health ambassador



THANK YOU!

A very special “Thank You!” to the following lead contributors of donated labor and materials to the renovation thus far:

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ADVANCE THE GOOD OF THE CITY.
MAGNIFY THE MISSION OF JESUS.
UNLEASH THE CAPABILITY OF UNDERESTIMATED PEOPLE

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