



immigrant **hope** ATL

A Year in Review: Annual Report

2022

About Us

Immigrant Hope Atlanta is part of a national network of Immigrant Hope centers. We offer practical, lasting hope for the immigrant and refugee communities around us.

Our goal in all things is to quietly, humbly demonstrate the love of God and his priority of care for all people.

We do this by offering authorized legal services and public education. We also advocate for improvements to the immigration system and help other faith communities open their own centers.



We welcome the stranger by offering hope to immigrants in crisis and reunifying families through legal services and education.



A Letter From Our Executive Director

Dear friend,

The word that comes to mind when I think about 2022 is BREAKTHROUGH. We were able to implement key infrastructure improvements like online scheduling that allows clients to schedule appointments themselves, freeing up a huge chunk of time and complexity by staff. We added two new key positions: a second DOJ representative and a partnership coordinator to help us improve secondary services and referrals.

After all the COVID cautions, we were able to get back into schools, libraries, and churches to talk about immigration and Immigrant Hope. We saw more people and helped more people. We ourselves were blessed by these same people, many of whom have become friends.

On a selfish note, I was blessed to meet, cry, laugh, and pray with people who would never otherwise have stepped into a church. LGBTQ, Muslims, Hindus, Buddhists, atheists ...so many wonderful people. Our "categories" would have kept us apart, except for this mutual connection with immigration. My life is richer, and my joy more complete, having people with much wider lives and experiences than my own.

Thank you for your participation in the work of Immigrant Hope Atlanta. It was breakthrough year in many significant ways. I am looking forward to 2023 and all the people and challenges that it will bring.

Sincerely,

Tim Isaacson, Executive Director

A Letter From Our Board Chair

Dear friend,

I hope your 2023 is off to a great start! The new year is a time to reflect on the wins of the previous year and be intentional about what is to come. I want to share encouraging news from your involvement and the many others who have followed and joined Immigrant Hope Atlanta's journey. The most exciting news is the number of lives you've changed through viewing, sharing, and contributing to low-cost immigration legal services. In fact, our legal team on the ground in Georgia informed me that we've seen a 23% increase in families signing up to receive service!

Throughout 2022, you helped 160 immigrants understand their legal rights and the best way to pursue temporary or permanent residency in the U.S. Many of these families have traveled from countries such as Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Venezuela, and Iraq - six more countries of origin than the 33 nationalities served in the previous year!

While there is much to be thankful for in the past year, with your help we can meet a vision to more than double our impact in 2023! Our strategic vision will see an expansion of program sites and case types while adding two new Department of Justice representatives to our regular office hours. We know we will see so many more lives changed.

In this celebratory time of the New Year, I look back upon 2022 with gratitude for you and the difference you've made in the lives of our new American neighbors. Let's look forward to an exciting 2023!

Serving together,

Lauren Brockett, SPHR

LEGAL SERVICES



129 new cases in 2022



54 consultations, 24% of which became cases



62% Spanish-speaking clients



Of the **129 new cases** Immigrant Hope Atlanta took on in 2022, **61%** happened in the second half of the year. **June** and **December** were our busiest months!

Additional facts:

- **52% female** clients and **48% male** clients
- We saw **39% family-related**, **18% DACA-related**, **9% naturalization-related**, and **6% crime-related** case types
- Our clients were between the ages of **10-19** (6%), **20-29** (25%), **30-39** (24%), **40-49** (15%), **50-59** (16%), **60-69** (7%), and **69+** (5%).



I was in a very bad situation that made me feel like I had no hope of ever getting out. I didn't know where to turn or how to begin looking for help. After initially speaking with Immigrant Hope, I had a long hard road ahead to get to where I needed to be, but in the midst of it all, they gave me hope.

-CanCan, client



PUBLIC EDUCATION



6

public education
events



231

people heard more
about our work



40

ESL (English as a Second
Language) parents joined us
for an event with Catalyst
Coalition

It is always an honor to offer the public a safe, compassionate place to learn about immigration. Here are some of our highlights:

- We got to do a **staff development workshop** with the medical social workers at Children's Hospital of Atlanta, as well as an **in-service** for the social workers at the Georgia Regional Hospital System.
- We also got to **speak** at the Gwinnett Public Library: Five Forks Trickum Branch and set up a **booth** for parents attending the Region 1 Parent's Summit at Cross Keys High School.
- Brookhaven Presbyterian Church invited us to a **panel discussion** about work happening in their neighborhood.



Tim's work through Immigrant Hope has helped us understand the complexity, gravity, and lengths we must attempt to love our immigrant neighbors. We are learning so much about broken systems, broken hearts, and our broken selves. We couldn't imagine doing it without this partnership.

-David, church partner



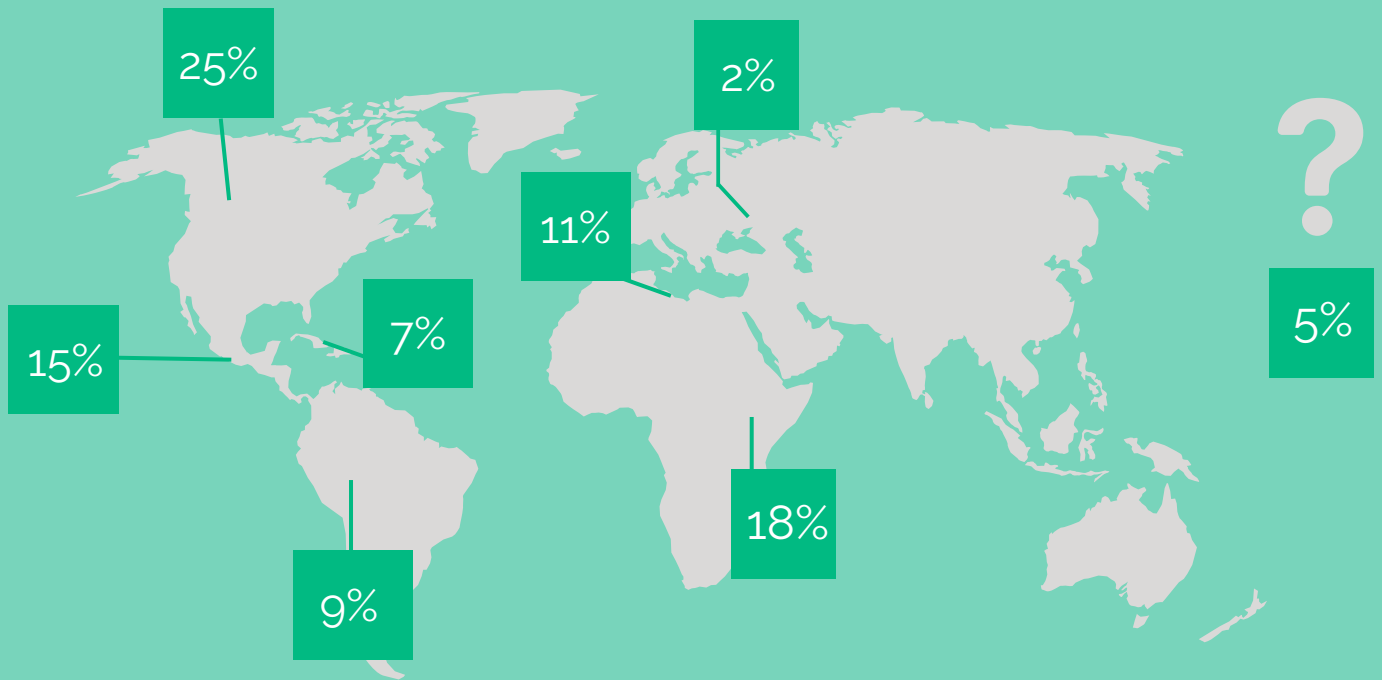


Immigrant Hope Atlanta has been helpful for our social work staff at GA Regional Hospital-Atlanta. When our staff has people on their caseload with an unknown immigration status, it can be difficult moving forward with discharge planning. We are thankful for the services Immigrant Hope Atlanta provides.

-Jordan, social worker supervisor

As an immigrant and a naturalized citizen, I was lucky to come to America. There are so many who stay and work to provide for their families. They are so eager to do what is right, but they find so many obstacles and language barriers. Immigrant Hope comes in and gives them hope.

-Ana, volunteer



A Global Review

Our clients come from all over the world! The geography is as follows:

- 25% North America
- 18% Africa
- 15% Central America
- 11% Middle East
- 9% South America
- 7% Caribbean Islands
- 2% Europe
- 5% unknown

It is second to none, always, to hear that your client's case has been approved, and specifically that your clients have accomplished their immigration objectives. This was the sound of the last chapter of 2022, when the IHA's team was able to file as many as cases and receive approval notices regarding our clients.

-Mustafa, staff member

VOLUNTEERS



In 2022, we had **12 volunteers** in our legal program and **2 volunteers** in our public education program. Legal program volunteers contributed **2,351 volunteer hours**, which is an average of **196 hours apiece** or about **4 hours a week**. They worked on approximately **250 cases**. Our public education volunteers contributed **36 volunteer hours**. Additionally, our volunteer pool is composed of **42% immigrants**.

Our volunteers are:

- retirees
- law school students
- stay-at-home moms
- working professionals

42% OF OUR VOLUNTEERS
ARE IMMIGRANTS

2,387 VOLUNTEER
HOURS LOGGED

Immigrant Hope helps folks navigate the intricate government forms on the path to legal permanent residence, family reunification, and so much more. We inject a sorely needed dose of humanity, caring, and compassion into the process. By its very nature, we walk with each family and their members.

-Russell, legal volunteer

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS

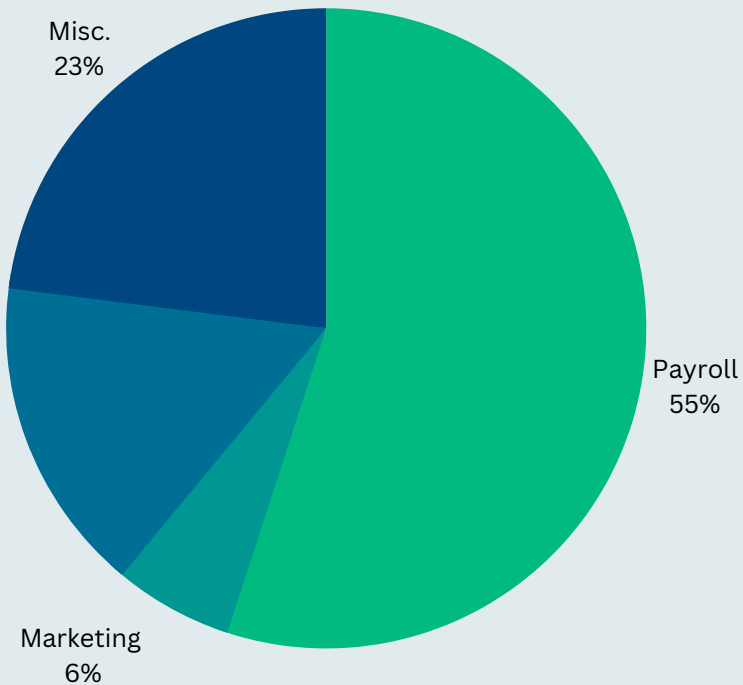
- Open Table Community
- Brookhaven Presbyterian Church
- SendRelief
- Clarkston International Bible Church
- House of Globalization
- Catalyst Coalition

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2022 FINANCIALS

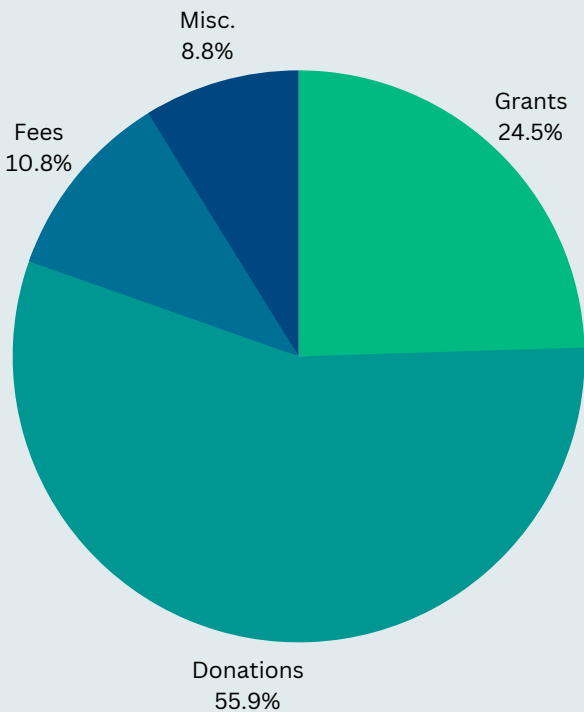
EXPENSES

\$164,017



REVENUE

\$170,320



The year-end campaign raised **\$52,031.90**, or **73%** of our \$70,000 goal. Giving came from **10 organizations** and **34 individuals** total.