

CANOPY

NORTHWEST ARKANSAS

CULTIVATING THE ART OF WELCOME



IMPACT 2023

A MESSAGE FROM OUR DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

In reflecting on the challenges of the past year, Canopy has been a beacon of hope for displaced refugee families, facilitating heartwarming reunions and offering support to those rebuilding their lives in Northwest Arkansas. Amid the global crises, our commitment to welcome and integration remains unwavering.

Our work at Canopy isn't always filled with joy, but it's consistently meaningful. We experienced the happiness of reuniting a young family, resettled by Canopy, with their parents. Upon receiving the travel notification for their parents, our Canopy team promptly connected with the family in Fayetteville. The young mom couldn't contain her excitement, exclaiming, "I can't wait to hug my mom! I've been waiting five years!" That dream came true when we all welcomed her mom to Arkansas this fall.

Our gratitude extends to the community's change makers—from faith communities volunteering to welcome newly arriving families, to third graders at Owl Creek Elementary donating the proceeds of their lemonade stand, to property managers trusting Canopy and renting a first home in the US to a refugee family, to immigrants bravely launching new local businesses, to people who arrived in our community as refugees and are now volunteering and serving as community leaders: your engagement is making our community better and stronger.

For the families arriving in Northwest Arkansas, Canopy stands as a guide, ready to provide support and help them reimagine their futures. As we look to 2024, we're prepared to extend our welcome to refugees globally, thanks to the unwavering support, energy, and encouragement from all of you.

In stepping into the new year, we want to express our deepest appreciation for your continuous support. Your belief in our mission is transformative, and we are grateful for the positive change you've helped us achieve.

With heartfelt thanks,



Joanna Krause
Executive Director



OUR MISSION

Is to create a community where refugees are welcomed and equipped with all they need to build new lives.

AT CANOPY NWA, WE BELIEVE IN

- The Dignity and Worth of All People
- Wholeness of Body, Mind, and Spirit
- Cultural and Religious Diversity
- Collaboration with Community
- Empowerment
- Excellence
- Welcome

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CLINT SCHNEKLOTH
CHAIR

AYOOLA CARLETON
VICE CHAIR

BETH KECK
SECRETARY

CHRIS SCHAECHTEL
TREASURER

TERESA CORNETT

JIVETTE DE JESUS

MOHJA KAHF

JENNIFER NEWELL

ANDRÉS RHODES

RIVKA ZEMKE



WHERE ARE OUR CLIENTS FROM?

580

Refugees resettled
since the founding
of Canopy

139

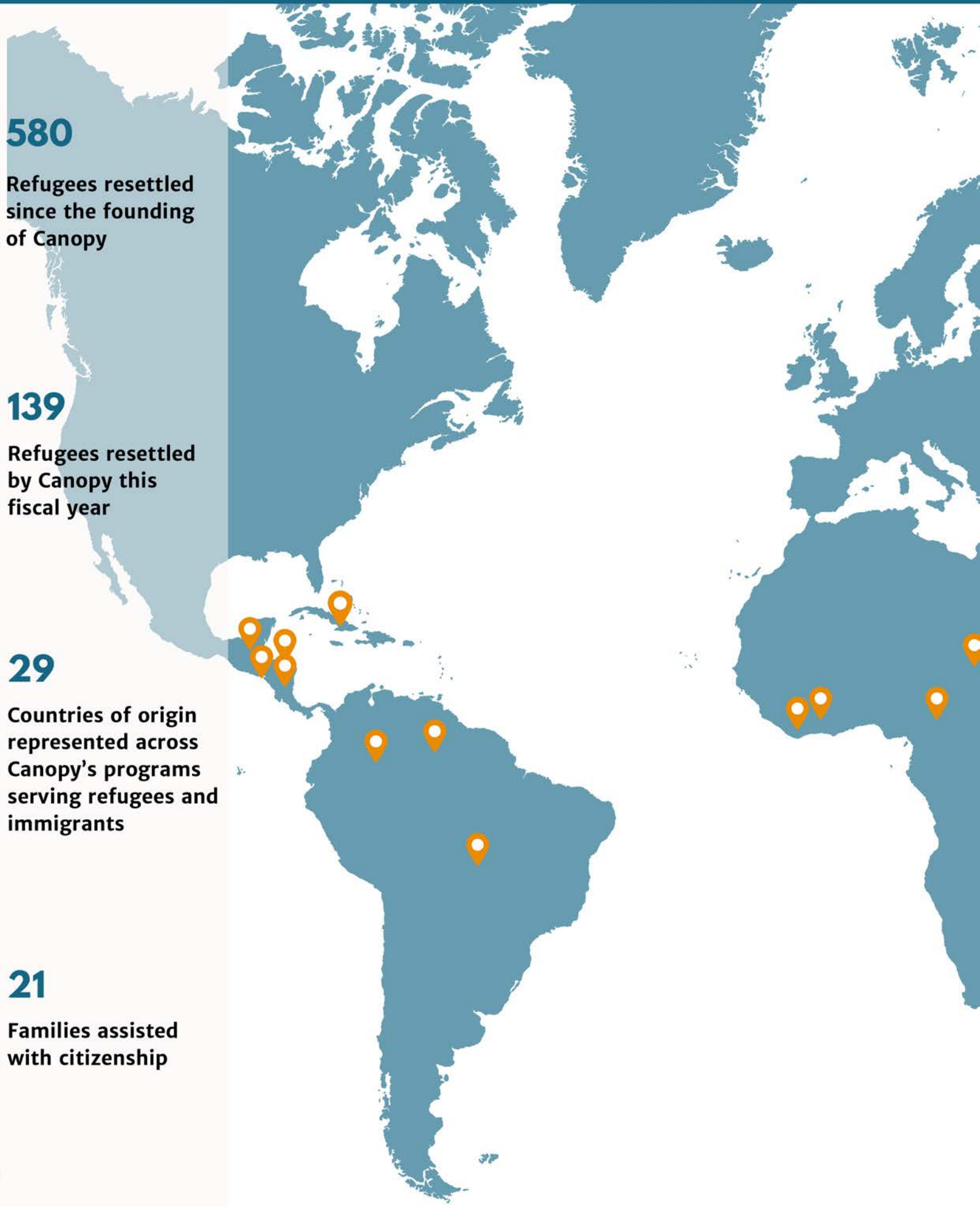
Refugees resettled
by Canopy this
fiscal year

29

Countries of origin
represented across
Canopy's programs
serving refugees and
immigrants

21

Families assisted
with citizenship





RESETTLEMENT COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN IN FY2023

- Afghanistan
- Chad
- Colombia
- Democratic Republic of Congo
- El Salvador
- Guatemala
- Iran
- Ivory Coast
- Nicaragua
- Sudan
- Syria
- Venezuela
- Yemen

CANOPY BY THE NUMBERS

\$15.35

Average hourly wage

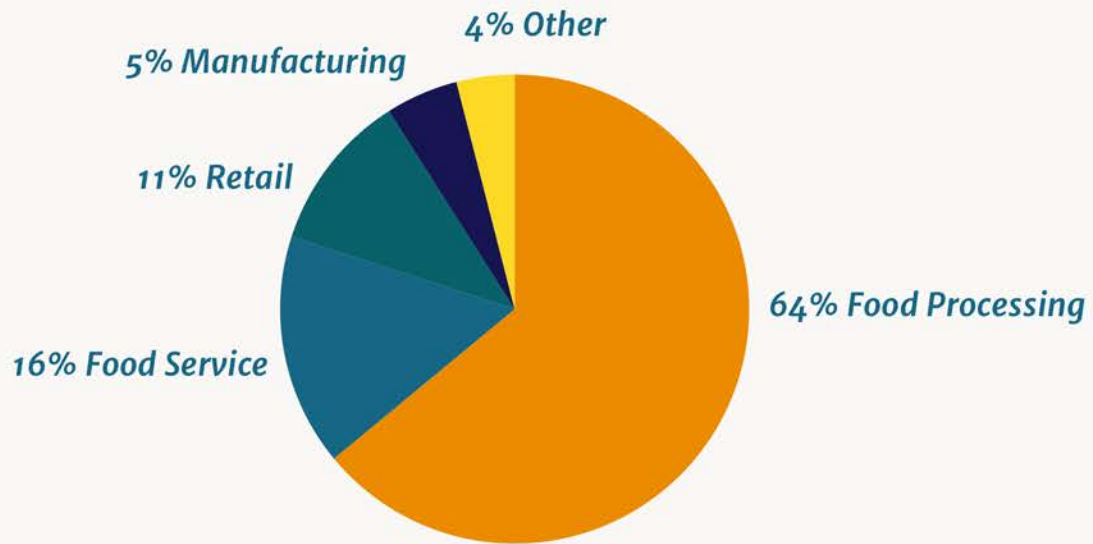
45

Job placements

91%

Receive health benefits
from their employer

CLIENTS' JOBS BY INDUSTRY



ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT

NEW AMERICAN CITIES

Canopy is one of five sites in the Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services (LIRS) New American Cities program.

The New American Cities (NAC) program focuses on helping refugee and immigrant workers by providing workforce development opportunities. The goal is to assist them in securing jobs that contribute to their family's financial well-being, ultimately empowering them to achieve economic independence and career advancement.

\$19.91

Average hourly earnings of the refugees and immigrants who advanced through Canopy's NAC program, almost double the state's minimum wage

67

Clients participated in the NAC program



ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAM



2 Cohorts in Fall '22 & Spring '23

4 Nationalities represented (Cameroon, Venezuela, Marshall Islands, & Afghanistan)

11 New businesses started

763 Hours of technical assistance provided to new businesses

Resilience Rising

The Inspiring Journey of Salome Riklon and the Success of Sal's Cleaning Services

After successful completion of Canopy's Entrepreneurship Program, a 12-week course that provides aspiring immigrant and refugee entrepreneurs with tailored training, business services, and technical support, Sal Riklon was able to secure a KIVA loan to start her business. Her journey from the Marshall Islands to Northwest Arkansas where she established Sal's Cleaning Services LLC showcases resilience, determination, and a commitment to excellence.

The success of Sal's Cleaning Services is rooted in the strong partnership between Sal and her husband, Timothy. Together, they provide comprehensive cleaning and outdoor maintenance solutions to the Airbnb industry. While Sal focuses on interior cleaning, Timothy specializes in exceptional lawn care, showcasing the power of teamwork and a shared vision for entrepreneurial success among the immigrant community.

CANOPY'S SERVICES

YOUTH SERVICES

- 100% High school seniors graduated
- 99% Students advanced to the next grade
- 110 Students in Canopy's after school programs (Fayetteville, Springdale, Rogers & Bentonville)



HEALTH LITERACY WORKSHOPS

PARTNER

- Credit Counseling of Arkansas
- Community Clinic NWA
- University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
- University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
- University of Missouri Kansas City School of Medicine
- We Are Trailblazers

TOPIC

- Scam and Fraud Awareness
- Women's Health
- Reproductive Life Planning
- Pharmacy Tour
- Pre-natal & Contraceptive Care
- Adult First Ride

- 21 Pregnant women received maternal health education

- 14 Babies were born



VOLUNTEERS

2,785

Total number of hours contributed by volunteers

\$225,963

Value of in-kind donations (furniture, vehicles, groceries, & household items)



CO-SPONSORSHIP TEAMS

140 Volunteers comprised of Co-Sponsorship teams (religious/interfaith groups, small businesses, a running club, & circles of friends)

19 New arrival refugee families matched with Co-Sponsorship teams

Volunteer Spotlight

Little Guy Movers handled the heavy lifting for us.

As we welcome and settle new neighbors, our demand for furniture increases. Each piece adds comfort and turns a house into a home.

We want to express our sincere thanks to Little Guys Movers of Fayetteville, an invaluable partner to Canopy. Their generosity and dedicated efforts in helping us move furniture to newly arrived refugees in Northwest Arkansas over the past year are truly praiseworthy. At Canopy, our mission thrives on the strength of community partnerships, and your contribution has made a significant impact.



WELCOMING A NEW FAMILY COST BREAKDOWN

\$23,263

The cost to resettle a family of 5

\$16,375

The amount the federal government covers

\$1,200

Is raised by Co-Sponsors

\$5,688

The remaining cost for a family of 5

*Breakdown costs do not include staffing

WAYS TO HELP CANOPY WELCOME 250 REFUGEES IN 2024



CO-SPONSORSHIP & VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT

Become a co-sponsor for refugee families by providing vital support through volunteer work.

Join our community of volunteers committed to easing the resettlement journey. Whether it's furnishing an apartment, providing occasional transportation, helping with cultural orientation, or assisting with a fundraising event, your time and skills can make a significant impact.



FURNITURE AND WELCOME KITS DRIVE

Extend a warm welcome to refugee families by participating in our Furniture and Welcome Kits Drive.

Contribute essential furniture items, household goods, and welcome kits to furnish living spaces and make the transition smoother. Whether it's a couch, a bed, kitchen essentials, or hygiene products, your donations create a sense of belonging.



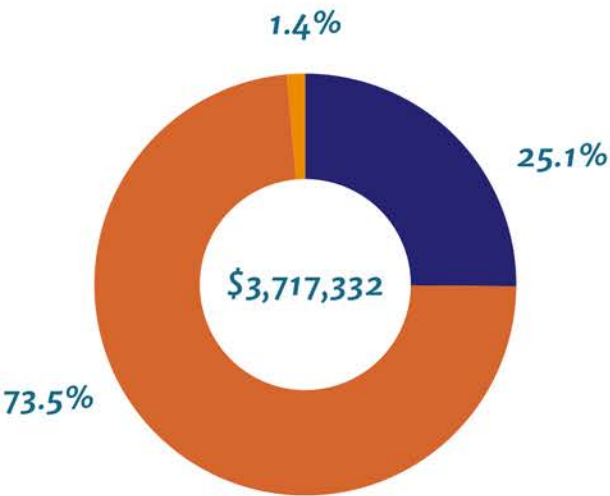
SUSTAINABLE FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Empower refugee resettlement by making a financial contribution to sustain our programs.

Your donation directly fuels the development initiatives that pave the way for self-sufficiency. Every contribution, no matter the size, contributes to building stronger, more resilient communities.

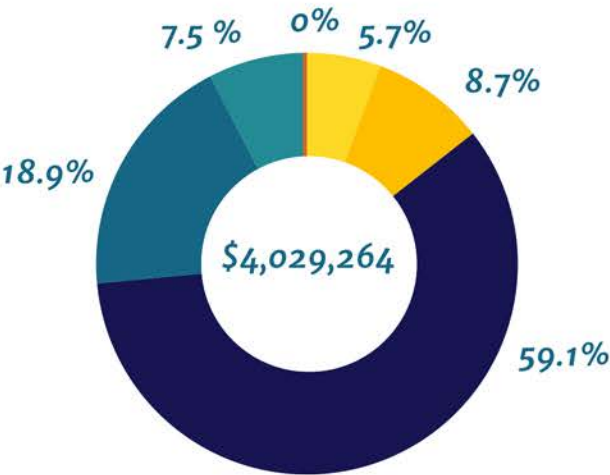
FY 2022-2023 FINANCIAL REVIEW

Canopy NWA seeks meaningful partnerships with local businesses and community organizations to create a more inclusive and supportive community.



EXPENSE BREAKDOWN

- Direct Client Expenses
- Programs and Services
- Fundraising



REVENUE BREAKDOWN

- Federal Grants
- Foundation Grants
- Federal Subgrants
- Program and Services
- Gifts from Canopy's supporters
- In-kind donations

Many of Canopy's programs and services are made possible with the support of these Northwest Arkansas foundations:

- Arkansas Community Foundation
- Walton Family Foundation
- Excellerate Foundation
- Walmart Foundation



Thank you to the local and corporate businesses, religious institutions, and individuals who have made financial contributions to aid in Canopy's refugee resettlement efforts. Our work is made possible by **YOUR** support.

WELCOMING REFUGEES SINCE 2016



DONATE TODAY



Canopy Northwest Arkansas is a tax-exempt, nonprofit organization as described in section 501(c)(3) of the IRS code. Our tax identification number is 81-1305235.

www.canopynwa.org

Follow us on social media

@canopynwa



IMPACT 2023