



# 2022 ANNUAL REPORT







Our mission is to help  
immigrants and  
international culture thrive  
in our community.

We believe when  
immigrants and  
international culture  
thrive, we all thrive.



ihclt.org



# Letter from the Executive Director

In 2022, our Board of Directors implemented a new strategic direction for International House, including an updated mission statement, and the addition of new programs and services.

Our budget grew from \$1M to \$1.3M. Our staff went from twelve to sixteen members in order to meet the growing needs of our foreign-born, foreign-rooted, and internationally minded neighbors.

Together, we served over 5,000 individuals through our programming, which was made possible through the support of individual donors, family foundations, and government contracts. Our programs create *belonging* in our community and one person can be supported with as little as \$241.

Enclosed you will find details on our 2022 impact. We are proud of the work we do, and we acknowledge that we cannot fulfill our mission without you.

Thank you for being part of International House.

*Autumn Weil*

Autumn Weil  
Executive Director



# Our 2022 Impact



## Legal

605 new cases were opened and 334 cases were filed. 99% of all cases were decided in favor of our clients. 55 countries were represented with 20% of clients coming from Afghanistan.



## Youth Education

657 children were served through our youth English language acquisition programs—Rising Up and Rising Readers—representing 55 countries. 90% of those served increased their English skills.



## Adult Education

299 adult English language students received support through classes, tutoring, coaching or small groups. Topics included preparing for citizenship, working in the U.S., health literacy, and even getting a driver's license.



## The Hub

3,341 foreign-born community members looking for services or referral information received support. 53 families from 11 countries received further case management from our community navigators.



# Our 2022 Impact



## Citizen Diplomacy

84 international visitors from 55 countries participated in professional exchange programs engaging with 100 individuals and businesses in Charlotte.



## Cultural Programs

850 individuals participated in one or more cultural program, including Doorways Int'l Womens Club, Int'l Book Club, People of the World, Young Professionals at IH, and Conversation Hours available in seven languages.



## Training

235 professionals within the greater Charlotte area participated in our new Cultural Sensitivity Training, where they gained information and skills to better support those who have limited English proficiency.



## Volunteerism

127 individuals from 14 countries gave their time and talents to ensure that all belong in our community. In total, 4,250 hours were donated by volunteers and interns.



# A Seven-Year Journey


**Our story with Jeremy began in 2016 when he came to us seeking help filing for a green card for his wife, Clarissa.**

At the time, he was a green card holder, meaning he was a permanent resident of the U.S. Filing for a green card is significantly different if an immediate relative is a U.S. citizen versus a permanent resident.

Jeremy was already eligible to apply for naturalization; he just needed to study civics and fine-tune his English. A few months after our first consultation, we completed our standard evaluation with him and felt confident he could pass the naturalization test. His naturalization application was filed in August of 2016, and he was called for an interview within six months.

In February of 2017, Jeremy came back to us as a newly naturalized US citizen to discuss how to proceed with his wife's case. We gave Jeremy and Clarissa a long list of evidence to collect, and they also needed to save money for the fees.

In September of that same year, Clarissa's application for adjustment of status was filed. They already had one child and substantial evidence of their marital relationship. In December of 2017, Jeremy and Clarissa attended the interview, and Clarissa was approved for permanent residency.



A few years went by, and in August of 2021, we saw Clarissa regarding her citizenship application. She was able to apply for citizenship earlier than some because she had been married to the same US citizen for three years. We filed her case in September of 2021, and in August of 2022, Clarissa became a US citizen. Our representative attended her interview. Jeremy and their three children were waiting and praying for her in the car. Despite feeling nervous, Clarissa did great in her interview.

When she walked out, her family ran to her with lots of smiles and hugs. It was clear how proud Jeremy was of his wife, and Clarissa was beaming.





## From Strangers to Friends

One of our French Conversation Hour participants met a man from the Congo coming out of the grocery store while he was struggling with some groceries. They began speaking—in French—and the IH Conversation Hour came up. Our participant, Tom, invited his new friend, Olivier, to come to an upcoming French conversation session. He did.



Since then, Olivier has joined our volunteer team to help with office projects and furniture moves. He has also utilized the client services department on several occasions to look for resources for him and his family. He has attended several resource fairs as well as our volunteer appreciation celebration. In December, his wife joined him for the volunteer appreciation event and won a raffle prize! His brother has also started attending our events. Olivier and Tom stay in contact, and Olivier joins the French conversation group whenever he can.

# Help Immigrants Help Charlotte



“Thank you for all the fun teaching and learning. I appreciate everything and I am thankful for my teacher and friends. Rising Readers taught me a lot like science, planting seeds, and program. I enjoyed it because it was fun when we get to play games inside and outside. I learned how to plant, make airplanes, rhyming words, new shows, and Barack Obama. Field Day is fun because there are fun games inside and outside. The games that are in field day are tug of war and volleyball. I am thankful for everything that I have.”

– Student in Ms. Harris’ Class (5th Grade)



“I absolutely love my class. The teachers were great and had a lot of patience. They are funny and very patient with my questions about my pronunciation.”

– Student in Adult Health Literacy Class





# 2022 Board of Directors

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# Program Partners



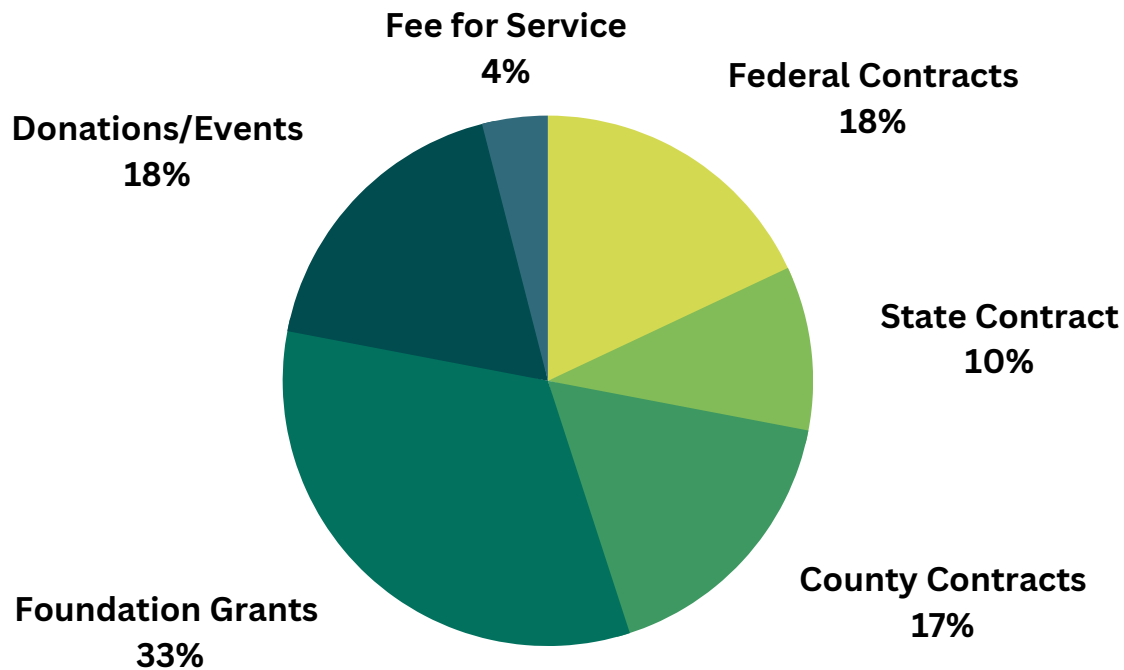
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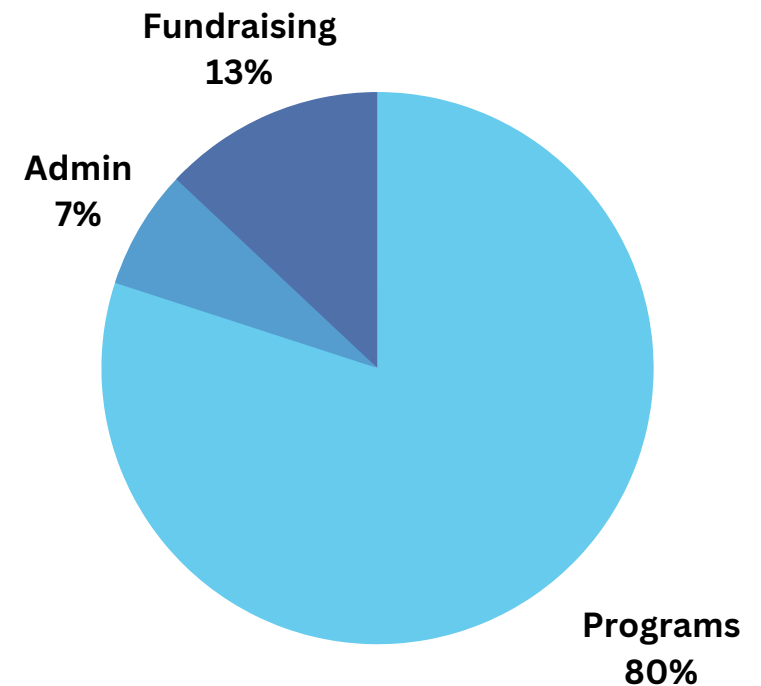


# Financial Overview

## Revenue Sources



## Expenses



# Contact Us

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