



# IAFR MEMBERS' REPORT

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*Helping people survive and recover from forced displacement together with the global church*

## 2025

Prepared by :

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| Laura Dobrowolski

## Introduction



With over 120 million people presently displaced around the world, IAFR believes that now more than ever, the global church has a significant role to play in helping people find safe communities where they can thrive. We believe that when people are integrated into healthy community, the whole community is strengthened through their participation.

We are also committed to connecting the churches in Canada with churches around the world who have excellent community-based models of life and ministry, believing that our global network of relationships can transform the reality of global migration for all.

This report outlines the highlights of our ministry activities for 2025.

## Ministry Context

Although conflicts and unrest continue to drive the global number of displaced persons higher, Canada – and all other resettlement countries - are actively decreasing the number of refugees they will accept. This dissonance continues to place an unbearable burden (71% of the globally displaced) on refugee-receiving countries which are generally overwhelmed with their own national economic, political, and social challenges such as Sudan, Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Chad (**UNHCR**).

*They bandage the wounds of my people as if they were not very deep.  
'Peace, peace,' they say.  
But there isn't any peace.*

**JEREMIAH 6:14**

Within Canada, studies conducted in 2025 show that 53% of Canadians believed immigration rates were too high (**EnviroNics Institute**). These sentiments were augmented by the constant negativity regarding refugees and migrants coming from the US, as well as our own government regularly scapegoating refugees and international students as key factors in housing and healthcare shortages. The Canadian government is quietly but pervasively restricting access to Canada for refugees and asylum seekers. From 2024 there was a 23% decrease in the number of refugees accepted (76,115 to 58,350) (**Canadian Government**). That translates to 17,765 real people in need of safety who were not received in Canada.





One of the most troubling aspects of these decreases is that they impact not only government sponsorships but also private sponsorships. Canada has groundbreaking private sponsorships programs which were shown to be highly effective in receiving and integrating refugees **(Cardus)**. Although these good community-based processes were highly effective and very low-cost for the government and taxpayers, they have all been suspended or highly restricted, with a projected 30% reduction in privately sponsored refugees over the past year **(World Renew)**.

Internationally, our partners are left sacrificially caring for those seeking refuge in increasing numbers with significantly decreasing resources as aid continues to be ruthlessly cut on all fronts.

We are serving in a time that requires truthful advocacy and innovative models of welcome ideally suited to the global church.

## IAFR Mission

*Helping people survive and recover from forced displacement together with the global church.*

We continue to believe that the church must be a key part of the plan to respond compassionately and effectively to those who have been forcibly displaced around the world. A key word in this mission statement is “together”, as we seek to find good ways to support those with lived refugee experience to implement their strategies of response.

## IAFR Values

### Dignity

All people are image bearers of God. We are committed to living and working in ways that reflect the value of each human being.

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### Prayer

Prayer forms us in the ways of Jesus, connects us to the Spirit's movement and directs how we partner with God in the world.

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### Justice

We advocate for the vulnerable and work towards establishing social systems that root out oppression. We long for a world where all people and nature can flourish together.

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### Hospitality

We want to be characterized by our generous welcome of people. We are transformed through the mutuality of both welcoming and being welcomed by displaced people.

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### Relationship

Acknowledging that our Triune God exists as relationship, and that we are created to live in community, we prioritize relationship in all that we do.

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### Collaboration

We nurture connections and partnerships that lead to practical cooperation.

## Team Development

We continue to grow as a team as we have added key members for church engagement.

**Hartley Russell** joined the team as Director of Youth Engagement. This is a key role as we deal with young people who often arrive as young children and grow up between cultures. They have excellent potential because of their multi-faceted cultural experience, but they must be supported in dealing with issues of identity, trauma, and parental expectations. Hartley is developing good connections with diaspora church leaders in order to work together to care for and engage refugee youth.

**Beletew Dubale** joined the team as Director of Diaspora Church Engagement. Originally from Ethiopia, Beletew is an ordained pastor with rich experience in connecting churches. He is actively connecting with new Canadian pastors and their congregations to discover how they can become more involved in welcoming particularly in the area of housing models and trauma care.



The Open Homes housing model has expanded to Toronto with **Christine Lee** joining the team as Director of Open Homes Toronto and **Florence Chang** joining as associate. Continuing the excellent model developed by our Open Homes Hamilton team, they are actively seeking hosts in the GTA who will open their homes to receive refugee claimants. The Open Homes Hamilton team had two new members join – **Esther Magaji** is serving with the team as the coordinator for kinship circles, and **Cecelia McMorrow** is serving as housing coordinator.

We are still seeking a Communications Director and IT support for the team.

## IAFR Team and Partners

### Canadian Executive Director

Sandra Berry

#### Church Engagement Director

Alison Witt

#### Director of Youth Programs

Hartley Russell

#### Diaspora Church Engagement Director

Beletew Dubale

#### Donor Relations and Prayer Coordinator

Sharon Schmidt

#### National Refugee Specialists

Shahrazad Mohamed  
Esther and David Gonzales  
Helen Reader

#### University Student Support Ministry

Melissa Leder

#### Open Homes Hamilton Team

Danielle Rowan-Stenwyck  
Noha Shalabi  
Esther Magaji  
Cecelia McMorrow

#### Open Homes Toronto Team

Christine Lee  
Florence Chong

### International Executive Director

Laura Dobrowolski

#### International Partners

Beirut Nazarene Church - Lebanon  
Bridges of Hope - Egypt  
There is Hope - Malawi  
INUA Advocacy - Malawi  
I Live Again - Uganda  
Eurorelief - Greece  
Doulos Foundation- Colombia

#### International Refugee Specialist

Rob Perry - Greece  
Insaf Safou - Middle East

#### Administrator

Kim Begg

#### Financial Manager

Mabel Li

## Church Engagement Strategy

*So you are no longer outsiders and strangers.  
You are citizens together with God's people.  
You are also members of God's family.*

**EPHESIANS 2:19**

Our engagement strategy continues to evolve at the intersection of the ever-changing landscape of global displacement and the efforts of the church to live out its faith in unity.



## Diaspora Church Engagement

With the addition of Beletew Dubale, our new Director of Diaspora Church Engagement, we have become much more connected to culturally-based churches, often referred to as 'diaspora' churches. Many of the diaspora churches in Canada have high refugee demographics in their congregations and are already actively engaged in welcoming, particularly those coming from their home countries. But these diaspora churches are generally under-resourced in their efforts to welcome newcomers, and often isolated from broader church connections. The three key areas of support consistently requested by Diaspora church leaders for their congregants who are refugees have been trauma care, youth programming, and housing.

## Trauma Care for Diaspora Churches

Every person who must leave their home due to violence or conflict lives with trauma. All churches should be trauma-informed communities, but the need for trauma awareness and care becomes greater if a majority of your community members are living with serious trauma. IAFR is committed to helping church leaders become trauma informed and training them in basic trauma care for their members. We are also committed to informing and connecting church leaders with resources to support them as they care for their people. Working together with our partners at the Canadian Bible Society, York University, and Global Mental Health Alliance we will continue to connect leaders with trauma healing group opportunities, one-on-one counselling referrals, and trauma care training.

*He has sent us to comfort those whose hearts have been broken.*

**ISAIAH 61:1**



## Youth Engagement

It is so good to have Hartley Russell on the team engaging youth in welcoming and peacemaking as a natural and necessary part of their faith. Hartley has been working with youth leaders to give them a vision for mentoring their youth in the ways of peace and justice, particularly in the context of migration. Hartley works closely with Remix, Doxa, and other Canadian youth networks so that youth in diaspora communities know and experience being part of the larger church community.

*Blessed are the peacemakers for they will be called children of God.*

**MATTHEW 5:9**

Young people are being engaged in interactive workshops and seminars that challenge them to think globally and to act in ways that would bring justice and peace to communities. Simulations, discussion groups and storytelling are used to help young people understand the importance of welcome, mutuality, and cultural sensitivity. These interactive workshops produce awareness which we believe will help young people to become more globally responsible. As well we work together with youth leaders to create practical opportunities to get engaged in community building activities.



## Housing and Radical Hospitality

Our housing ministries continue to expand and deepen. **Open Homes Hamilton** continues to engage churches through a home-based housing model, that encourages strong and caring community support and integration. The Open Homes team's ability to serve the guests with settlement and housing support has been augmented with the addition of Esther and Cecelia to their leadership team. The kinship circle model helps to create and maintain a good and healthy social network for each of the guests and their hosts. This model also creates lots of possible opportunities for engagement for the broader community. A recent study by Cardus has reinforced the effectiveness of "hosting" and "sponsorship" for productive integration of refugees and asylum seekers (Cardus – Bonds of Solidarity <https://www.cardus.ca/research/work-economics/reports/bonds-of-solidarity/>) – proving once again the power of supportive relationships. We are receiving helpful grants and donations from foundations such as Charis, ScotiaRise, and Hamilton Community Foundation who see this model as one that builds and benefits community.



**Open Homes Toronto** has adapted the Hamilton model, and the team of Christine and Florence have been active in encouraging church leaders in the GTA to discover the blessing of radical hospitality. Welcoming is not an easy message to share in our days of fear-mongering and scarcity thinking, but Christine and Florence are persevering winsomely in their invitation and engagement. We believe that this model of welcoming refugees into your home is life-giving for everyone involved and we are committed to encouraging and supporting those who are willing to embark on the adventure of hospitality.

*Share your food with hungry people.  
Provide homeless people with a place to stay...  
Then the light of my blessing will shine on you like the rising sun.*

**ISAIAH 58:7,8**

**Selah House Peterborough** continues to provide housing through a community-based model. A rented home is used to host 8-10 guests, and is managed by a team member who also supports with settlement work and housing searches. Being located in Peterborough is an intentional strategy to disperse refugees from the main city centers and helping them to develop community networks within smaller urban centres in Canada. The hope is that local churches and community members will increasingly adopt the resourcing for this ministry both financially and through volunteering. Helen Reader, who is the manager of this ministry is actively seeking to develop this resource network within her community. The oversight of this ministry is presently shared by The Peoples Church and IAFR, but will transfer fully to IAFR in 2026. This same model of community-based housing is presently being discussed in Thunder Bay with some churches and organizations there, and it looks hopeful that we may be able to extend this ministry model to this northern city in the upcoming year.



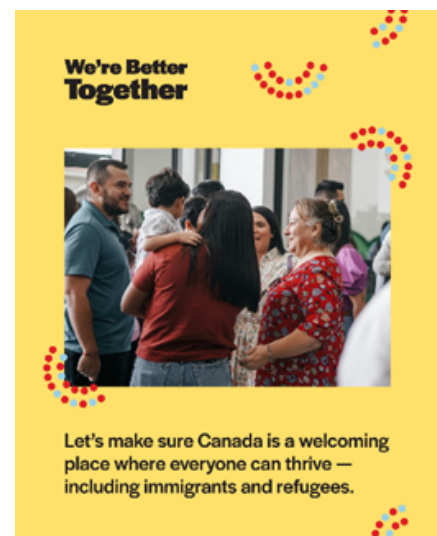
## Advocacy and Collaboration

There is a global shift towards isolationism between nations and a growing antagonism towards refugees and asylum seekers. Around the world, refugees are villainized, and accused of abusing immigration processes that are increasingly nonfunctional. Political divisions are creating higher walls and bigger gaps for those who are displaced. In Canada, refugees and other immigrant populations are being scapegoated for poor government planning in housing and healthcare and increasingly restrictive immigration policies are justified by politicians who say that their constituents are demanding lower immigration levels. In light of these trends, IAFR has prioritized informed advocacy and intentional collaboration.

### We're Better Together Campaign

IAFR is committed to active engagement with the Canadian Council for Refugees' (CCR) Campaign We're Better Together <https://bettertogethercanada.ca/>

Recent research by the CCR has shown that only 20% of Canadians are actually against increased immigration levels, and that 32% of Canadians support maintaining present immigration levels or increasing them. The remaining 48% are "persuadable" which means that they remain uninformed and therefore undecided. Unfortunately, however, the research also shows that the 20% who are against immigration are much more committed and vocal than those who are supportive of wise and welcoming immigration policies. We need to speak up about our commitment to welcoming!



Speaking up in Canada doesn't necessarily mean standing on a street corner with a bullhorn. This research also shows that Canadians are not generally persuaded by demonstrations and protests as effectively as they are through discussions and conversations. The We're Better Together Campaign encourages communication – respectful letters to politicians, respectful conversations in your social networks, and respectful information sharing on social media. IAFR is encouraging and equipping all its networks to become informed and involved in speaking up for refugees. The excellent resources produced by CCR for this campaign are being shared with our broad network of church and community partners. We have also become more actively involved with the working groups of the CCR to help inform and develop more just immigration policies for refugees and asylum seekers.

## The Evangelical Fellowship of Canada (EFC) Welcome Church Initiative

The Evangelical Fellowship of Canada (EFC) Welcome Church Initiative is a leadership group committed to helping evangelical churches across Canada welcome newcomers, and developing a strong national network of these welcoming churches. IAFR is the lead organization for the refugee ministry within this initiative. Last year local churches were gathered and connected in Vancouver, Toronto, Peterborough, and in several cities in Northern Ontario. An IAFR team member was at each of these gatherings to help churches understand the refugee reality more fully, as well as the Church's vital role in welcoming people seeking safe communities.

Another network we serve on through EFC is the Sponsorship Agreement Holder (SAH) Coalition. In light of the more restrictive policies governing sponsorship programs, IAFR wanted to intentionally strengthen the voice of SAH's and help to coordinate advocacy efforts for these organizations who are doing outstanding work in helping local churches sponsor refugees from around the world.

*Speak up for those who cannot  
speak for themselves, for the rights  
of all who are destitute*

**PROVERBS 31:8**

## Refugee Highway Partnership of North America (RHPNA)

Refugee Highway Partnership of North America (RHPNA) is a particularly timely and vital collaboration meant to strengthen healthy relationship networks between Christian refugee ministries in Canada, the United States, and Mexico. IAFR is involved in the RHPNA weekly online prayer gatherings. At present, no representatives from Mexico have been joining the weekly prayer, but it is good to share stories and prayer requests with colleagues across Canada and the US. Alison Witt serves on the leadership team of RHPNA and oversees the prayer gatherings. She is also planning a Canadian regional online gathering for the new year. Maintaining strong, positive connections between refugee-serving organizations is key in addressing the gaps that are deeply impacting refugees and asylum seekers resettling in North America.



## Refugee Leaders in Ministry

IAFR is committed to supporting leaders with lived refugee experience engage in ministry. Four of the members of our team are using their skills and lived refugee experience to minister to others.

*Love them as yourself, for you were foreigners.*

**LEVITICUS 19:34**



### Shahrazad Mohamed

Shahrazad Mohamed combines specialized training with her own healing journey to provide trauma care to others living with the trauma of displacement. Based in Winnipeg Manitoba, Shahrazad provides one-on-one support to refugees as well as training churches to be trauma informed. She works closely with local churches and refugee-serving organizations such as Naomi House to help people find health and wholeness as they integrate into their new communities.



### Insaf Safou

Insaf Safou developed a broad network of relationships with church leaders across the Middle East on her journey from her homeland of Iraq through Turkey to Canada. Now she uses these connections and her understanding of Arabic culture and language to mobilize local volunteers. Together with local church leaders and volunteers, Insaf hosts conferences and trainings for women in Iraq, Lebanon, and Egypt. Women and their children make up over 50% of those who are displaced. They carry the burden of caring for their families - making meals with little, keeping a home safe and clean when they are living in cramped, sub-standard housing. Often they have lost their husbands and brothers and they care for their families on their own. Having lived in this reality, Insaf knows deeply how life-giving it is to be together with other women learning, sharing, and growing.



### **Beletew Dubale**

Beletew Dubale also uses his extensive experience in Ethiopia developing and connecting leaders. Beletew provided oversight to over 350 Baptist churches across Ethiopia before he was forced to leave his beloved homeland. Now in Canada as a refugee claimant, he is actively connecting church leaders across Canada encouraging them to welcome others who are arriving in search of safety. Beletew also mentors and trains many students online in leadership and pastoral care.



### **Esther Magaji**

Esther Magaji understands the need for developing new community ties when your beloved community has been torn away from you. As the coordinator for the kinship circle in the Open Homes Hamilton ministry, Esther works tirelessly to help people develop a new social network that is sustainable and encouraging.

## Prayer Pilgrimage

*What does the Lord require you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.*

**MICAH 6:8**

Prayer is an essential at IAFR for bringing hope, comfort, inspiration, and change. We pray regularly for and with those who have been displaced. For those who are separated from loved ones and who face constant uncertainty, prayer is an act of solidarity. For those who make policies and determine claims, prayer is a plea for justice and compassion. For those areas of the world where conflict and violence cause people to flee prayer is a longing for peace. And for those who can welcome and include prayer is the hope of unity. In addition to gathering with international partners online for prayer, IAFR hosts prayer pilgrimages along the Canadian border with the United States. During these pilgrimages, people pray for those crossing the border seeking asylum, and for those who receive them. This year IAFR hosted two border pilgrimages along the Manitoba and Ontario borders.



## International Partnerships

The Church is a global network of local communities committed to welcoming and caring for newcomers. It has long been true that in times of crisis, it is usually the local church that provides aid and relief. It is also true that long after the crisis has passed, the church remains to rebuild lives. This reality continues despite ever-increasing need and ever-decreasing resources. Sudden drastic funding cuts from USAID this year sent shockwaves across the world, and of course it was those who are displaced that felt these impacts most keenly. All of our international partners were seriously impacted by this seismic shift in resource distribution.

*And God is able to bless you abundantly,  
so that in all things at all times, having all that you need,  
you will abound in every good work.*

**2 CORINTHIANS 9:8**

When questioned about how they were going to continue their refugee reception in light of a 70% funding cut for refugee programs, a local Church leader in Cairo responded simply, “We are the Church, our doors will always be open”.

At IAFR we believe that new funding models and systems will emerge that will make local initiatives not only viable, but stronger and more sustainable. We are committed to helping discover these new models of resource development and we want to meet the courage and commitment of these heroic leaders with as much support from the Canadian church as possible. We believe that if we can help to share the vision and impact of their remarkable ministries people will want to connect and engage with their life-changing work.



## Fondacion Doulos – Colombia

Our partners in Colombia face complex challenges in serving refugees. They are working in four main regions of Colombia with over 20 local churches to provide a variety of programmes.

One of their main priorities is to overcome the growing xenophobia particularly directed toward Venezuelans. Doulos has initiated a ministry called Somos Uno (We Are One), which combines activities and teaching directed toward overcoming the tensions and divisions between Colombians and Venezuelan refugees. Sports, gardening, and children's programming are directed towards helping people learn to live well together.

Another ongoing challenge is the human trafficking that is a constant threat particularly for refugee women and children. Doulos is working with local churches in major tourist cities to set up safe spaces offering education and activities for women and children so that they can be supported against those who would lure them into sex trafficking. Communication through a network of caring churches can also help to keep people safe as they travel between locations.

A third area of focus is on trauma care and healing. Anxiety, depression, and suicide attempts are common not only among adults but also among adolescents and young adults. In August 2025, Doulos began training church and community leaders on how to support people suffering from emotional problems and identify those at risk for severe depression and suicide.



## EuroRelief – Greece

The flow of refugees from Turkey to the Europe through Greece continues with ongoing global conflicts.

Our International Refugee Field Specialist Rob Perry is on EuroRelief's leadership team expanding their work on Lesbos and Samos to also include the camp on Chios as well as a mainland camp at Malakasa.

The team's work in the camp on Lesbos is shifting and expanding as other NGO's pull out of the camp due to funding cuts. The UNHCR office which operates on the island has been reduced from a staff team of 31 to a skeleton team of 3. The Greek government and camp management have resumed control of food distribution to residents that EuroRelief was overseeing, but this shift has allowed the EuroRelief team to engage with a greater focus on social care. Additionally, the EuroRelief team is now first on call for new arrivals provision. This is a vital ministry as those arriving have lived through harrowing conditions on their crossing to arrive at camp. Not only are they in need of dry clothing and basic provisions, but also of a caring and warm welcome.



EuroRelief's work on Chios consists mainly of the provision of clothing, mattresses, toiletries and school supplies for children. Discussions with camp management continue towards an official working partnership in the camp beginning in May 2026.

EuroRelief was invited to the camp in Malakasa on mainland Greece. This camp has been operating for many years, but has fallen into a dismal state of disrepair due to policy and funding shifts. EuroRelief has gone in to oversee much-needed renovations to facilities. They began with thorough renovations of housing for unaccompanied minors. In addition to these working teams, EuroRelief will be establishing a permanent team presence in the camp in the new year.

## Global Mental Health Alliance (GMHA - formerly I Live Again) – Uganda

Our partners in Uganda have gone through a comprehensive evaluation and developed a new strategic plan for their trauma care ministry. An outcome of this new strategic direction is a name change for their organization that better reflects their emphasis on mental health as well as an awareness of the global need for trauma awareness and care. GMHA has expanded their effective trauma care ministry from a focus in Acholi Quarter in Kampala Uganda to the Palabek Refugee Camp in Lamwo District of Northern Uganda. As the war in Sudan continues unabated, refugees continue to arrive in Uganda looking for safety. GMHA is one of the few NGO's trusted to work with the camp residents, and they have been able to bring trauma care and practical support to hundreds of residents within Palabek.



In addition to their work in Kampala and Lamwo, IAFR Canada is actively supporting the development of The Potter's House - a training and care centre for trauma. This facility will offer a wide variety of programming helping to educate and heal people living with deep trauma. Its pastoral location is ideal for providing a safe environment for a healing community. Program delivery has already begun at this location and will be continuously expanding over the next several years.

Through connections made by IAFR Canada, GMHA is exploring potential partnerships for trauma care training with church leaders in Ethiopia - a neighbouring country which has also dealt with years of conflict and consequent trauma.

We are also planning in the new year to have the Ugandan team train African church leaders in Canada how to use their distinct program to work with their congregants living with trauma. We believe that this will provide an excellent and effective framework.

The GMHA model of ministry seeks to respond to the question of how to provide quality trauma care in a culturally-appropriate way within the context of limited resources.

## Nazarene Church of Beirut - Lebanon

In the second half of the year Lebanon experienced a degree of stability and the people began to try and find the strength and margin to rebuild their society. In neighbouring Syria, however, the new regime proved itself to be harsh and dangerous particularly against the Alawite community. Once again there was an influx of displaced people coming over the Syrian border seeking safety. Despite limited energy and resources to meet this new influx of refugees, the Nazarene Church began to welcome and support the new-arrived refugees.

The STEP school program continues to provide quality education for over 165 children with a waitlist of over 140. In 2025 13 of their graduates were able to join public secondary school in Beirut because of their excellent achievement.



The **Balasan** medical clinic offers community-based medical care particularly to refugees who are not always welcome at local medical facilities.

Several employment training programs prepare refugees for small business through hairdressing, sewing, and tailoring. Although these programs are highly effective for equipping people to be self-sustaining, funding for these programs is increasingly difficult to find which threatens their viability.

As we always seek to support initiatives of local leadership, they shared with us the deep weariness of their volunteers who had been serving sacrificially under the most challenging circumstances for years. In the period of relative stability, thought and hope were given to having a development retreat for these leaders and volunteers from the church. Understanding the importance of healthy leaders and volunteers, IAFR Canada has sent the necessary finances to fund this development retreat which will be planned for Spring of 2026.

## Bridges of Hope – Egypt

Our partners in Egypt continue to provide support to leaders throughout the region of North Africa. Cairo is one of the main receiving countries for Sudanese refugees. Bridges of Hope collaborates with a number of other NGO's to provide homeware for vulnerable Sudanese refugees, as well as leadership training for Sudanese refugee leaders with a focus on compassion and justice ministries.



## There is Hope and INUA Advocacy – Malawi

The situation in Dzaleka seems to grow more dire each year. In contrast to the depletion of funds and the ending of support, the life gardens continue to thrive throughout the camp. We are so thankful for this partnership with Thrive for Good. There is a new site for the Life Gardens training centre. With a staff of eleven full-time trainers, they continue to garden, train, and even conduct home visits with fresh produce and medicinal herbs for those residents who are unable to garden for themselves. The monthly stipend that IAFR is able to provide for these trainers means that they are able to really expand this life-giving program even into the host community.

Our medical shipment to the clinic this year was about \$80,000 worth of vital medications to the camp clinic. This clinic sees 500-800 outpatients a day, and the adjoining maternity clinic welcomes 250-300 newborns a month. A new maternity ward was built in order to offer C-sections to mothers with troubled pregnancy, but unfortunately with the sudden funding cuts that happened through UNHCR this year, the building remains empty and unstaffed, and the maternal mortality rate remains disturbingly high.

INUA continues to advocate from outside of the camp because of the official government ban against them due to their advocacy work. They have developed a good working relationship with the police in the region, so they are able to provide additional protection to the very vulnerable residents in the camp. This year the INUA team initiated ZOOM topical meetings on refugee rights with the goal of gathering stakeholders and encouraging collaborative responses to real issues. Their first meeting was entitled “Human trafficking in Dzaleka – acknowledged by all confronted by none.”



## Board of Directors

The Board of Directors for IAFR Canada continues to play a key role in our mission strategy, team development, and financial wellbeing. Their wise governance is a key reason for our ongoing effectiveness as an organization.

Throughout 2025 we have had six Directors:

- Brian Dawkins Chair
- Bayode Ayo-Ojo
- Helton Achaye
- CY Yan
- Karen Hurlburt
- Gail Parkins-Grant

These Directors each bring important skills and experience to this role and have made significant contributions to the organization's development.

Their prayerful and sincere commitments to serving those who are displaced has been a key to their godly discernment and wise decision making.



## Ruck for Refuge

*I walk in the way of righteousness along the paths of justice.*

**PROVERBS 8:20**

IAFR is always looking for creative ways to engage people in raising financial support and awareness of the refugee reality. This year was our very first Ruck for Refuge. Participants were encouraged to place items of value in a knapsack and hike eight kilometres through the woods together. Before the walk, they paused to think of what they would bring with them if suddenly forced to flee their home. During the walk they were encouraged to think of those who had not chosen to walk, and had no choice but to keep walking along treacherous routes until they reached safety. Many participants reported that the experience made a deep impact on them. We were able to raise over \$32,000 for the ministry of IAFR.



**WHAT WOULD YOU PACK?**

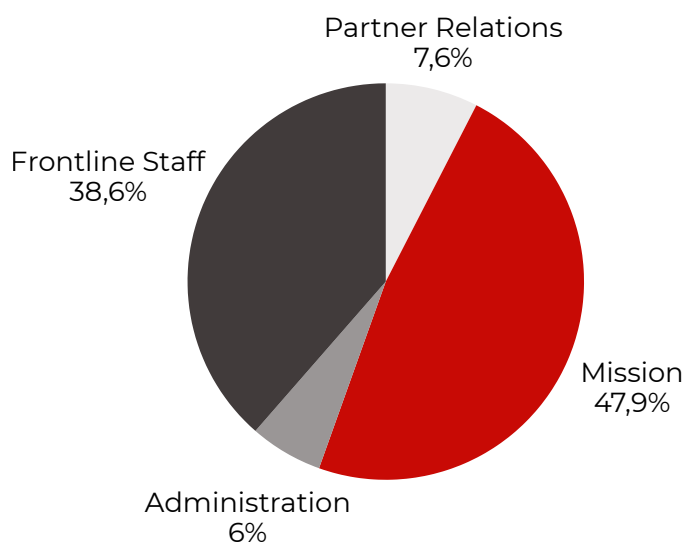


## Finances and Development

Again this year, God provided for all our ministries and those of our international partners. We are so thankful for the incredible support from over 843 donors. Our gifts from individual donors increased by almost \$500,000! In times of decreasing compassion and care for others - it is inspiring to have the support of people who are giving to make a difference in the lives of others.

The overview of our expenses and donor sources are outlined in the following charts.

### IAFR Financial Overview 2025



### IAFR Sources of Income 2025

