

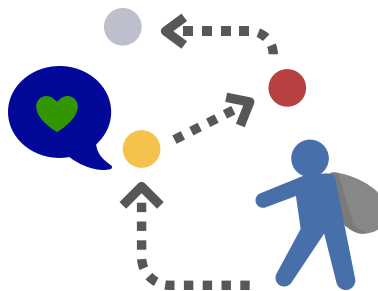


# Colorado Hosting Asylum Network

Sharing the Journey



## Annual Report 2023



11757 W. KenCaryl Ave.  
Suite F, Box 414  
Littleton, CO 80127

# Message From the Executive Director

Reflecting...

Hello friends, supporters, and volunteers of Colorado Hosting Asylum Network!

On behalf of all of us, I would like to thank you for coming together in such an amazing way to support all of the asylum-seeking families we have assisted this year. Because of your generous hearts and hard work, each of these families was able to get on their feet and begin to build their new lives here in the United States. It takes hundreds of volunteers and countless hours of working with our families to help them put down roots in our community, and it cannot be done without you!

2023 was a year of challenge for us and, as a result, significant growth in our capacity. We settled almost as many clients in just 2023 as we have since our formation in early 2020! CHAN was one of the first organizations to assist the quickly growing number of migrants who began arriving in the summer of 2022 and surging over the winter of 2022/2023. In this period of crisis, we were able to leverage our knowledge and experience to quickly house many families into host homes, donated rental units, and apartments and support them in the following months until they could get on their feet, find work, and begin to establish their new lives here. In addition to this emergency response, we also continued to welcome and support families who were beginning the long, difficult asylum process into our regular program.

It hasn't always been all work though! There has been much to celebrate this year as our families began to find their way. We have shared their joy in birthday parties, quinceañeras, holidays, work permits, job promotions, and even marriages. There were two babies born, the first of their families to be United States citizens. And lastly, two of our clients won their asylum cases in 2023!

Through all the ups and downs, our guests and our teammates have become our friends. Our families have worked hard to become self-supporting, and they keep reminding us – poco-a-poco (little by little) as they slowly but courageously move forward. It is a lesson for us as an organization too. We are looking forward to both the work and the joy that 2024 will bring. We are proud to have significantly expanded our capacity this year and look forward to the new people we will meet, the formation of many more host and support teams, and the celebrations big and small that we will share as our new friends join our community and become part of us.

Thank you for Sharing the Journey with all of us!



Denise Chang  
Executive Director



# About the Organization

The organization was founded in 2020 and is dedicated to supporting asylum seekers on their immigration journeys.

## WHAT WE DO

We create teams to accompany Asylum Seekers in hospitality and companionship as they journey through their legal process. This includes hosting our guests in private homes, financially and materially, providing for their initial needs until they receive their Employment Authorization Document, connecting them with the larger community and its resources, and emotionally supporting them as they work through their past and look to their future.

## MISSION STATEMENT

We welcome Asylum Seekers into our own communities! It is our mission to support Asylum Seekers through both personal relationships and with material resources, looking toward a successful outcome in Immigration Court and a successful transition to an independent, meaningful life in the United States.



Our organization is a registered 501(c) (3) nonprofit and relies on donations from the community and the public to support our work.



# Key Accomplishments

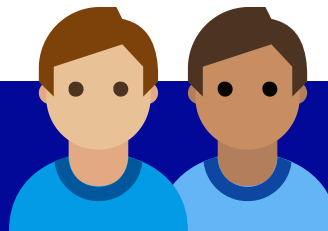
The past year, 2023, has been remarkable for the organization. Some of our key accomplishments include:



**Supported over 27 families, 95 people, including 41 children.**

CHAN trained hosts and supported teams for our guests, secured legal support for their asylum cases, and helped them successfully integrate into our community.

100% of CHAN guests who went to immigration court were granted asylum.



**Engaged over 350 volunteers**

Our volunteers enrolled children in school, prepared adults for well-paying jobs, made community connections and taught useful cultural navigation skills, setting up our clients for success.

Volunteers became friends and support systems to their guests, and in return learned about the world from a different perspective and experience.



**Educating the community about asylum at outreach events.**

We promote awareness of the asylum process, asylum seekers' needs and their contributions to our community by participating in several local events throughout the year.

# Our Support

The Colorado Hosting Asylum Network continues to be dedicated to organizing and training volunteer teams to accompany each unique asylum seeker or family through the first, vulnerable months of the asylum process. Because our clients qualify for few state or federally funded services, their support teams devote countless hours to arranging for their immediate needs through community-based services and their own personal, professional and social connections.

Typically, teams fundraise for the client’s daily needs while they are in the host home. CHAN Corporate supplements the larger expenses such as legal services, medical care, and the early months of rent and utilities when the client is ready to transition to independence (Figure 1).

Most of our clients remain in Colorado once they receive their work permits and are living independently and self-supporting. Our work is truly a collaborative effort among our volunteers, donors, and organizational support. (Figure 3 on next page)

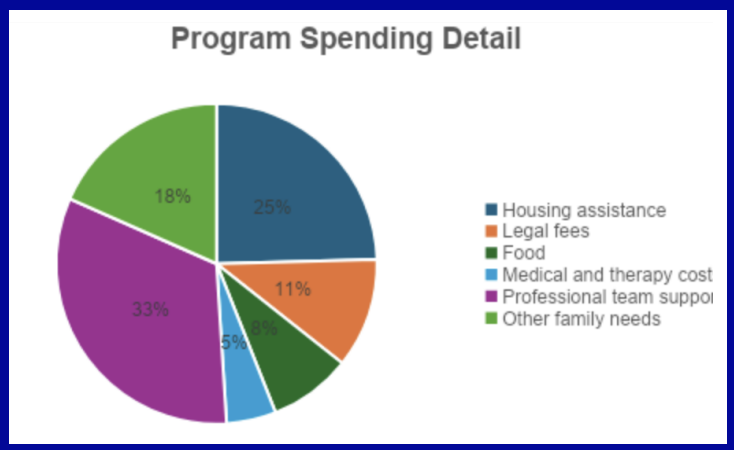


Fig. 1: Program Spending Detail

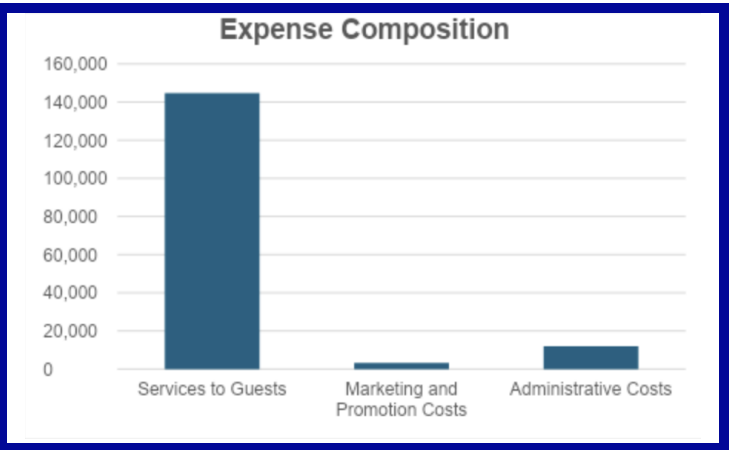


Fig. 2: Annual Income vs. Expenses

Figure 2: During 2023 and 2022 CHAN Corporate spent \$145 thousand and \$46 thousand, respectively, on programming. This represents 91% and 88% of our total spending.



# Financial Statements

The following are the organization's financial statements for the years 2022 - 2023.

As an organization, our strength lies in the commitment of our hard-working board and many volunteers to our mission. We work hard to be good stewards of the financial resources that have been donated to us. We continue to work without an established office, believing that our services are best administered wherever our clients live. We have a strong volunteer support staff that manages our business administration, technology, financial management and accountability, data and resource management, team training and support, immigration legal advising, fundraising, and collaboration with our partner nonprofits, NGOs and government agencies. In addition, we had one paid consultant who supported our teams and guests, as well as managed our social media platforms, events, and community outreach.

CHAN Corporate solicits tax-deductible donations in support of our guests' needs, team expenses, and community outreach. As shown in Figure 4, in 2023, CHAN corporate received \$214,000 in donations from individuals, foundations, grants, and other sources. Each year since our founding in 2020 (Y1), donations have nearly doubled, and each year we have expanded our capacity in response. In 2023, our 27 client families received a cumulative total of 123 months of financial and material support.

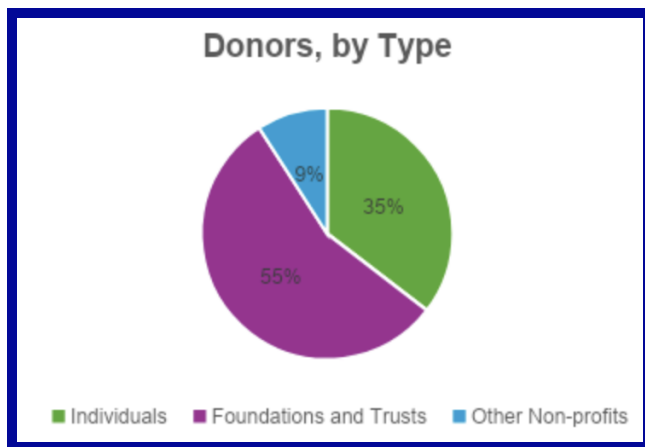


Figure 3

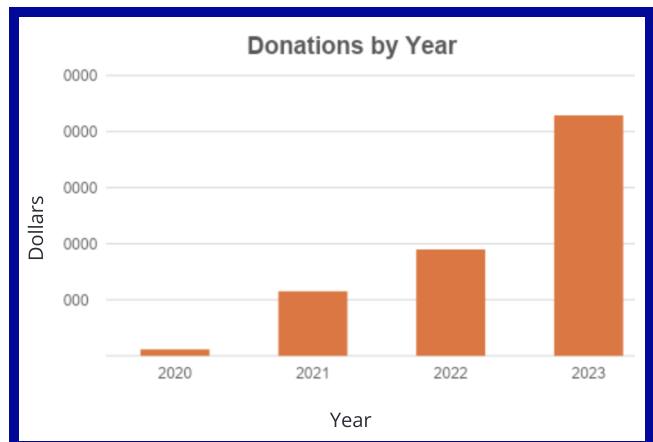


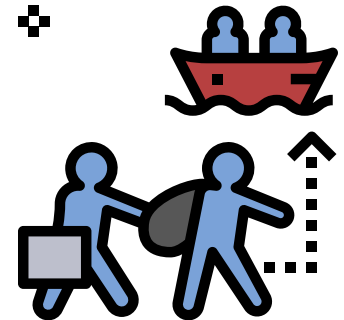
Figure 4



# Our Work Continues

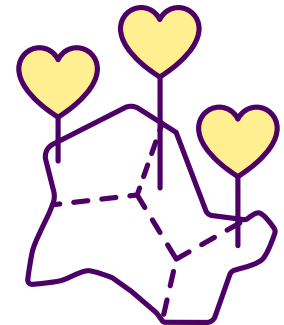
## Our Vision

The Colorado Hosting Asylum Network (CHAN) is founded on the principle that entering into long-term, personal relationships with the oppressed and accompanying them as they seek permanent refuge in the United States, is capable of positively transforming the difficult situation our guests find themselves in, and opens up new pathways for them. It also deepens our own understanding of our role in society and the power systems that create the unjust conditions that our guests have survived in their home countries and often experience here.



## Thank you board members!

We appreciate our Board of Directors! They are more than just advisory – each member works hard to help us realize this mission, provides guidance where it is needed, and brings a unique set of skills and deep personal knowledge to contribute to the success of this effort. You make it work, and we cannot thank you enough!

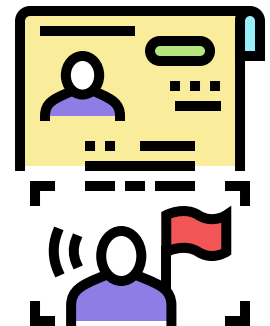


### 2023 Board of Directors

Denise Chang  
Jan Williams  
Adrien Matadi  
Lee Bailey  
Margie Yevara  
Tomi Stage  
Zoe Vavrina  
Steve Thompson  
Mary Kaes

### 2024 Board of Directors

Denise Chang  
Jan Williams  
Adrien Matadi  
Lee Bailey  
Margie Yevara  
Patrick Bentrott



# Contact Us

If you would like to learn more information about volunteering with CHAN, donating and/or joining a team, please contact us at:



info@hostingasylum.org



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Box 414 Littleton, CO 80127



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