

# Building Welcoming Communities Through Immigrant & Refugee Resettlement



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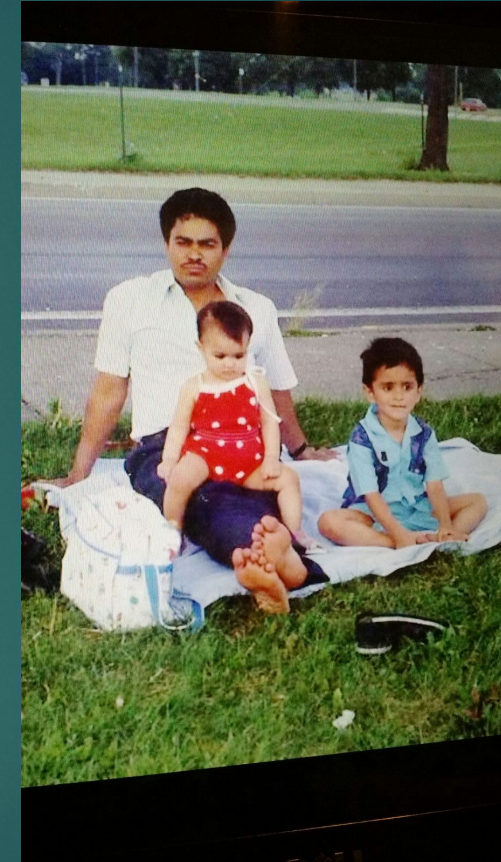
Project Manager,  
Office of Immigrant Affairs

# Who we are





# Our stories





# Who we are

- ▶ To better connect refugees and immigrants to government and not for profit services & resources related to their settlement, employment, education, & full participation in civic life.
- ▶ Immigration reality



# Why we do this

- ▶ “There are more than **425,000** foreign-born people living in **metro Detroit**, and that the immigrants in this region of Michigan make up about **65%** of the **state’s total immigrant population**” – *Steve Tobocman, Executive Director of Global Detroit*







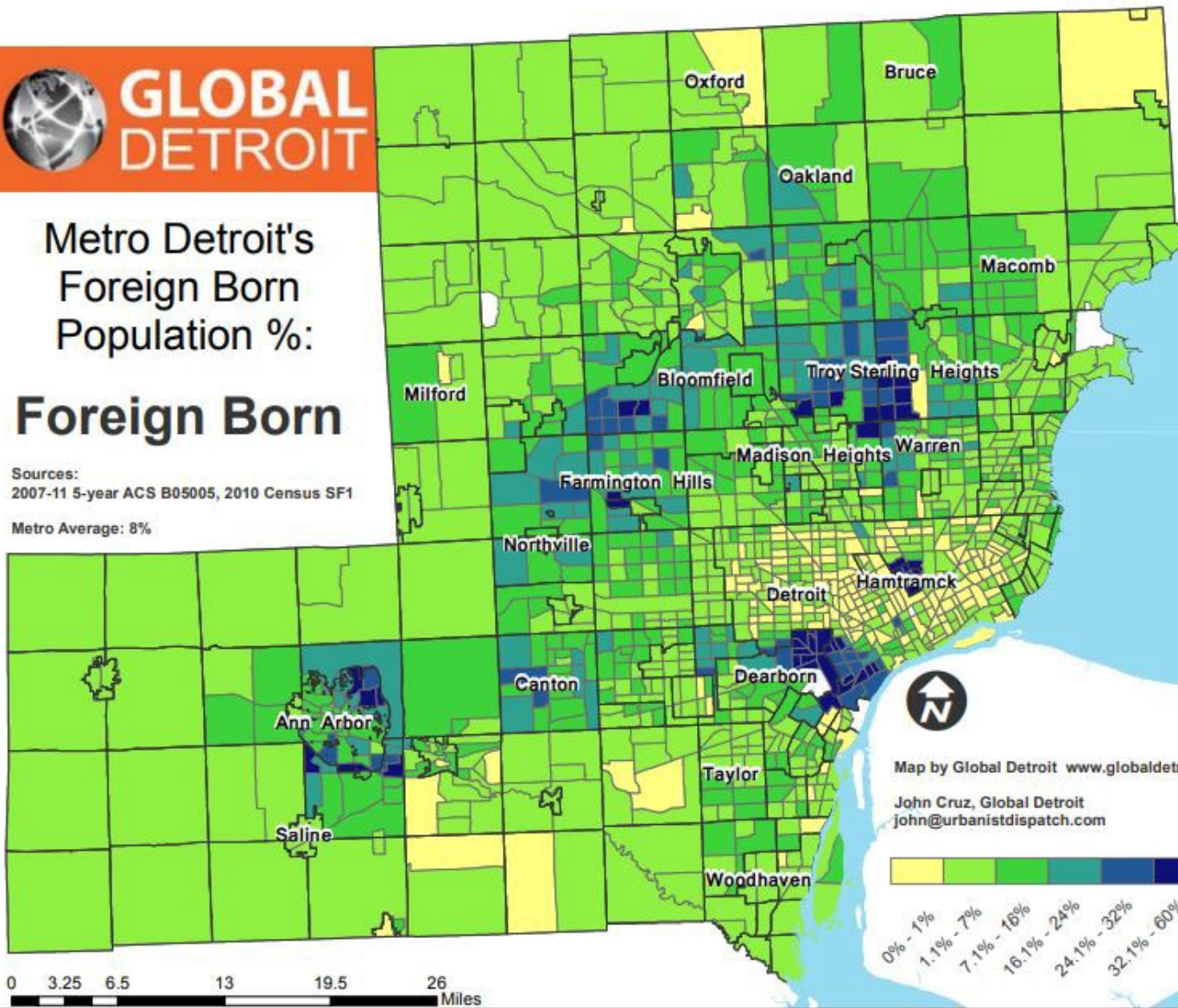
**GLOBAL  
DETROIT**

Metro Detroit's  
Foreign Born  
Population %:

## Foreign Born

Sources:  
2007-11 5-year ACS B05005, 2010 Census SF1

Metro Average: 8%



# Metro Detroit's Foreign-Born Population





**Pre-COVID**



# Warrendale Immigrant Integration Initiative- IIMD

- Established local office at 111 Kirby for Immigrant Integration Initiative- USCRI, IIMD, ICD.
- Secured general funds \$140,000 for the International Institute of Metropolitan Detroit for the development and implementation of a housing strategy for immigrants and refugees in Detroit.
- Secured contract for two-year implementation with IIMD & USCRI.
- Provided blueprint for future resettlement.







# Warrendale Community Inclusion project

- ▶ Warrendale Community Inclusion project report completed November 2020



# Detroit Innovation District GEIR

- Received \$25,000 from National League of City/Kauffman Foundation to implement the Global Entrepreneurship in Residence Program.
- Secured a partnership with Global Detroit and Wayne State University for Detroit Innovation District Global EIR- for immigrant entrepreneurship.
- OIA presented DID GEIR at the Mayors Summit on Entrepreneurship on September 17 & 18 via zoom.
- Simon Forester, Passive Bolt becomes the first entrepreneur in February 2022.





# Detroit FastTrac

- Received \$15,000 from National League of City/Kauffman Foundation in 2021 to implement Immigrant Entrepreneurship program.
- Secured a partnership with International Institute of Metropolitan Detroit and leveraged \$15,000 additional funds for a total project funding of \$30,000.
- Commitment of 10 candidate for first cohort. Twelve candidates enrolled in the program.
- Currently seeking funding for 2023 FastTrack Informal Entrepreneur training program.



**YOU HAVE AN  
IDEA FOR A  
BUSINESS: NOW  
WHAT?**

Transfer your idea into a thriving business  
by signing up for a FREE 10-week Kauffman



# Expand Lead Contractor Training-SDBA/MIHCA.

- ▶ Received \$15,000 from Erb Family Foundation and City provided a matching \$15,000 to implement the Lead Contractor Training Program in January-February 2020.
- ▶ Cohort 1 (English) was February 1 – February 29. 12 of 15 English Supervisors Certified.
- ▶ Cohort 2 (Spanish) was February 29 – March 21. 11 of 11 Spanish Workers/Supervisors completed the Worker Training
- ▶ Received \$170,000 from the Erb Family Foundation in October. City provided \$75,000 as match.
- ▶ In 2021 trained 36 people, with 36 RRP certified and 17 Lead Certified with retakes pending for 9 participants.

**MONDAY  
OCT. 5TH  
5 PM - 7 PM**



Sponsored By:



**FIFTH THIRD BANK**

**MI-HCA.org**  
MI HISPANIC CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION



**SOUTHWEST DETROIT  
BUSINESS ASSOCIATION**







## Certified Welcoming City – Welcoming America

- Completed Certified Welcoming self assessment in August 2020. Scheduled zoom interviews for city dept heads, community leaders and agency directors on immigrant inclusion. Certified Welcoming audit report provided in February 2021.
- Audit response and plan due May 31, 2021.
- Supported Naturalization & National Citizenship Day on September 10 w/IIMD via zoom.
- On September 17, New American Economy announced Detroit at the 7th Best City for immigrant inclusion and engagement for 2019. The City was among the most improved, climbing from #19 overall with significant improvement in its socio-economic score.





## Other initiatives...Census 2020 & COVID Impact

Supported the Southwest Detroit Businesses Crisis Response Team to assist with **PPP loans**, MEDC, DECG & TechTown grants.

Detroit **UndocuFund** - Detroit Immigration Task Force. Four community-based organizations supported funds disbursement for cash assistance to Detroiters.

Coordinated support from the North American Chinese Association-Michigan to **confront hate against Asian Americans**.

Coordinated with ITF for the production of 35 videos for **Be Counted Detroit Census** utilizing Detroit Immigrant influencers.

Promoted **Census** zoom presentations with immigrant & refugee agencies.

Coordinated **Census** completion at kiosks in community centers, ethnic businesses, COVID/food distribution sites.





**Post-COVID**



# Afghan Refugee Resettlement

- ▶ Secure funding for housing assistance for 12 months
- ▶ Secure support services funding for resettlement agencies
- ▶ Resettle 50% of Afghan families designated to Southeast Michigan
- ▶ Identify affordable housing for Afghan refugees
- ▶ Partner with refugee resettlement agencies for employment, transportation, health, language access, and support services



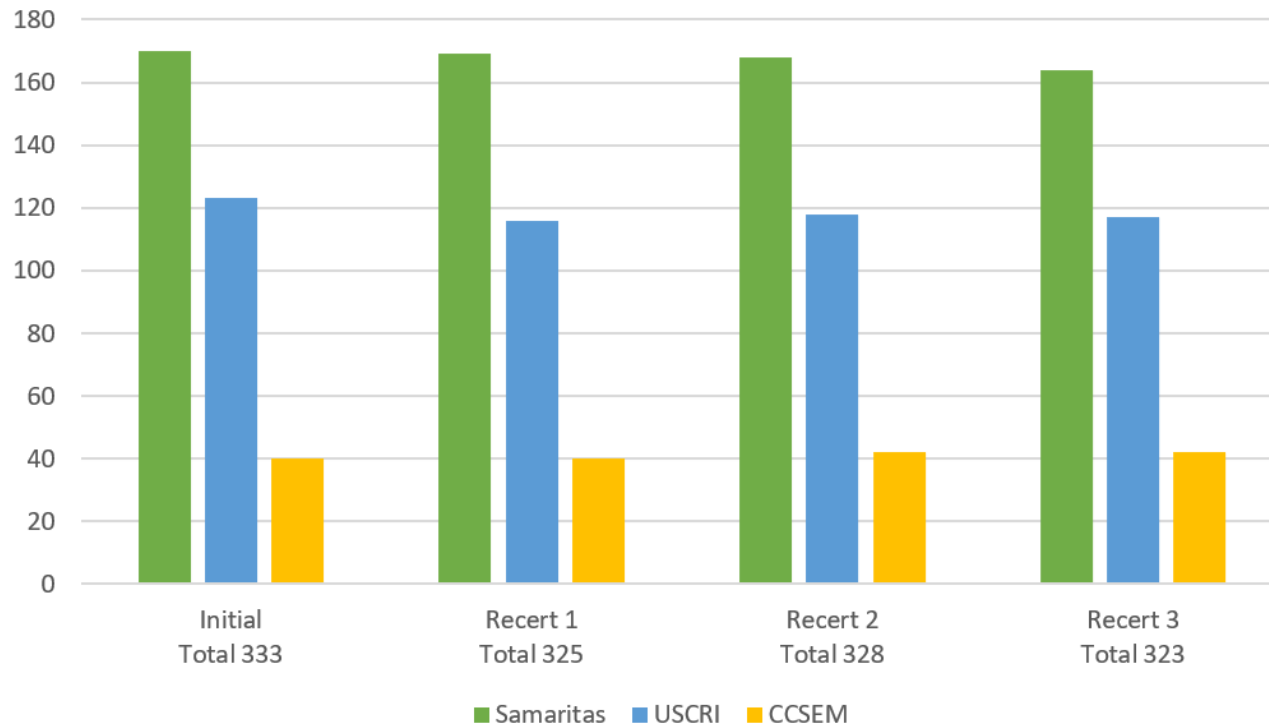


# CHALLENGES/ SOLUTIONS

- ▶ FUNDING
- ▶ HOUSING
- ▶ EMPLOYMENT
- ▶ TRANSPORTATION
- ▶ ACCULTURATION
- ▶ LANGUAGE
- ▶ PARADIGM SHIFT FOR RESETTLEMENT AGENCIES

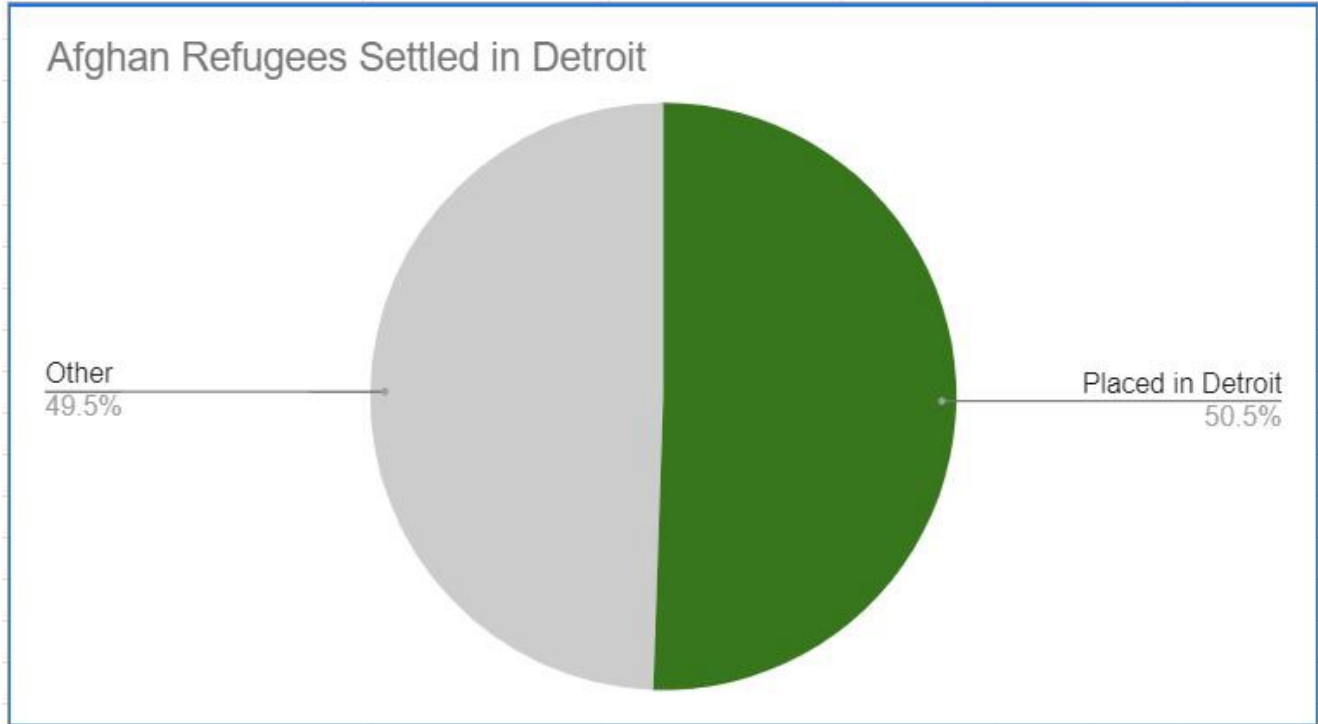






# Resettlement Distribution by Organizations Per CERA funding quarter





# Distribution of Afghan Refugees in SE Michigan



# Funding Support

Detroit Refugee  
Network

PARTNERING WITH  

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## Build Your Life In Detroit

Services and Support for  
Newly Arriving Refugees

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# Resettlement Partners

## Detroit Refugee Network

The Detroit Refugee Network was created by Samaritas to build a strong coalition of corporation, community and civic leaders to work alongside Samaritas to welcome and serve refugee families so they can be self-sufficient and thrive as healthy, contributing members of our shared community.

The Network today has over 100 partners, spanning a wide variety of industry verticals from business owners and faith leaders and congregations to grocers and educational institutions.

Lead by Resettlement Agency Partners:





# City of Detroit Welcomes New Employees



REFUGEES START NEW JOBS IN DETROIT

AWARD OF RECOGNITION  
Amin Jan Afghan





GHAZI TALASH &  
MOHAMED  
AYOUB  
GSD FOREMAN

AMIN AFGHAN &  
AJMAL RAFIQY  
TEAM DRIVERS





First Lady Dr. Sonia Hassan, and Said Urahman, City of Detroit employee, celebrate Certified Welcoming Designation



# Considerations for refugee resettlement and immigrant inclusion

- ▶ Understand the future of refugee resettlement in Michigan
- ▶ Create immigrant advisory group
- ▶ Visit peer cities who are successfully resettling refugees and immigrants
- ▶ Host community dialogues
- ▶ Cultural integration training sessions
- ▶ Meet with ethnic organizations
- ▶ Identify community partners and advocates
- ▶ Welcome Corps impact
- ▶ QUESTIONS?



# Contact us

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Questions?