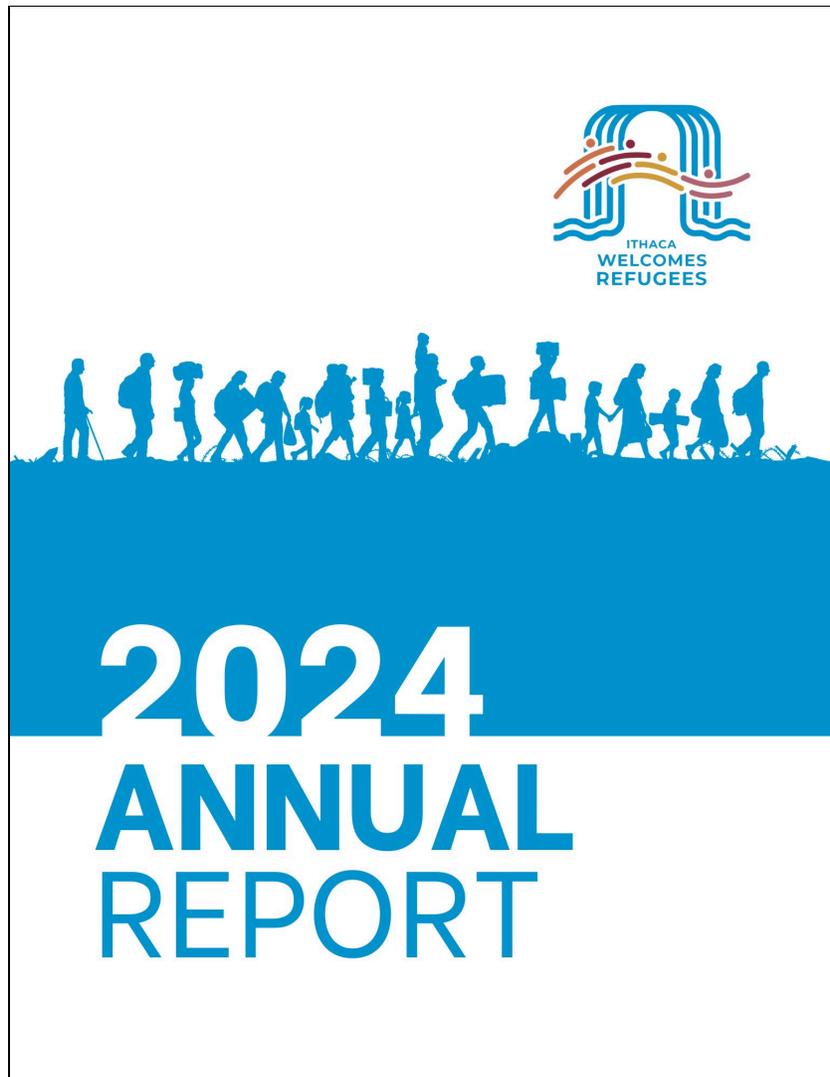




IWR's 2024 Annual Report



We are proud to announce the launch of our 2024 annual report! [Download the report](#) to learn about our programs, people served, finances and supporters over the year. Printed copies available by request.

IWR Community Picnic: Celebrating a Decade of Welcome



This year's community picnic marked our 10th anniversary, and the IWR community spirit shone bright, despite the burdens of our current political climate. A pre-picnic workshop provided information on the healthcare system for new arrivals. The main event saw a full pavilion enjoying food and music together, joining in lawn games and crafts, and painting ideas for our upcoming community mural project. Read all about it in our [latest blog](#).

Spring Appeal Update

As of today, IWR's [Spring Appeal](#) has raised \$16,623 from the community, and this amount has been doubled thanks to our generous match donor! We are exceptionally grateful to everyone who has contributed so far.

New developments to federal immigration policy this month have introduced urgent new needs that we were anticipating with this appeal. On June 13 we learned that three IWR families who entered the country through legal means have had their work authorizations revoked by the Department of Homeland Security. This is the result of the [termination of the federal parole program](#) for Cuba, Haiti, Nicaragua and Venezuela.

IWR families affected are in a crisis situation. We are now increasing aid to

cover expenses for basic needs while they are without an income. The families have pending asylum claims and, notwithstanding more changes to federal policies, have a hope of regaining their work permits 180 days from the date each filed their claim. Funds raised from this appeal will help us support them through this time. If you have not yet done so, please give what you can to help us reach our target of \$50,000 and support our community members through a critical time.

Make a gift

Current needs

An IWR family is in need of a **small ironing board**.

We would welcome a gently used **laminator** for IWR office use.

To donate, please contact IWR Programs Coordinator Leigh Bacher at leighb@ithacawelcomesrefugees.org.

Thank you to those who have been donating **gently used baby and children's items** to the Mama Goose & Jillian's Drawers store on Clinton Street and added store credit to IWR's account! This is a great way to help our new arrivals as store credit is used for vouchers we give to IWR families with children. Recent additions to our community include families with children under 12, and one IWR family is expecting a baby in the fall. Check the [Mama Goose schedule](#) for drop-off dates.

We welcome donations of **gift cards from grocery stores** in the area that we can pass on to IWR families. Please note the amount on the face of the gift card and send it to us at 315 N. Cayuga Street, Ithaca, NY 14850.

Needs list for a newly arrived family coming soon! For up to date information on items we are seeking, check the [Current Needs for Families](#) page on our website, or follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) or [Bluesky](#).

Advocacy ask

Last Friday marked World Refugee Day, a time to reflect with compassion on the plight of people forcibly displaced around the world and uplift their voices. Here in the US, the federal government is showing no such compassion. Just a week earlier, many immigrants who came to our country on the Cuba, Haiti, Nicaragua, Venezuela (CHNV) humanitarian parole program were notified that this program [was now terminated](#).

You have the chance to help show the public does not support this injustice, and advocate for people at risk of losing everything again. This month, we ask that you please take a moment to call your elected representatives and ask them to call for reinstating the CHNV humanitarian parole program.

IWR in the community



IWR tabled at Ithaca Festival's Craft Fair at the end of May. Together with artist Hugo Medina, we got people drawing their inspiration for IWR's upcoming mural in downtown Ithaca. Thanks to Hugo, Ithaca Festival organizers and everyone who took part!

In June, IWR presented on the situation of refugees in the community and IWR's work at ReJunevenate, a garden party for adults. A shoutout to Ithaca Children's Garden for including us in this wonderful event.

Gratitude



This month we wish to share our gratitude to those who helped us pull off an uplifting celebration at the IWR community picnic. Special thanks go to:

- New Delhi Diamonds Restaurant, catering sponsor
 - Visions Federal Credit Union, catering sponsor
 - Cornell Cooperative Extension, pavilion and family activities
 - Rick Manning, fiddle, and John Simon, guitar and voice
 - Travis Winter, Cornell Health, workshop on the healthcare system
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