

WE ARE ALL  
**INTERCONNECTED**



**UUSC** ANNUAL REPORT 2022



# WE ARE ALL INTERCONNECTED



Above: Local TPS (temporary protected status) Alliance committees host workshops, marches, legislative representative visits, and start new committees that support the efforts of the National TPS Alliance to advocate for establishing permanent homes in the U.S. for people without lasting residency protections. Photo: Clare Kelly.

Cover: UUSC helped to connect our partner Fundacion entre Mujeres (FEM) to additional funders when new laws in Nicaragua began restricting international funding. It ensured the services this women's rights cooperative provides could continue uninterrupted. Photo: FEM.



**MARY KATHERINE MORN**  
*President*

## DEAR UUSC MEMBERS,

The past year, human rights advocates confronted a constantly changing landscape. We witnessed rising authoritarianism, intensified climate-caused destruction, and dehumanizing pushbacks against people in migration — all results of systems that are determined to pull apart the social fabric that binds us. On top of these challenges, many of the communities experiencing these threats to safety and rights were among the most impacted by the lingering COVID-19 pandemic.

Yet, despite this, UUSC's partners continue to nurture the ability to see beyond the present unjust conditions to what is possible for the future. The stories they tell are ones about weaving people, communities, and our world together. They invite us into beautiful and diverse visions for a more equitable world. And they are demonstrating how it can be made into reality — what we must do to co-create it.

This transformative work involves replacing failed and unjust systems with tighter-knit communities of belonging. It happens when we humbly meet at our intersections, when we forge deep, personal connections with each other, and as we collaborate to develop new ways to realize a better world.

I'm excited to share just a few stories from the past year and hope you'll be inspired by these advancements toward collective liberation. This report presents the efforts of UUSC, our members, and grassroots partners as an emerging, colorful tapestry. We are stitching together global networks of support that expand people's rights and well-being. And your continued solidarity provides an important and bright thread which has made a true difference this year.

We believe change is inevitable and unstoppable, and we all can play an active role in shaping what it looks like. A more inclusive and equitable world is possible, and we must build it together.



## GLOBAL NETWORK OF PARTNERS

Australia  
The Bahamas  
Bangladesh  
Burma  
Fiji  
Guatemala  
Haiti  
Honduras

Hungary  
Kiribati  
Malaysia  
Marshall Islands  
Mexico  
Nicaragua  
Papua New Guinea  
Philippines

Poland  
Solomon Islands  
Thailand  
Tuvalu  
United Kingdom  
United States



# STRENGTHENING THE BONDS OF COMMUNITY

Building solidarity, creating safe spaces, and fortifying a culture of belonging between our partners strengthens global movements for change.

Making connections between communities, advocates, and grassroots groups who are working on similar issues is essential for growing and sustaining movements for justice over time. Spaces to collaborate, strategize, share stories, grieve, and heal are incredibly important to our partners pushing human

rights forward. This fiscal year, UUSC funded and facilitated several partner convenings, energizing the groups with whom we work.

**Each of these inclusive and powerful gatherings nurtures new strategies for addressing the complex problems that communities face each day.**

People who are directly impacted by injustice come together to collectively develop locally led solutions to the most pressing threats to their safety, rights, and wellbeing.

*In June of 2022, UUSC staff traveled to Navua on the island of Viti Levu, Fiji, bringing several Pacific island groups together for a regional partner convening. Participants shared firsthand stories, including hearing from Daku village and Kioa Island community members about how they are adapting to a changing climate. Their efforts include working to remain in their ancestral homes, preserve sacred sites, and maintain deep-rooted customs and culture. Additionally, attendees began exploring ways to distribute \$200,000 in loss and damage funding, which UUSC received from the the Climate Justice Resiliency Fund.*



“Despite the triple threats of climate change, COVID-19, and economic shocks that reverberated through the Pacific, the region has time and again exemplified resilience. Central to this work was the recognition and the promotion of human rights — that the Pacific will leave no one behind, and that it brought and placed at the center the voices of those from the peripheries.”

— LAVETANALAGI SERU,  
PACIFIC ISLAND  
CLIMATE ACTION NETWORK (PICAN)

Representatives from our partners Pacific Climate Warriors and Loss and Damage Youth Coalition at the U.N. Conference of Parties (COP26) in Glasgow, Scotland. UUSC funding ensures grassroots voices advocating for climate justice gain access to decision-making spaces and control their own narrative.

*Photo: Pacific Climate Warriors.*



UUSC funding supported a national convening of TPS Alliance chapters working to ensure immigrant families with temporary protected status stay together permanently in the United States, in freedom and safety.

*Photo: Clare Kelly.*

The Georgia Latino Alliance for Human Rights (GLAHR) yearly Asamblea Popular offers an intergenerational opportunity to develop new strategies for immigrant rights policy advocacy, provide organizing trainings, and celebrate recent achievements.

*Photo: GLAHR.*





# ORGANIZING FOR COLLECTIVE ACTION

We all have a part to play in creating a better world built upon equity, justice, and inclusion.

Solving the world's biggest problems requires that we persist in raising awareness, building broad coalitions, and following through with effective action that leads to lasting change. This year, UUSC, our partners, allies, and members like you helped to build broad support for urgent calls for justice.



*The National TPS Alliance holds a rally in Washington, D.C. calling for a path to U.S. citizenship for immigrants.*

*Photo: Ash Ponders.*

## Working to end immigrant detention

Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) will no longer use the Etowah County detention center in Alabama — one of the of the most notorious immigration detention facilities in the U.S. This victory was due to the tireless efforts to document human rights abuses inside facilities and long-term organizing work by the people who have been detained, their loved ones, activists and organizers, our partner Shut Down Etowah, and advocates like you working toward justice for those in migration.

This success, along with several other previously closed facilities, means more asylum seekers will be allowed to live their lives in freedom, together with their families in a welcoming community, safe from violence.

## Leveraging the power of UU congregations

One example of community-based alternatives to immigration detention is UUSC's **Congregational Accompaniment Program for Asylum Seekers (CAPAS)**. Through this program, communities of faith host and accompany individuals and families who are navigating the difficult process of obtaining legal asylum in the United States. Our partner **Al Otro Lado** connects congregations with families or individuals who need sponsorship to be released from immigration detention. The congregation then mobilizes their members to provide housing, food, and transportation; connect asylum-seekers with legal and medical assistance; English language instruction; and employment training.

This support during an incredibly challenging time in people's lives helps to remove barriers and increases the likelihood that families will gain asylum.

*Photo:  
Shut Down Etowah Campaign.*



## Holding perpetrators of genocide accountable

Years before the February 2021 attempted coup by the Burmese military, the junta conducted a dehumanizing and ruthless extermination campaign against its own people. This genocide is ongoing and has caused over a million religious and ethnic minorities to flee to neighboring countries. Today, the junta continues a reign of terror, threatening the lives of anyone who remains in Burma.

This year, our advocacy alongside hundreds of civil society groups made an important advancement toward international justice and accountability when the United States formally declared that the Burmese military has been committing genocide against the Rohingya Muslim minority. UUSC's support for pending cases at the International Court of Justice and the International Criminal Court includes pressure campaigns, documentation, mobilizing our supporters to take action, and lobbying decision-makers to restore and repair the rights of those who have been oppressed for decades.

UUSC is mobilizing our supporters to demand members of Congress pass the **BURMA Act**, which would be another step toward justice and accountability for the military's crimes and bring U.S. policy into greater alignment with the Burmese people's struggle for genuine and inclusive democracy.

## A long overdue victory for justice

Eight Honduran activists protecting community water sources flowing from the Guapinol River were unjustly imprisoned for over two years until their long-awaited trial this year. During that time, UUSC joined the coordinated international efforts to win the fight against a ruthless intimidation campaign by the Los Pinares mining company.

Our members harnessed social media to pressure influential leaders to speak out about the trial. UUSC staff joined delegations with NGOs to provide solidarity and international monitoring. And our partner **Radio Progreso** worked to shift public perception and grow support for the defenders.

In early February 2022, Honduran courts overturned the water defenders' wrongful convictions and imprisonment.

UUSC partner **Fundación San Alonso Rodríguez (FSAR)** played a key role in developing the Guapinol defender's legal strategy, worked with the Interamerican Commission on Human Rights and Honduran National Human Rights Commission, and helped with the post-release legal work.

UUSC continues to provide resources and research support to partners in Honduras to end mining projects on public lands that are displacing people in the Bajo Aguán region due to corporate greed and governmental corruption.



# SUPPORTING GRASSROOTS SOLUTIONS DURING CRISES

Your generosity allows UUSC to be the bridge connecting members like you to our partners who assist families in rebuilding their lives during times of immense need.

This year, in the wake of multiple disasters, contributions you made to our Emergency Response Fund ensured we were ready to respond to unexpected disasters — while also maintaining the resources required to fund long-term recovery work once the media, governments, and large aid agencies have mostly moved on.



*Lihok Pilipina Foundation and the Unitarian Universalist Church of the Philippines distributed UUSC's emergency aid to meet immediate needs and support long-term rebuilding efforts after Typhoon Rai.*

## UKRAINE

*Addressing mass displacement resulting from Russian war*

UUSC donors contributed nearly a million dollars to assist people affected by Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine starting in February 2022, which has resulted in the largest refugee crisis in Europe since WWII. Partners **Fem Fund** (along with their local partners) and **Hungarian Helsinki Committee** welcomed refugees who have fled the country and are delivering aid with dignity, including:

- Distributing food, cooking supplies, batteries, generators, lamps, and other necessities for those arriving in Poland.
- Providing free legal assistance, counseling, and plain-language information to those arriving in Hungary, enabling them to access their rights as asylum seekers.
- Organizing support for grassroots groups who are fighting pushbacks of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) migrants.

## UNITED STATES

*Clearing a path toward disaster justice in the wake of Hurricane Ida*

No one can avoid the accelerating effects of our changing climate, which include life-threatening floods, power outages, and severe wind damage to homes. Yet, some communities bear more of the burden, experience limited access to resources, and rebuild amidst the compounding, existing injustices they navigate daily.

This year, emergency funds provided relief to affected families in the aftermath of Ida, a Category 4 Atlantic hurricane that struck Louisiana in August of last year. New UUSC partner **Familias Unidas en Accion** focused on the immigrant, Indigenous, and undocumented community residing in Louisiana who are typically left out of traditional, large-scale relief programs. Our partners provided food, diapers, utility bill support, rebuilding materials, tools, and other direct aid to grassroots communities most in need. Beyond these types of immediate assistance, our grants to partners in the region also helped to bolster storm preparedness for future catastrophic weather. Developing resilience and adaptation will be essential to confront ongoing climate challenges.

## HAITI

*Responding to the 7.2 magnitude earthquake and overlapping political crises*

Due to our long-standing relationships in the region, UUSC was uniquely positioned to respond to the devastating earthquake that hit Haiti in August 2021, and to the ongoing political crisis there. While providing resources to meet immediate needs, we developed a long-term recovery strategy to get funding into the hands of Haitian organizations who are working to determine the economic, social, and cultural future for the nation.

For example, UUSC is partnering with **Solidarite Fanm Ayisyen/Haitian Women's Solidarity (SOFA)**, a women's organization that advocates for women's right to health care, confronts violence against women, and fights poverty impacting women. Their work significantly reduces the disproportionate negative impacts that both natural- and human-caused crises have on Haitian women and girls. By providing women with employment opportunities, facilitating workshop trainings, and organizing mobilization meetings, the work of SOFA contributes to increased stability for the people of Haiti.

## PHILIPPINES

*Delivering assistance to small farmers affected by Typhoon Rai*

In response to the catastrophic damage from the Category 5 storm (known in the Philippines as Super Typhoon Odette) in December 2021, UUSC provided emergency humanitarian aid, particularly directing assistance to indigent farmers and small landowners whose homes were damaged, livestock lost, and crops ruined.

“When Typhoon Odette damaged our home, we were in a desperate financial situation, and you came to our rescue. You have aided us by purchasing materials required for the repair of our home, which is quite helpful. Your support, as well as the financial assistance we have received, has been a huge blessing. We'll never forget the kindness you extended to us.”

— THANK YOU LETTER FROM  
A COMMUNITY MEMBER IN  
RESPONSE TO ASSISTANCE FROM  
UUSC'S EMERGENCY GRANT



# WORKING

## TOWARD LONG-TERM EQUITABLE RECOVERY

When a disaster strikes — whether public health emergencies, outbreaks of violence and war, or calamities like hurricanes and flooding — each crisis exposes and amplifies the underlying systems that are already causing trauma and inequity. Our partners are creating new interconnected webs of support for survival that move beyond initial disaster relief. This justice building approach provides resources for people to care for their own community’s needs in ways that restore and sustain their well-being into the future.



*UUSC funding helps FM4 Paso Libre offer humanitarian care for people in migration by providing food, clothing, and temporary shelter. Based in western Mexico, FM4 has been described as “an oasis among uncertainty.” These lifelines of support for families on the move during a global pandemic were needed more than ever. While our partners in Mexico distribute immediate assistance for survival, they are also caring for long-term needs — including providing free legal aid and securing employment placements that help families in migration rebuild their lives.*

*Photo: FM4 Paso Libre.*

The COVID-19 pandemic remains an ever-present, ongoing crisis that disproportionately affects certain communities based on who they are and where they live. This year, our support to partners was tailored to their own unique circumstances. We listened to what the groups themselves prioritized as the most pressing needs in their communities to help them recover and thrive again, such as:

In the Pacific Islands, Te Toa Matoa ensured persons living with disabilities had access to medical resources.

In Central America and Mexico, the Fundación para la Justicia y el Estado Democrático de Derecho cared for migrant families by providing medicines and paying for medical consultations and specialized exams.

In the United States, the Queer Detainee Empowerment Project assisted trans and queer immigrants with groceries, rent support, and utilities payments.



*Photo: Queer Detainee Empowerment Project.*

# PROVIDING

## FLEXIBLE FUNDING TO MEET CHANGING NEEDS

UUSC recognizes deep, systemic change takes time — and it rarely takes a straight path. Our support begins with listening to our partners’ needs and responding when they change. Most importantly, we make sure that we provide ongoing assistance for the long haul so that the solutions put in place are truly sustainable.



*UUSC funded community-based groundwater monitoring to measure changes to atoll habitability in the Marshall Islands. Indigenous-led research such as this recognizes the leadership of youth in developing climate solutions and provides agency regarding their own future by developing the research themselves instead of being conducted by those outside the community.*

*Photo: Jo-Jikum.*

*Instead of a one-size approach, UUSC grants seek to meet the unique needs of each community. Kioa islanders who face difficult decisions about adaptation and relocation due to rising sea level and coastal erosion transformed your donations into community walking paths, newly upgraded seawalls to reduce land loss, and sustainable homes for families at risk of climate-forced displacement.*

*Photo: KICO.*



“UUSC’s unwavering support has enabled me and my organization to do more for our community. We so appreciate the flexibility of UUSC in their funding requirement.”

— **BANYA, DIRECTOR OF KARENNI HUMAN RIGHTS GROUP (KNHRG)**



# FINANCIAL REPORTING

“The wide range of support that UUSC offers our partners – through research, education, strategic media communication, and advising, *in addition to financial grants* – allows partners to prioritize what is most needed in their own communities rather than reshaping themselves to match specialized grant requirements in order to secure funding.”

— REV. DR. SOFÍA BETANCOURT,  
RESIDENT SCHOLAR AND  
SPECIAL ADVISOR ON JUSTICE  
AND EQUITY



Photo: Asociacion Pop No'j.

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

FOR THE YEARS ENDING JUNE 30, 2022 2021

### ASSETS

Cash & Equivalents		
Cash	1,675,044	1,643,143
Money market funds	7,042,116	7,073,522
	<u>8,717,160</u>	<u>8,716,665</u>
Accounts and Interest receivable, net	76,554	60,254
Prepaid expenses and other assets	413,182	393,234
Pledges and grants receivable, net	994,349	1,252,734
Mission related loan receivable	65,462	85,085
Investments	19,482,566	22,204,629
Property held for sale, net	5,209,015	-
Property and equipment, net	137,977	5,359,539
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b><u>35,096,265</u></b>	<b><u>38,072,140</u></b>

### LIABILITIES

Accounts payable & accrued expenses	1,313,553	620,219
Accrued compensation	257,216	302,340
Bond payable	-	2,272,827
Pooled income deferred revenue	49,018	53,058
Donor advance - promissory notes	125,000	125,000
Gift annuities and trust agreements	467,972	480,233
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b><u>2,212,759</u></b>	<b><u>3,853,677</u></b>

### NET ASSETS

Without donor restrictions	18,479,907	20,208,309
With donor restrictions	14,403,599	14,010,154
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b><u>32,883,506</u></b>	<b><u>34,218,463</u></b>

<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; NET ASSETS</b>	<b><u>35,096,265</u></b>	<b><u>38,072,140</u></b>
---	--------------------------	--------------------------



## TOTAL EXPENSES BY THREE MAJOR AREAS

- PROGRAM SERVICES \$8118 (82.9%)
- FUNDRAISING \$735 (7.5%)
- MANAGEMENT \$941 (9.6%)

\*Net of Cambridge office space rental expenses offset by rental income, includes non-operating costs of \$548k for Program services, \$104k for Fundraising, and \$59k for Management.

## STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEARS ENDING JUNE 30, 2022 2021

	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total	Total
Public support & revenue	7,898,007	2,633,854	10,531,861	10,657,768
Net assets released from restrictions	1,945,204	(1,945,204)	0	0

### TOTAL PUBLIC SUPPORT AND REVENUE AND NET ASSETS RELEASED FROM RESTRICTION

	9,843,211	688,650	10,531,861	10,657,768
--	-----------	---------	------------	------------

### EXPENSES

Program services	7,570,307		7,570,307	7,124,614
Office space rental	325,860		325,860	370,361
Fundraising	631,565		631,565	621,307
Management	881,600		881,600	894,640
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b><u>9,409,332</u></b>		<b><u>9,409,332</u></b>	<b><u>9,010,922</u></b>

### INCOME/(LOSS) FROM OPERATIONS (a)

	433,879	688,650	1,122,529	1,646,846
--	---------	---------	-----------	-----------

### Net non-operating activities (b)

	(2,162,281)	(295,205)	(2,457,486)	6,516,846
--	-------------	-----------	-------------	-----------

### NET ASSETS

Change in net assets (a + b)	(1,728,402)	393,445	(1,334,957)	8,163,665
Beginning of the year	20,208,309	14,010,154	34,218,463	26,054,798

### END OF YEAR

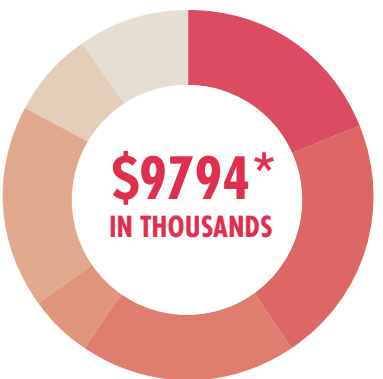
	18,479,907	14,403,599	32,883,506	34,218,463
--	------------	------------	------------	------------

## PROGRAM SERVICES ALLOCATION



- CLIMATE JUSTICE \$1862 (22.9%)
- MIGRANT JUSTICE \$2123 (26.2%)
- CRISIS RESPONSE \$1845 (22.7%)
- COLLEGE OF SOCIAL JUSTICE \$562 (6.9%)
- PARTNER GRANTS \$1726 (21.3%)

## TOTAL EXPENSES



- CLIMATE JUSTICE \$1862 (19.0%)
- MIGRANT JUSTICE \$2123 (21.7%)
- CRISIS RESPONSE \$1845 (18.8%)
- COLLEGE OF SOCIAL JUSTICE \$562 (5.7%)
- PARTNER GRANTS \$1726 (17.7%)
- FUNDRAISING \$735 (7.5%)
- MANAGEMENT \$941 (9.6%)