



**WOMEN'S
REFUGEE
COMMISSION**

**RESEARCH.
RETHINK.
RESOLVE.**

2014 Annual Report



OUR VISION

is a world in which refugee and internally displaced women, children and youth are safe, healthy and self-reliant; have their human rights respected and protected; and inform and drive their own solutions and development.

OUR MISSION

is to improve the lives and protect the rights of women, children and youth displaced by conflict and crisis. We research their needs, identify solutions and advocate for programs and policies to strengthen their resilience and drive change in humanitarian practice.

RESEARCH. RETHINK. RESOLVE.

We improve humanitarian assistance for women and children who have been forced to flee their homes due to violence, persecution, economic devastation or natural disasters by advocating their specific needs to be part of the global humanitarian agenda.

Our work begins in the community where we learn about essential needs and capacities of women and other vulnerable populations and identify potential solutions to the challenges they face. We advocate for the implementation of these solutions into global humanitarian programming, and develop tools and technical assistance to help. Our work ends back in the community as our proposed improvements in policy and programs lead to lasting change on the ground.



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND CO-CHAIRS

“With your support, we will continue to do whatever it takes to ensure that refugees are safe, healthy and self-reliant.”

A little boy's body washes up on the beach in Turkey. Three-year-old Alan Kurdi, along with his mother, father and brother, had fled the atrocities of the civil war in Syria, seeking safety in Europe. But the raft they were in, packed with far too many other desperate refugees, capsized in the Mediterranean Sea.

Aylan was one of the almost 60 million people currently uprooted by conflict, the most since World War II. Millions more have been displaced by natural disasters.

It's more essential than ever to ensure that displaced women, children and youth are safe and empowered. That's why the Women's Refugee Commission advocates for programs to prevent gender-based violence, access to sexual and reproductive health services, and for economic and social empowerment. In addition, we advocate for every country to assure the rights of refugees and asylum seekers. 2014 was a milestone year for the Women's Refugee Commission. We celebrated 25 years of driving change through the humanitarian community; since 1989, our research-

based advocacy has ensured that displaced women, children and youth are better served during emergencies and protracted situations.

And on August 2, 2014, we became an independent fiscal and legal entity, separate from the International Rescue Committee. This new status will allow us to assume a more prominent advocacy role on behalf of people uprooted by crisis and conflict.

With your support, we will continue to do whatever it takes to ensure that all refugees are safe, healthy and self-reliant.



Sarah Costa
Sarah Costa
Executive Director



Jocelyn Cunningham
Jocelyn Cunningham
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Martha Gallo
Martha Gallo
Board Co-Chair



2014 IN REVIEW

- We completed a gender assessment of the Syrian refugee humanitarian response so that international agencies can improve their programming.
- We published a guide to help asylum seekers maintain custody of their children, available, in English and Spanish in every immigration detention center in the United States.
- We led global initiatives to integrate sexual and reproductive health into disaster risk reduction and we worked with communities to build capacity and resilience as they plan for emergencies.
- We conducted a first-of-its-kind, multi-country study of the effects of gender-based violence on refugees with disabilities. The tools we developed enable humanitarian agencies to better include people with disabilities in their GBV programs.
- We launched a global campaign to eliminate gender discrimination in nationality laws.
- We continued to lead efforts to ensure adolescent girls uprooted by crises and conflict are better protected by the humanitarian system from the first days of a crisis through long-term displacement.

Read more at www.womensrefugeecommission.org



WOMEN'S REFUGEE COMMISSION FINANCIAL REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014

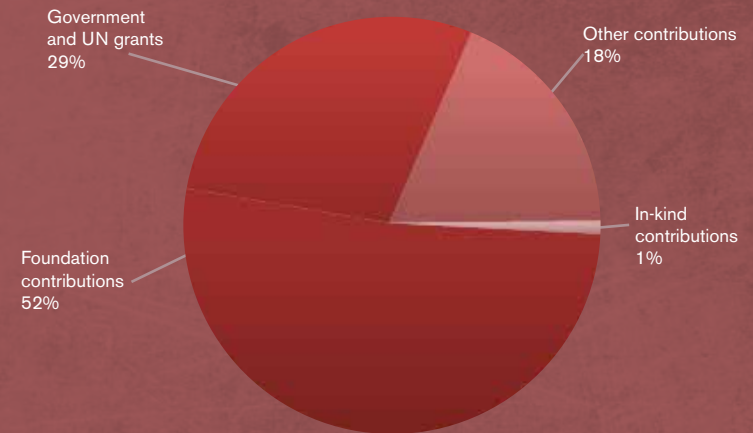
The Women's Refugee Commission was officially established in 1989 as a semi-independent component of the International Rescue Committee. In 2014, it became a separate entity. The Women's Refugee Commission received its public charity determination from the Internal Revenue Service on April 16, 2014 (effective August 9, 2013), and as such is exempt from federal income taxes under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The Women's Refugee Commission officially commenced operations as an independent 501(c)(3) in July 2014.

Copies of the audited financial statements for FY 2014 from the [International Rescue Committee](#) and [Women's Refugee Commission](#) are available upon request.



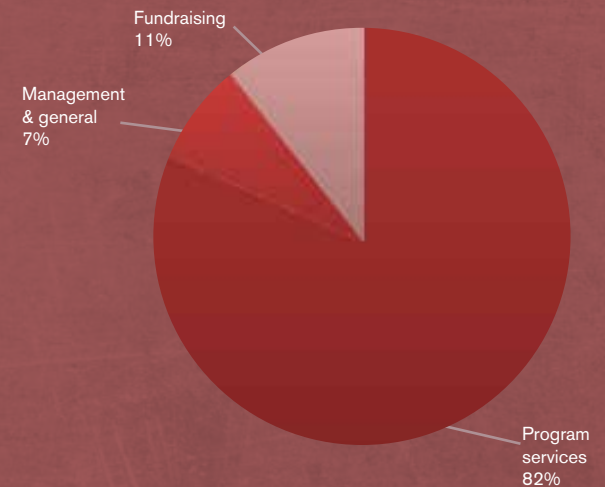
FY 2014 REVENUE

Total revenue: \$6.6 million*



FY 2014 EXPENSES

Total expenses: \$5.7 million*



* Figures reflect the combined revenues received and expenses incurred while WRC was a component of the IRC and while WRC was a separate entity.

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The Women's Refugee Commission is the only international organization dedicated solely to protecting refugee women's rights to sexual and reproductive health care, to freedom from gender-based violence, and to economic and social empowerment.

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