

Pfizer Refugee Leadership Initiative

Pfizer Refugee Leadership Initiative

Launched in 2021; expanded in 2023

Pfizer initially committed to hiring 100 refugees in 2022. In 2023, it expanded its goal to hiring 500 refugees over the following three years. Pfizer's legal division also helped Afghan refugee employees obtain legal assistance with asylum applications, working with outside law firms and immigration-related nonprofits.

Pro Bono Institute

Full source link: <https://www.probonoinst.org/2023/10/25/pfizer-refugee-leadership-initiative/>

This initiative is evidence of support for refugee employment and legal assistance with asylum. The published account does not establish that Pfizer financed unlawful border crossings, smuggling, or illegal immigration.

2. What the initiative actually supported

According to the Pro Bono Institute's account of Pfizer's program, the initiative included:

- Recruiting and employing refugees, initially with a target of 100 hires in 2022.
- Expanding the hiring goal to 500 refugees over three years, announced in 2023.
- Providing legal assistance to Afghan refugee employees navigating the asylum process.
- Connecting employees with outside law firms and Vecina, a nonprofit that trains immigration legal advocates.

Source: <https://www.probonoinst.org/2023/10/25/pfizer-refugee-leadership-initiative/>

4. Where to investigate further

Pfizer publishes records of its political contributions, lobbying, and grants. Those records are the appropriate starting point for checking whether the company has directly funded immigration advocacy organizations.

- Pfizer political contributions and lobbying: <https://www.pfizer.com/about/programs-policies/political-partnerships>
- Pfizer grants and charitable contributions: <https://www.pfizer.com/about/programs-policies/transparency-payments-grants/transparency-in-grants>
- Pro Bono Institute's documentation of the refugee initiative: <https://www.probonoinst.org/2023/10/25/pfizer-refugee-leadership-initiative/>