

# ASYLUM ACCESS ANNUAL REPORT 2018

Natalia Salvadoran Refugee



At Asylum Access, we believe all refugees deserve a fair chance at a new life.

All over the world, we challenge the barriers that keep refugees from living safely, moving freely, working and attending school because when refugees can rebuild their lives, communities thrive.

> Find out more www.asylumaccess.org

### OUR YEAR IN REVIEW

2018

#### RESPONDING TO REFUGEE CRISES

We strengthened human rights programs for Syrian refugees in Jordan and Lebanon, and deployed teams to the US-Mexico border to protect Central American refugees.



opportunity to rebuild through our legal aid program.



built more resilient communities through our empowerment and educational initiatives.





#### FIGHTING FOR CHILDREN'S FREEDOM

We strategically built services to prevent and respond to child arrest and detention in every country where we work.

#### SECURING REFUGEE WORK RIGHTS

We established pathways for safe, lawful employment through private sector partnerships and legal interventions.



#### Mexico

In Mexico, Asylum Access has grown its presence in response to the growing need. As Central Americans flee violence, Asylum Access is reaching over 3,000 refugees per year across 8 sites to help them rebuild their lives in Mexico. Asylum Access is also collaborating directly with the new Mexican government to help them envision and implement an alternative to ongoing detention and deportations.

#### Malaysia

Opportunity is on the horizon in Malaysia with a new government, who has promised to protect refugees from detention and grant them work rights. Asylum Access is holding the government accountable to these commitments, and has been helping over 3,500 refugees per year stay safe and prepare for a brighter future.

#### Thailand

There have also been major developments in Thailand: the government has released a draft law which would grant refugees legal status and work rights. Asylum Access is helping the government prepare to implement this law. We are also helping over 3,000 refugees per year avoid detention and access resources.

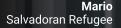


Natalia and Mario were forced to flee El Salvador after Mario was threatened with death for refusing to join one of El Salvador's violent gangs. With no other option, they escaped to Mexico.

In Mexico, Natalia and Mario connected with Asylum Access lawyers. They received legal aid and accompaniment during the Refugee Status Determination process and were recognized as refugees.

**Even with status, Natalia and Mario still did not have a stable place to live**, and could not find safe, well-paid work. Thousands of refugees in Mexico face this challenge. Asylum Access established Mexico's first Hospitality Route to create more welcoming communities for refugees. The Route mobilizes all sectors of society to generate opportunities for refugees.

Natalia and Mario were some of the first beneficiaries of the program. They now have fulltime employment, rent their own apartment, and are saving money. They are no longer hiding in the shadows, in constant fear. They don't have to rely on humanitarian handouts.





## FINANCIALS JULY 2017 - JUNE 2018

