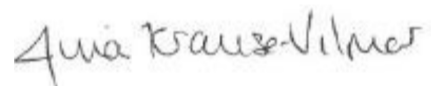


Dear {{Recipient.FirstName}},

As we celebrate Immigrant Heritage Month, let us reflect on the diversity and richness that newcomers bring to the United States. It is more crucial than ever to recognize the value that all immigrants and refugees bring, especially given [recent discussions around a functional asylum ban](#) at the southern border. Asylum seekers have a legal right to seek refuge in this country. By advocating for a just and efficient asylum system, we enable newcomers to rebuild their lives and contribute to our communities, much like the thousands of individuals supported by Upwardly Global each year.

To advance immigrant inclusion, we recently endorsed [federal legislation to bring immigrants and refugees with international medical training into our healthcare system](#) to address the labor shortage and ultimately benefit the quality and equity of care. Additionally, the Illinois General Assembly recently passed two key pieces of legislation that are a win for internationally trained health professionals and for Illinois-based employers looking to hire diverse talent. We played a key role by convening a working group and collaborating with partners to advocate for these reforms, and we will continue to [promote an inclusive healthcare workforce](#), ensuring reliable and accessible care for communities across the U.S. Continue reading to see what else Upwardly Global has been working on.

With gratitude,



Jina Krause-Vilmar  
CEO and President

## Honoring Our Immigrant Heritage



This **National Immigrant Heritage Month and World Refugee Day (June 20)**, help honor the millions of immigrants and refugees living in the U.S. who bring their unique talents, experiences, and diverse perspectives to our communities and

workplaces.

Upwardly Global's work to support immigrant and refugee professionals as they reenter their careers in the U.S. is made possible by your generosity. **Your support helps prepare newcomers for jobs that match their education and skills,** provide employers with the tools to hire and include this untapped talent, and support policy priorities that remove barriers to workforce inclusion.

[Honor the contributions immigrants and refugees make to enrich our culture and fuel the U.S. economy with a gift today.](#)

## 500 Afghan Professionals Placed in Thriving Wage Jobs

Upwardly Global has **reached a major milestone by successfully placing 500 Afghan professionals into thriving wage careers.** Following the U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan in 2021, Upwardly Global Employment Services Advisors have been dedicated to offering personalized coaching and job-readiness training specifically designed to meet the professional and cultural needs of Afghan individuals seeking employment opportunities.

[Read more about our work with Afghan newcomers.](#)

## Let's Celebrate LGBTQ Pride Month



During **Pride Month**, Upwardly Global celebrates the success stories of some of our LGBTQ+ program alumni. Let's raise awareness about the unique challenges that LGBTQ+ individuals face, and let's work towards creating a more inclusive world where everyone is accepted and celebrated for who they are.

Check out stories from our alumni like [Juan](#), who came to the U.S. from Colombia to live as his true self, and [Taciana](#), who was able to marry her wife once she resettled in New York from Brazil.

## Ukrainian Neurologist Rebuilds Career in the U.S.



**Sofia and her daughter fled Ukraine** in February 2022 and resettled in the U.S. through the Uniting for Ukraine sponsorship program. With Upwardly Global's assistance, Sofia overcame **the challenge of restarting her medical career** in a new country that didn't recognize her foreign credentials.

By December, she secured a position in a neurology lab conducting clinical trials; still, she aims to regain licensure as a neurologist. In her spare time, Sofia gives back by assembling medical kits for Ukrainian soldiers.

[Watch Sofia share her story, from fleeing Ukraine to successfully navigating the nuances of the U.S. healthcare system.](#)

## Legislation Would Help Immigrants Enter Healthcare Professions



Upwardly Global recently joined over 40 organizations in **endorsing three bills introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives** — the International Medical Graduate Assistance (IMG) Act, the Immigrants in Nursing and Allied Health Act, and the Professional's Access to Health (PATH) Workforce Integration Act. These three bills would **help immigrants with overseas medical training enter U.S. healthcare professions** and alleviate the shortage of medical workers in the U.S. healthcare system.

[Read more about these health care legislations.](#)

## In the News: Upwardly Global CEO Talks Title 42

# MAKE IT PLAIN WITH MARK THOMPSON



**Jina Krause-Vilmar**  
President and CEO,  
Upwardly Global

**Rev. Mark Thompson**  
Radio and TV Host, Activist

- Jina Krause-Vilmar, Upwardly Global President and CEO, interview: [“The End of Title 42 and the Impact on Refugees and Asylum Seekers” on “Make It Plain” with Rev. Mark Thompson](#) (May 31, 2023)
- Jina Krause-Vilmar, Upwardly Global President and CEO, interview: [SiriusXM’s “Tell Me Everything” with John Fugelsang](#) (May 21, 2023)
- Carlos Cabrera, Upwardly Global Alumnus feature: [NPR’s “The Indicator From Planet Money”](#) (June 21, 2023)

## Upwardly Global Advocates for Afghans

On May 5, 2023, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) [announced a new re-parole process for Afghans](#) who were granted parole through Operation Allies Welcome. The application process opened on June 8. Our colleagues at the Afghan American Foundation and LIRS have published helpful resources related to the process [here](#).

Upwardly Global applauds the re-parole process and will continue to advocate for the [Afghan Adjustment Act \(AAA\)](#), which we anticipate will be reintroduced in the near future and would ensure a permanent path for Afghan newcomers to live and work in the U.S.

[Contact your representatives and urge them to pass the AAA.](#)



## Recognition for Crisis Communications Award

Upwardly Global’s [Afghan response campaign](#) received an honorable mention in [Ragan’s Crisis Communications Awards](#) in the Public Affairs category. The award recognizes the Upwardly Global communications team’s ongoing work of uplifting

Afghan newcomers' stories since the U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan in 2021.

[Read more.](#)

## Join Our Team



Upwardly Global staff gathered last month in Chicago for our second annual all-staff retreat! We enjoyed time in community and shared our unique perspectives, spanning many backgrounds, cultures, and languages.

Join our team to be at the next staff retreat!

- [Regional Program Director – San Francisco, CA](#)
- [Business Development & Partnerships Manager, Jobversity](#)
- [Partnerships Lead, Jobversity](#)
- [Director of Digital Project Management](#)
- [Project Manager, Jobversity](#)

[Donate Today](#)



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