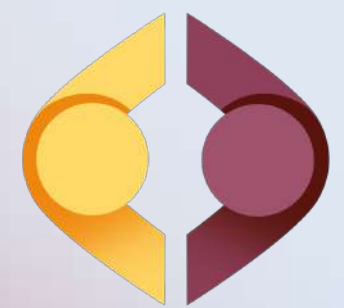


Arms Wide Open Association

Annual report 2022

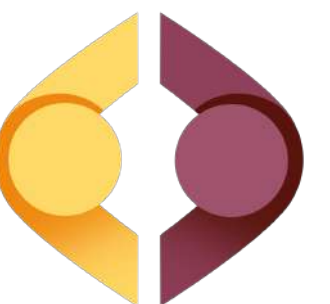


ARMS WIDE OPEN
Protection. Care. Integration

About us

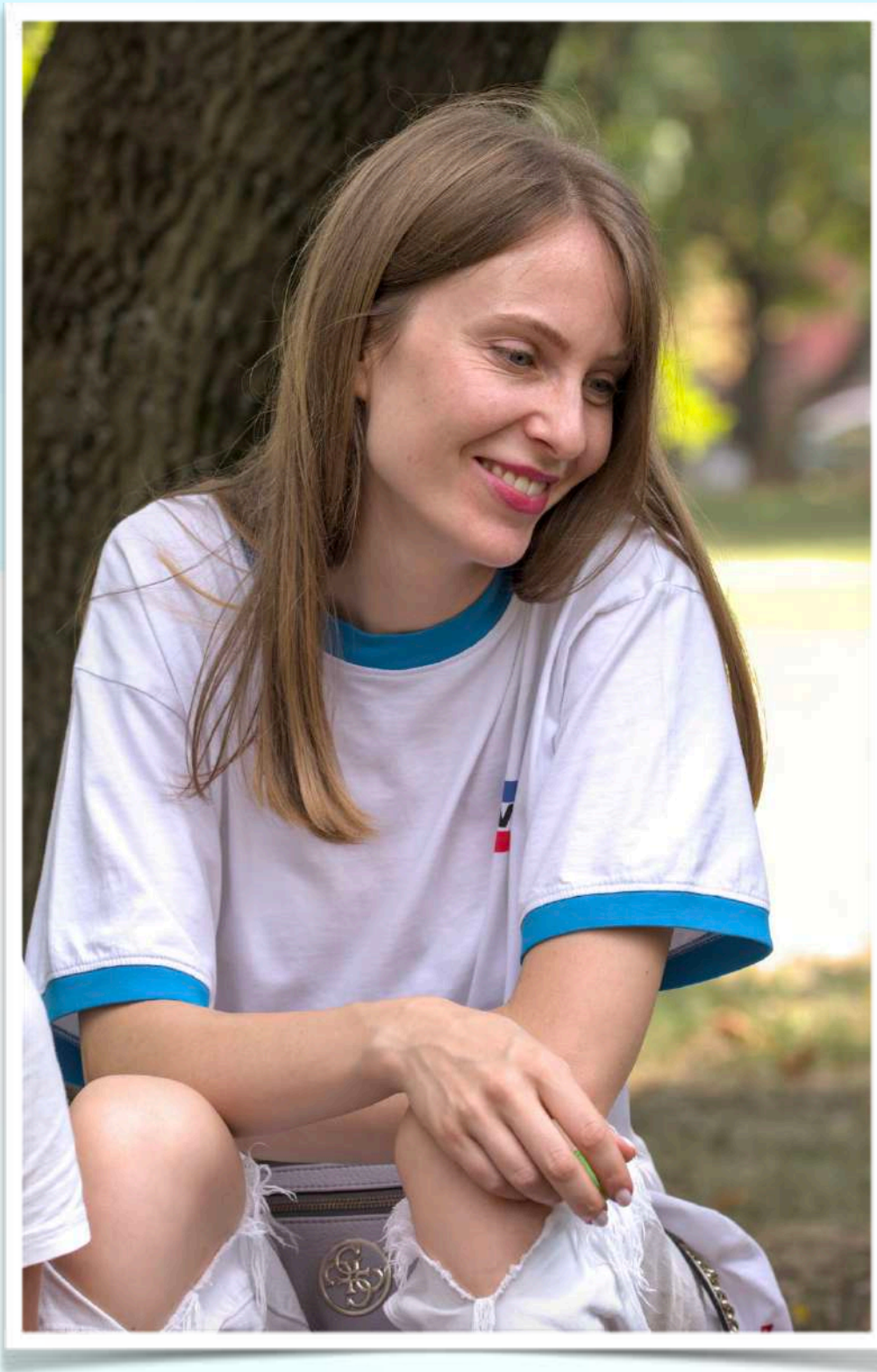
Arms Wide Open is a public benefit association established in response to the Ukrainian refugee crisis in March 2022.

- **Our mission** is focused on helping people affected by humanitarian crises to recover and rebuild their lives.
- **Our vision** is to deliver high quality, cost-effective programs in close collaboration with international partners and local institutions to integrate refugees into the Bulgarian system.
- **Our goal** is for migrants and refugees to be protected, cared for and independent in a society of just and welcoming communities.



Our team

Arms Wide Open was established on the initiative of a group of volunteers with different nationalities and professional backgrounds, who have been actively involved since the first days of armed conflict in Ukraine in a number of initiatives and organizations to help refugees in Bulgaria.



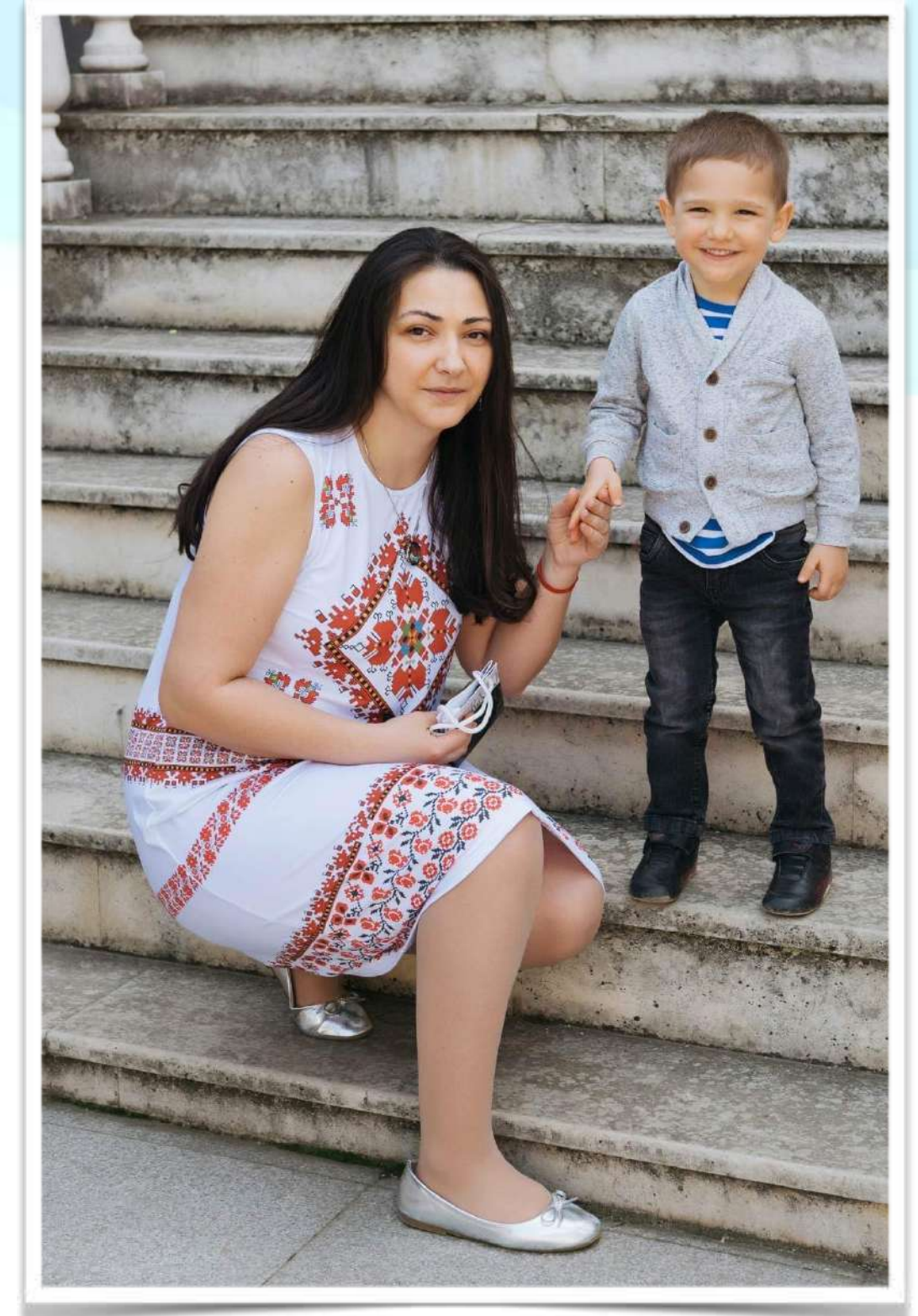
Anna Hakman
/Chairman of the
Management Board/



Nataliya Todorova
/ Founder of the
Association/



Maria Kacharava
/Founder of the
Association/



Milena Georgieva
/Founder of the
Association/



Our team

The main team of teachers at the association in Sofia are Ukrainian refugees. Our main goal is to actively work to create a safe environment for both socialization and professional realization. In our team we actively work with people between 19 and 60 years old, 80% of them are between 19 and 35 years old.



Alexander Marchenko
/Educational Programs
Coordinator/



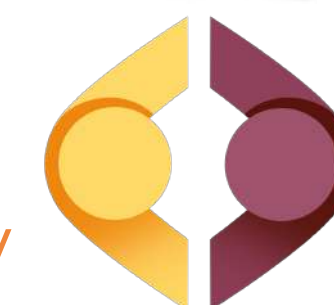
Vasyl Tretiakov
/Deputy Chairman of the
Management Board/



Dimitar Dimitrov
/Youth Programs
Coordinator/

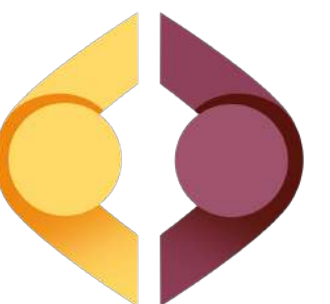


Biser Smilenski
/Member of the
Management Board/



2022 in numbers

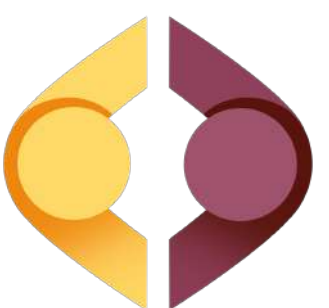
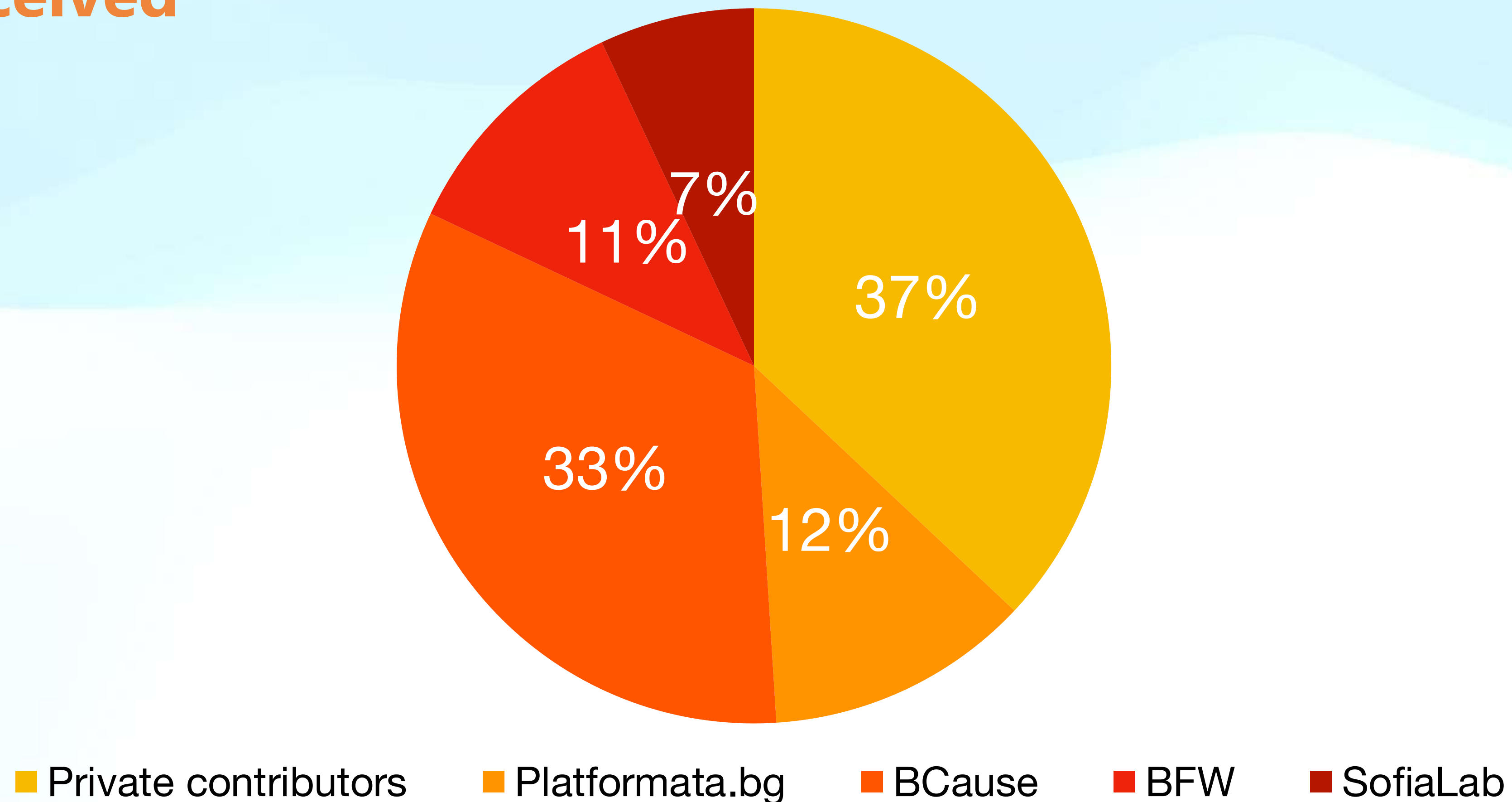
- **900** refugees accommodated in temporary shelters
- **60+** Ukrainian children integrated in the Bulgarian education system
- **400+** Ukrainian families received material donations
- **50+** refugees supported in finding jobs
- **15** Ukrainian children are receiving full-day care



Arms Wide Open report in numbers

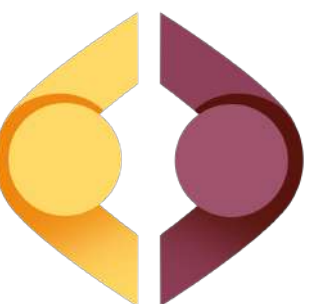
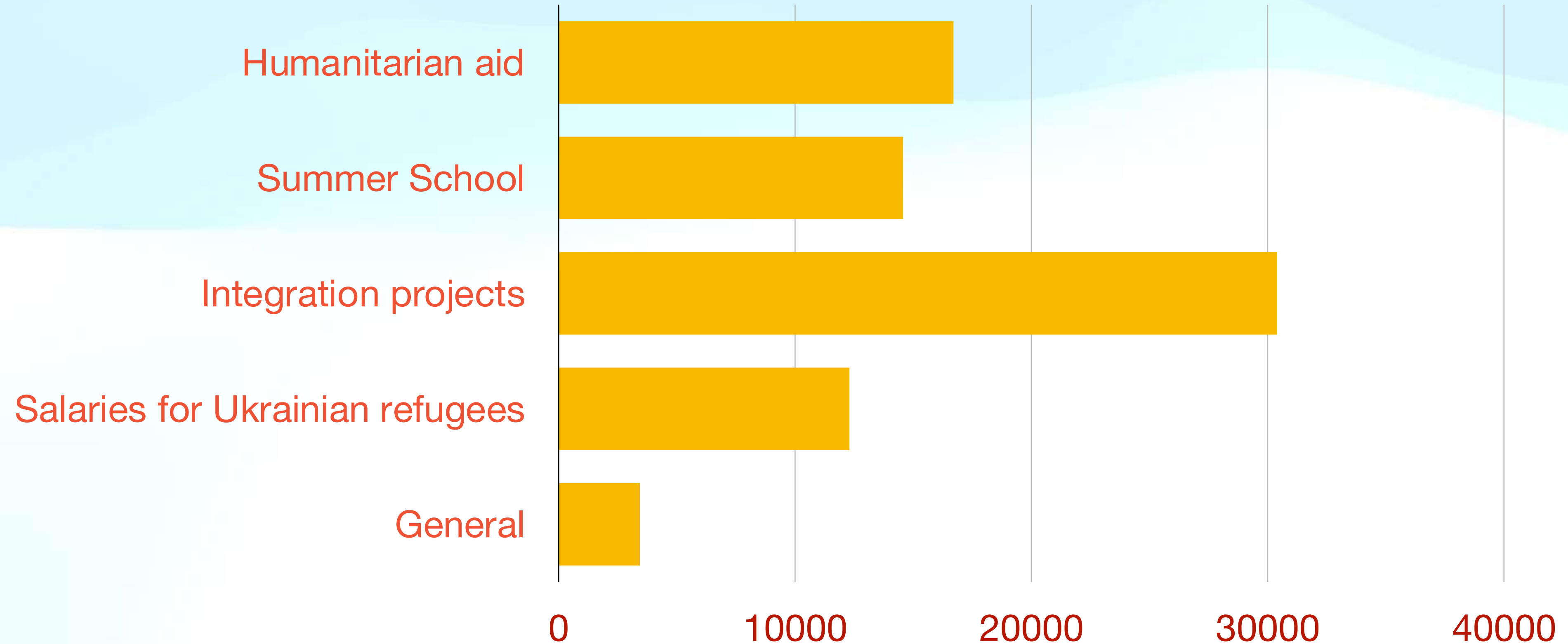
Since June, the Association has organized several voluntary initiatives and 2 large-scale successful projects in which we actively worked with over 300 people of different ages.

Funds received



Arms Wide Open report in numbers

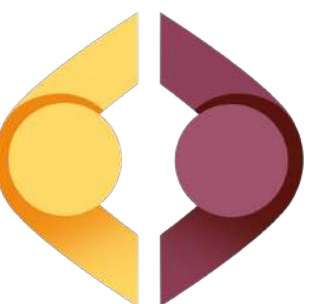
Funds expended



Arms Wide Open report in numbers

Revenue and expenditure

- **Revenue:** **77 427**
- **Expenditure:**
 - Humanitarian aid **16 705**
 - Summer school Arms Wide Open **14 574**
 - Integration education projects **30 407**
 - Salaries for Ukrainian refugees **12 304**
 - General **3 437**



Our projects

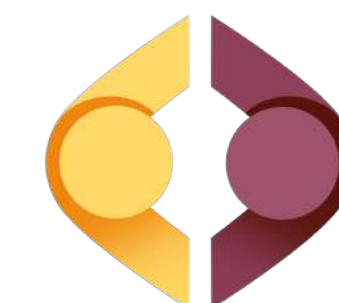
Project "sMysl"

Implementation period: 06-08/2022

Budget: 15 000 BGN

Organization and implementation of a 3-month Bulgarian language course for children and adults and art workshops for children "sMysl" for Ukrainian refugees in Blagoevgrad. Bulgarian language lessons, art workshops and speech therapy classes for Ukrainians, funded by BCause Foundation.

The program provided an adequate preparation for Bulgarian schools, as well as faster and more successful integration for about 100 refugee children and adults.



Our projects

Summer school Arms Wide Open

Implementation period: 07-08/2022

Budget: 14 574 BGN

96 children participated in the program, of which 80 were students. The program focused on the intensive studying of Bulgarian language to prepare for the upcoming school year in Bulgaria and smoother integration into the school environment.

The project team consisted of about 30 people - mostly Ukrainian teachers and young people who led some of the activities and were responsible for the different groups, as well as Bulgarian philologists and volunteers. All of them were employed for a remuneration.

Upon completion of the project, about 50 children were enrolled in local schools for the start of the new school year and speak intermediate level of Bulgarian.



Our projects

Project to the call for proposals "We can"- help for Ukrainian youth

Implementation period: 11/2022 – 02/2023

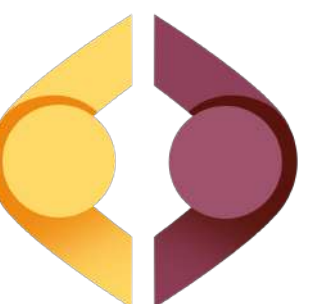
Budget: 12 176 BGN

Arms Wide Open activities and projects are developed with a focus on the specific needs of the target groups we work with.

After the complex and difficult process of adaptation, through which the people who found protection in Bulgaria went through, the time has come for active support for integration - Bulgarian language courses, education, orientation in the labor market, psychological support, socialization.

We believe that the integration process is two-sided and we always rely on joint activities with the local society.

In the current project we continue to work purposefully with local organizations, companies, institutions, volunteers and active citizens.



Our projects

Bulgarian Language Course funded by Sofia Development Association

Implementation period: 11/2022 – 02/2023

Budget: 11 735 BGN

A joint course of SofiaLab and Arms Wide Open co-funded by the European Commission's AMIF program. The course is designed for 30 participants, with a duration of 48 hours, starting level B1.

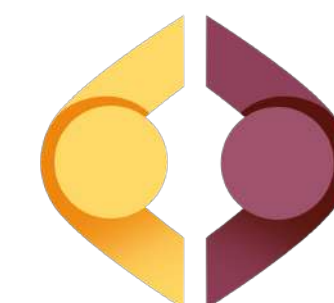
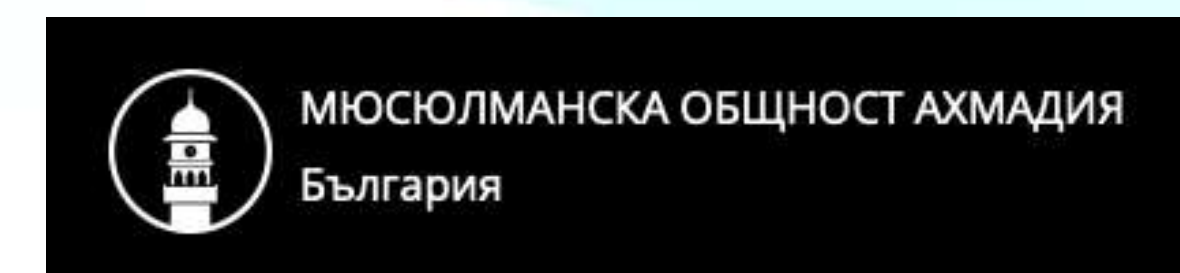
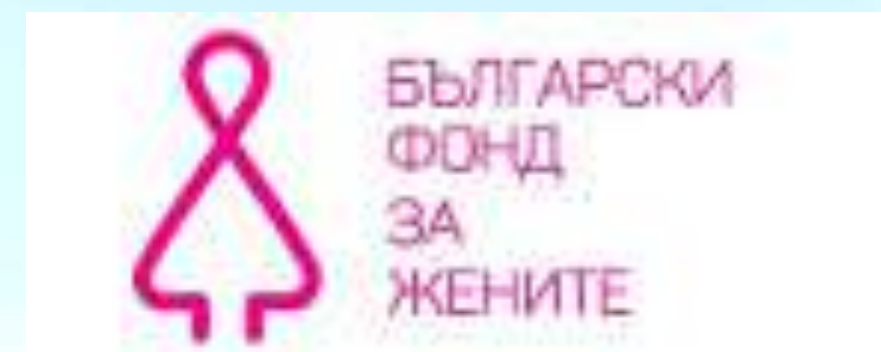
It is conducted online, with 6 workshops to be organized in addition to the training and a financial literacy course.

The course was attended by Ukrainian refugees from all across Bulgaria who already speak Bulgarian at a basic level.



Our partners

We are grateful to all our partners who have put their trust in us and support our work!



Thank you for your trust!



Bank: Bulgarian American Credit Bank

IBAN: BG41BGUS91601009752700

SWIFT/BIC: BGUSBGSF

Holder: Arms Wide Open

