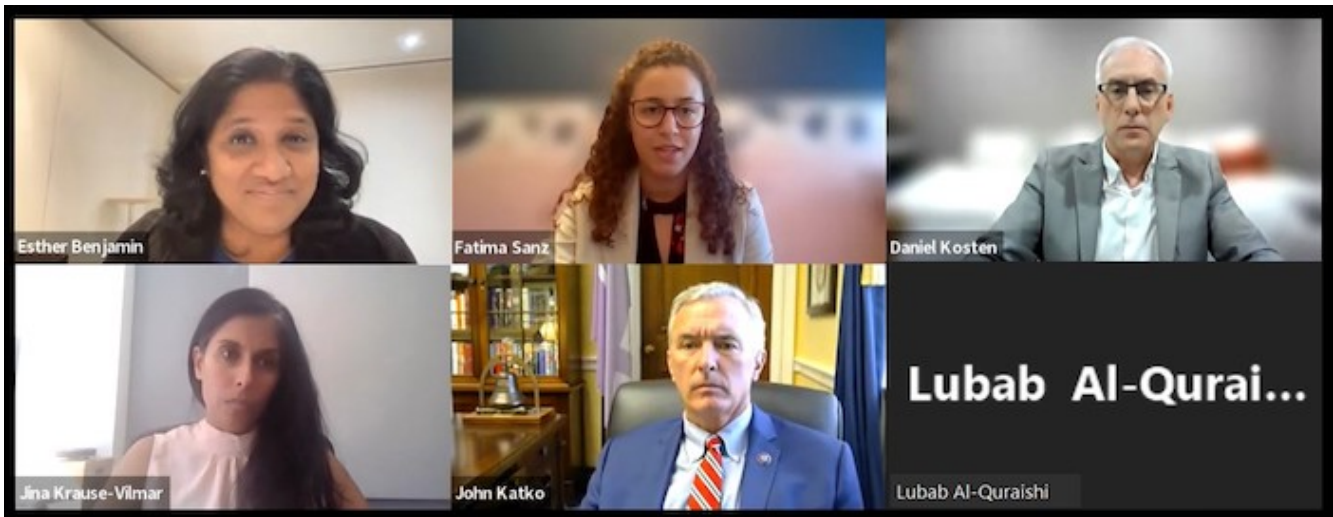




**A BIG WIN! Bridging the Gap for New Americans Act Passes Congress with Bipartisan Majority, Focuses Critical Attention on Upwardly Global's Immigrant and Refugee Professionals**



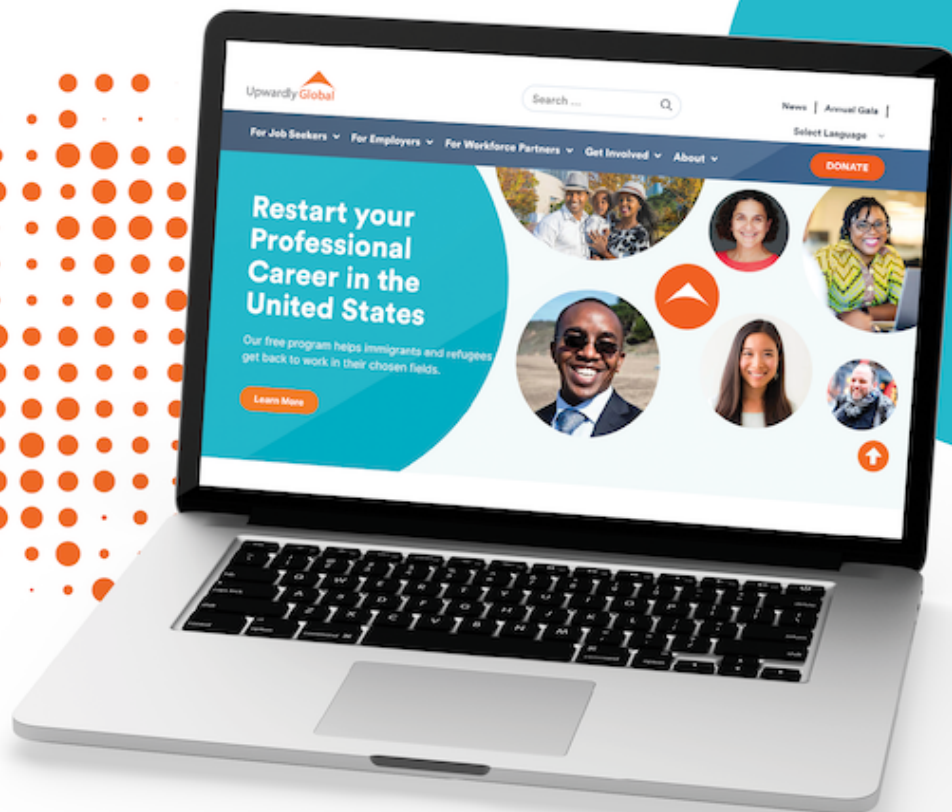
*Upwardly Global CEO joins press briefing to mark Bridging the Gap's passage*

On September 19, the Bridging the Gap for New Americans Act passed in Congress and now awaits President Biden's signature. The legislation will require the Department of Labor to conduct a study on factors that impact employment opportunities for work-eligible immigrants and refugees with international credentials, a systemic recognition of the community we serve.

Three years ago, Upwardly Global was instrumental in educating the leaders who introduced the bill, and our Leadership Councils have helped uplift the issue with policy makers across the country. In a full circle moment, Upwardly Global CEO Jina Krause-Vilmar joined a press briefing with Rep. John Katko, World Education Services, National Immigration Forum, and the IMPRINT Coalition to mark Bridging the Gap's passage.

Read more about the Act [here](#).

## Upwardly Global Launches New Website



**Our new website has launched!**

► [upwardlyglobal.org](https://upwardlyglobal.org)

Upwardly Global is proud to announce our new and improved website for job seekers, staff, volunteers, and community members worldwide.

Highlights from the new and improved website include:

- Users can now read the site in over 16 languages – Spanish, Ukrainian, Swahili, the list goes on!

- Revamped navigation bar directly engaging jobseekers, employers, and workforce partners.
- New and improved storytelling page featuring fresh, compelling narratives of our jobseekers and alumni.

Explore the new website [here](#).

## CEO Jina Krause-Vilmar Talks Upwardly Global's Support for Afghans with CNBC



On August 15, one year to the day after the fall of Afghanistan to Taliban rule, Upwardly Global President & CEO Jina Krause-Vilmar spoke with Kayla Tausche of CNBC about our work with Afghan newcomers to date. Shahpur, our program alum and Black Hawk helicopter pilot with the Afghan military, spoke about his experience relocating to the United States. [Watch the full clip here.](#)

“In light of the Fall of Kabul nearly a year ago today, we are remembering the hard journey that our new Afghan neighbors have faced,” says Jina Krause-Vilmar, President and CEO of Upwardly Global. “We are eager to commit ourselves to supporting their inclusion in our workforce and communities, where they have so much to contribute. The memory of Afghans at the Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, crowding into the first career center that Upwardly Global set up there with

the help of the military and key donors, so eager to restart their lives and contribute to U.S. society, is forever etched in our organization's memory. Upwardly Global is grateful to be of service to Afghans and all immigrants and refugees to this country."

Read about our work with Afghans over the last year [here](#).

**We estimate that 10,260 out of the 41,040**  
working-age Afghans  
are professionals with college degrees

≈ **25%**



**Their projected economic contributions would total**

**\$646 million**  
per annum

Upwardly Global is excited to release new data highlighting the potential economic contributions of newly-arrived Afghan professionals within their first year of employment in the U.S. The data underscored the need to ensure this population has access to career opportunities that meet them at their skill level.

Check out an infographic breaking down the data [here](#).

Upwardly Global is also working with like-minded groups to educate legislators about the critical importance of passing the Afghan Adjustment Act, which would secure the place of the Afghan community in the U.S. in a critical step toward workforce inclusion. Shoaib Sahiby, Upwardly Global job coach and Afghan refugee, wrote a guest op-ed for the Texas Signal urging the passage of the Afghan Adjustment Act.

Read Shoaib's touching op-ed [here](#).





“There are 125 students in my medical class. 124 boys and me, one girl.”

Sohaila, a trained surgeon and Upwardly Global alum, fled Afghanistan for the U.S. alongside nearly 80,000 other refugees last year. With a family of seven educated sisters, she knew she couldn't stay in Afghanistan under Taliban rule. Now in the U.S., she has found a job as a Data Research Coordinator at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital with the help of Upwardly Global, but faces unexpected barriers to U.S. licensure. One day, she hopes to perform surgery again.

Read Sohaila's story [here](#), and tune into our annual gala to hear more.

**Only Three Weeks Left Until Our Annual Gala!**

# UPWARDLY GLOBAL GALA 2022

EQUITY IN ACTION:  
BEYOND WELCOME

IN-PERSON: WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12

VIRTUAL: WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26

UpwardlyGlobal

Want to hear more of Sohaila's story? Join us for our 2022 "Equity in Action" virtual Gala! We will celebrate our community and recognize the companies and individuals who inspire us and who are taking tangible steps to realize inclusion for immigrants and refugees.

Date: Wednesday, October 26, 2022

Time: 7:30pm ET

[Register today.](#)

Can't attend our 2022 Gala in-person? Register for our online Gala on October 26! Our digital event will feature the same wonderful guest speakers and honorees, streamed LIVE directly to your personal device. [Register for free here.](#)

## Upwardly Global Convenes 50 Companies in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Working Group

In the midst of dealing with an unprecedented set of challenges posed by recent world events such as the Russo-Ukrainian War and COVID-19 pandemic, Upwardly Global has remained steadfast in its goal to forge new strategies with American corporations to implement solutions for serving immigrant and refugee talent. On June 9th, 2022, Upwardly Global convened its Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Employer Working Group, made up of over 50 corporate partners, to continue the important work to co-create solutions to better support vulnerable communities and to integrate immigrant and refugee talent into the U.S. workforce. By mobilizing over 20 years of experience working with employers in recruiting diverse immigrant and refugee talent, Upwardly Global continually strives to support its jobseekers on the employer-side by promoting best practices that seek to eliminate prejudices that disproportionately target racial, gender, and sexual minorities in

U.S. workplaces.

Our meeting began with a special presentation from our partners at Fragomen, the leading immigration law firm in the U.S., to share pertinent information on legal pathways for Ukrainians and what employers can expect from this talent pool. Through support from Google and Accenture, and through the Mariam Assefa fund, Upwardly Global is also building out a digital employer-facing module to further support the recruiting, hiring, onboarding, and integration of immigrant and refugee professionals in the U.S workforce. Our partners at Accenture are leading this project to help Upglo devise a strategic work plan by conducting a landscape analysis and stakeholder interviews with Amazon/AWS, Cummins, Deloitte, HiredScore, LinkedIn, Multiverse, NBCUniversal, ewYork-Presbyterian, OC Tanner, PAGNY, Salesforce, US Cellular, and Workday.

## Upwardly Global Announces New Project with Lumina Foundation



We are excited to announce a new project with support from [Lumina Foundation](#) aimed at addressing the service delivery gaps and opportunities for immigrant and refugee students who attend community colleges.

Community colleges serve as an essential (and often the most affordable) gateway to vocational training, English language support, peer-to-peer engagement and other opportunities for immigrants to further their education, launch their career, and build out their personal and professional networks. With a new grant awarded by Lumina, we will conduct a needs assessment with select community college partners, aimed at understanding their unique immigrant student

populations. We aim to empower community colleges to help improve immigrant students' employability, prepare them to navigate their local labor markets, and equip them with the skills needed to build out promising career pathways in high-demand fields and thrive in the workforce long-term.

Read more [here](#).

## Senior Employment Services Advisor Tamar Frolichstein-Appel Interviewed in Minneapolis Fed Article



Upwardly Global Senior Employment Services Advisor Tamra Frolichestein-Appel spoke with the [Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis](#) about barriers to licensure for foreign-born health care workers.

“To learn more, we spoke with Tamar Frolichstein-Appel, senior employment services advisor and health care community lead at Upwardly Global, an organization that works to “eliminate employment barriers for immigrant and refugee professionals, and advance the inclusion of their skills into the U.S. economy.” Frolichsten-Appel noted that when deciding to pursue licensure, clients must consider the costs in time and money and assess their likelihood of success. For clients who pursue medical licenses in the United States, Upwardly Global provides occupation-specific guides that outline the steps to become licensed, personal coaching on navigating the process, and assistance with completing their applications and preparing for residency interviews.



If clients opt not to pursue licensure, the organization helps them pivot into related professional careers such as clinical research.”

Read the full article here: [Occupational Licensing Requirements Can Limit Employment Options for Immigrants](#)

## Upwardly Global Alum Pablo Cruz Publishes Book on Experience as an Engineer in the U.S.

Pablo A. Cruz is one of many Upwardly Global alumni jobseekers who have successfully landed a job as a civil engineer in the US. His new book, *Working as an Engineer in the USA*, carefully outlines the steps that those from similar backgrounds can follow to become engineers in the US. For immigrants who are looking to build professional engineering careers in the US, Cruz’s book is a must-read.

Read more about Pablo’s book and his experience with Upwardly Global [here](#).

**Contributions by our community make all this work possible!**

[DONATE](#)



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Upwardly Global  
505 8th Avenue, Suite 1704  
New York, New York 10018

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