

# Annual Report

# 2022



BARCELONACTUA



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In BarcelonaActua Foundation, this 2022, we have continued working to alleviate the effects of the growing social gaps that are present in our society and that generate exclusion and discrimination. More than 600 people have been assisted by the Foundation through one of the 7 BarcelonaActua programs or as we call them, the BAC Sustainable Ecosystems where beneficiaries, volunteers, and funders interact.

At the same time, we have also continue to address the insufficient lack of awareness and empathy towards people who are socially excluded, especially migrants. And in this sense, we are pleased to have mobilized more than 1,000 citizens through volunteering.

In each BAC Sustainable Ecosystem, we seek to generate a transformative impact in our beneficiaries, through our itineraries. Last year we talked about the introduction of the Employability Itinerary, this 2022 we have added the Administrative and Legal one. This inclusion has been decisive in streamlining the integration processes of migrants, which is an impossible path without personalized support for their regularization processes.

A good example of the transformative impact of this new itinerary can be found in the section of Sustainable Ecosystem of the BACstations in this report. It is a program for young migrants that we launched amid the pandemic and through which 87 young people have experienced in 2022, 24 of whom have emancipated themselves, leaving the BACstation with proper training, speaking Spanish and Catalan, with a job, with a room, and with an entire ecosystem of volunteers with whom they will continue to enjoy their support.

More than 200 young people have already been through the 3 BACstations and have been able to transform their lives. With an innovative model characterized not only because of the impact it generates on the beneficiaries but also because of its ability to raise awareness and mobilize society. And almost 400 volunteers have passed through the BACstations this 2022, whether as academic counselors, references, language teachers, job coaches, cooks, etc... Contributing with expertise, time, generosity, knowledge, etc., but also enriching and growing as people.

And they have done it coming from the BAC community, but also from institutes, schools and

universities, private companies (through corporate volunteering), the neighborhood or other social entities.

Another novelty of this 2022 has been the launch of Migrant Up. A program through which we want to promote the presence of talent of migrants with qualified profiles in companies and institutions, thus promoting diversity and cultural richness in these organizations. A new sustainable ecosystem that we have just launched, hand in hand with the association Main Gate.

If we want Barcelona to be a sustainable city, it necessarily has to go through the inclusion of newcomers, and with programs that adapt to their reality. It is true that there are some migrants who arrive with little education, but there are also many others who have higher education completed in their countries of origin. It would be a mistake not to be able to harness and integrate this talent.

It has been an intense year for the team that works at BarcelonaActua. A team that is growing to keep creating a positive impact on the realities of the most vulnerable groups, and at the same time to encourage citizen mobilization. Because only with a committed, empathetic and inclusive city we can build a Barcelona that generates opportunities for everyone. A truly sustainable Barcelona.

Laia Serrano Biosca

## 02. Our reason for being

### ISSUES TO SOLVE

Growing social gaps that generate exclusion, discrimination and that are not addressed by the Administration.

Lack of awareness and insufficient empathy regarding challenges of socially excluded people and groups, especially in the migration field.

Few initiatives that connect the needs of people in vulnerable situations with people who want to give and contribute through enriching experiences that have a positive impact.

### OUR VISION

The development of a more inclusive and empathetic society towards people in vulnerable situations and with greater diversity.

### PURPOSE

Develop sustainable ecosystems that generate a transforming impact and accompany groups in vulnerable situations through the mobilization of civil society.

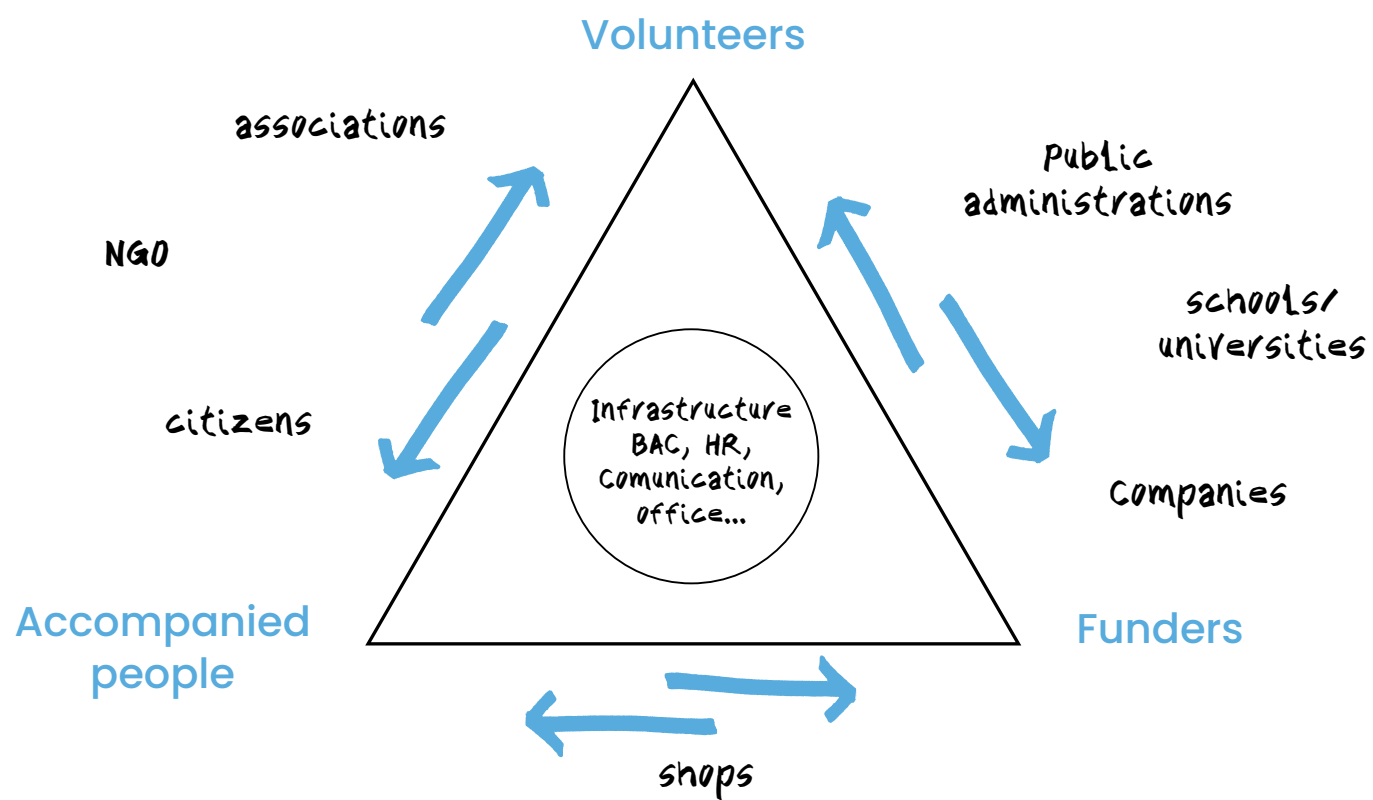


# SUSTAINABLE ECOSYSTEMS

BarcelonActua develops ecosystems\* based on three pillars



Each pillar gives and receives, through experiences with a transforming impact\* that are the basis for expansion and social inclusion.



Our BAC Sustainable Ecosystems materialize in our Programs

\*Set of people/entities that interact with each other in a given space  
 \*\*It is generated when there is a positive change in beliefs, attitudes and behaviors

### 03. Impact 2022



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601

PEOPLE  
ACCOMPANIED

1.050

VOLUNTEERS

128

PEOPLE  
LEGALLY ASSISTED

49

JOB PLACEMENTS

97

PEOPLE  
HOUSED

24

EMANCIPATIONS

21

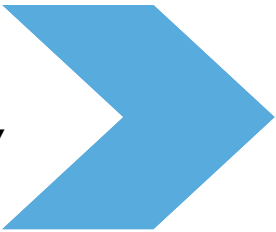
ADMINISTRATIVE  
REGULARIZATIONS

127

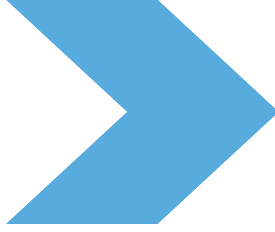
STUDENTS  
TRAINED

## 04. Itineraries

### TRAINING ITINERARY




I. Strengthening education as a preliminary step to employment integration, ensuring academic inclusion, and fostering the development of high-value professional skills.

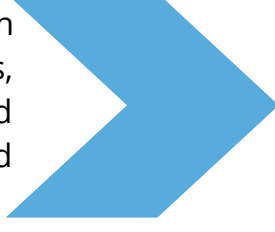


II. Promote greater autonomy and connection with the environment, expanding options in the job market.

### EMPLOYABILITY ITINERARY

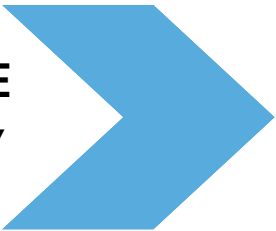


I. Promote employability through education, administrative processes, job readiness preparation, and networking with companies and organizations.

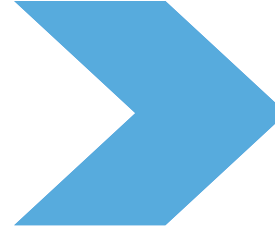


II. Ensure the promotion of diversity in various work environments by mobilizing and raising awareness among the community.

### LANGUAGE ITINERARY




I. Achieve a language level (in Catalan and Spanish) that allows access to different training opportunities and facilitating social interactions.

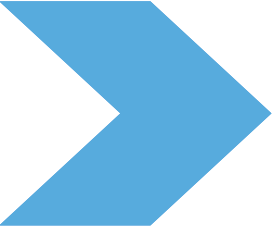


II. Foster greater autonomy and connection with the environment, expanding options in the job market.

### LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE ITINERARY



I. Ensure the equal rights of migrants by addressing their administrative regularization to promote social inclusion, access to education and employment opportunities.



II. Promote and facilitate networking while raising awareness among civil society about situations of exclusion, discrimination, and institutional racism experienced by migrant individuals.



## 05. Programmes



# 9.450

MEALS  
DISTRIBUTED

# 346

VOLUNTEERS

# 47

WORK PLANS

# 11

PEOPLE WITH  
A ROOM

# 79

PEOPLE  
COUNSELLED

# 17

PEOPLE BRIDGED THE  
DIGITAL DIVIDE

# LA LLAR DEL RAVAL

La Llar del Raval, a friendly and family-oriented space, aims to promote the social inclusion process of homeless individuals or those in extreme vulnerability by integrating in civil society.

The program is designed to promote socialization and prevent isolation through training, support, and personalized guidance. At the same time, we work towards ensuring access to suitable housing.





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## LINES OF WORK

**I. Reduce the structural and administrative gap that leads to exclusion and provide training, language support, and career guidance tools to achieve full autonomy.**

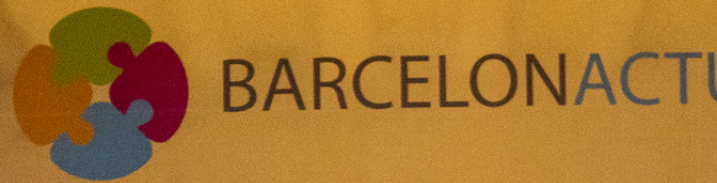
La Llar del Raval offers Catalan language classes, computer literacy courses, and educational guidance and support to enhance employment integration.

**II. Improve self-esteem and emotional well-being of individuals.**

We strengthen social support networks, establish connections with public support services, and work to transform negative dynamics and relationships associated with situations of vulnerability.

**III. Mobilize civil society in the process of inclusion and social bonding.**

The role of volunteers and mentors, who act as friends, is crucial in this process, as they provide a space for individuals to express themselves, be listened to, and receive better guidance.



BARCELONACTUA



"They kicked out everyone over 50, and I was 53," explains Cristóbal, a guest and volunteer at La Llar del Raval. The COVID-19 pandemic was the trigger for the company he worked for to downsize, and he was one of the affected employees. "I started receiving unemployment benefits, but it ended, and I had no more income," Cristóbal recounts. He tried to apply for other forms of assistance but was not granted any. "I ended up on the streets," he states.



*It's not just another soup kitchen. And I'm not the only one saying it.*



Cristóbal was born and raised in the Raval neighborhood, and he says that was a great advantage when he found himself homeless. "I could ask people in the neighborhood for places to eat and shower," he explains. It was one of his friends who took him to have dinner at La Llar del Raval. "It's not just another soup kitchen," he assures with a smile, admitting that he came one day and is still here, now also as a volunteer. "And it's not just me saying it. If you don't believe me, come one day and ask the guests of La Llar," he emphasizes with an undeniable tone.

For 15 days, he slept on the streets. "I went to talk to social services to explain my situation," Cristóbal explains. They assigned

him a social worker, and together they started looking into what could be done to reverse the situation. The first step was to start sleeping in various shelters in the city. And shortly after, he was granted assistance to find his own place to live. "At La Llar del Raval, they created a 'savings plan' for me and helped me find my first room and then two subsequent ones," Cristóbal recounts, affirming that he has always done everything on his own, but having support from BarcelonActua has been very positive for him.

"I have participated in many activities organized by the Foundation," Cristóbal says with a laugh. From cooking classes to socializing, to computer classes to bridge the digital divide. "Attending computer classes was very helpful because I could brush up on how to use a computer and thus search for jobs and housing," he explains. He has also had a mentor, and now he has entered the employability itinerary to continue his job search.

Cristóbal started as a guest at the dinners and breakfasts of La Llar del Raval, and today he is already part of the BAC family. "One Saturday, I went to La Llar, and since we already had a lot of trust, one of the volunteers asked me if I wanted to stay and help because they were short of staff," he recalls. And to this day, every Tuesday, Thursday, and Sunday, he continues as a responsible volunteer at the entrance of La Llar del Raval, organizing and welcoming all the guests.

120

PEOPLE ACCOMPANIED

122

VOLUNTEERS

18

PEOPLE LEGALLY ASSISTED

13

JOB PLACEMENTS

30

PARTICIPANTS IN LANGUAGE CLASSES

1.820

FOOD PACKAGES DISTRIBUTED

# FAMILIES OF THE WORLD

The individuals who make up Families of the World are single migrant mothers who are in a situation of high vulnerability caused by migration processes, administrative, labor, and economic difficulties, and the lack of a social support network in the city.

From the program, we strive to build stronger social networks with all of them through proposals for socialization support, language learning, education, job placement, as well as providing legal and administrative assistance.





© Manuel Beneito

## LINES OF WORK

### **I. Promote the autonomy of women and their families in vulnerable situations for better social and economic inclusion.**

To promote autonomy and integration, BarcelonActua prioritizes language study as one of the first steps to take. By learning Catalan, women open doors to further training and job opportunities.

Many of them are single-parent families, which adds an additional challenge in achieving economic stability and a good work-life balance. For this reason, we create the "Circle of Women," a space for care and listening, as well as a group of personalized academic support for their children.

### **II. Strengthen their support network and improve their access to resources for a dignified life.**

To strengthen the network, women are accompanied by a mentor, a key and cross-cutting figure in the program, who provides support and creates a space for them to express themselves and be heard.



*"We had a sewing and screen printing workshop in Peru, but the area where we lived became increasingly dangerous. One day, everything was stolen, and I was very afraid for my children,"* confesses Rosa, a Woman of the World in the Families of the World program.

Rosa arrived in Barcelona in May 2022 with two of her three children. Her main concern was enrolling them in school. She was here for them, to provide them with a future, and she didn't stop until she achieved it. Shortly after, the daughter-in-law of her homeowner told her about BarcelonActua. There they would also help her start her journey here.



***We all need a space where we can listen and talk.***



*"I had my first meeting with the program coordinator of Families of the World, and she explained all the activities I could participate in,"* Rosa recounts with the strength that characterizes her. Catalan classes, cooking activities, food packages, the Circle of Women, among others. *"The Circle of Women has been the most beautiful and important thing for me.*

*Women have a hectic pace of life, always thinking about everyone except ourselves. And we all need a space where we can listen and talk. This gives us even more strength to keep fighting,"* Rosa describes, admitting that her children also enjoyed their time with the other kids while she shared with the women.

Rosa is clear that the most important thing is to be perseverant, and she has proven it. She studied Catalan because it was essential for her to speak the native language of Barcelona. *"This opened doors for me to collaborate in the neighborhood festivities of Gracia,"* she admits. As a result of her participation, in September 2022, she found a full-time job. *"I didn't just sit idly by; I kept looking for something tirelessly. And when the program coordinator called me with the news, I felt immense joy,"* confesses Rosa.

*"The Foundation contributes a lot to all women. We not only receive support but also acquire knowledge. When you are part of it, you embrace good values and realize what each of us can do for others,"* explains Rosa confidently. With a firm smile, she acknowledges that Cinthya, a new member of Families of the World, was her neighbor when she lived in Lima, and it was herself who sent her to the BarcelonActua headquarters as soon as she arrived in the city. She knew they could accompany her.

# 141

PEOPLE  
ACCOMPANIED

# 126

VOLUNTEERS

# 24

REFERRALS TO HOUSING  
RESOURCES

# 100%

OF STUDENTS IN  
LANGUAGE CLASSES

# 20

TRAINING  
PROGRAMS

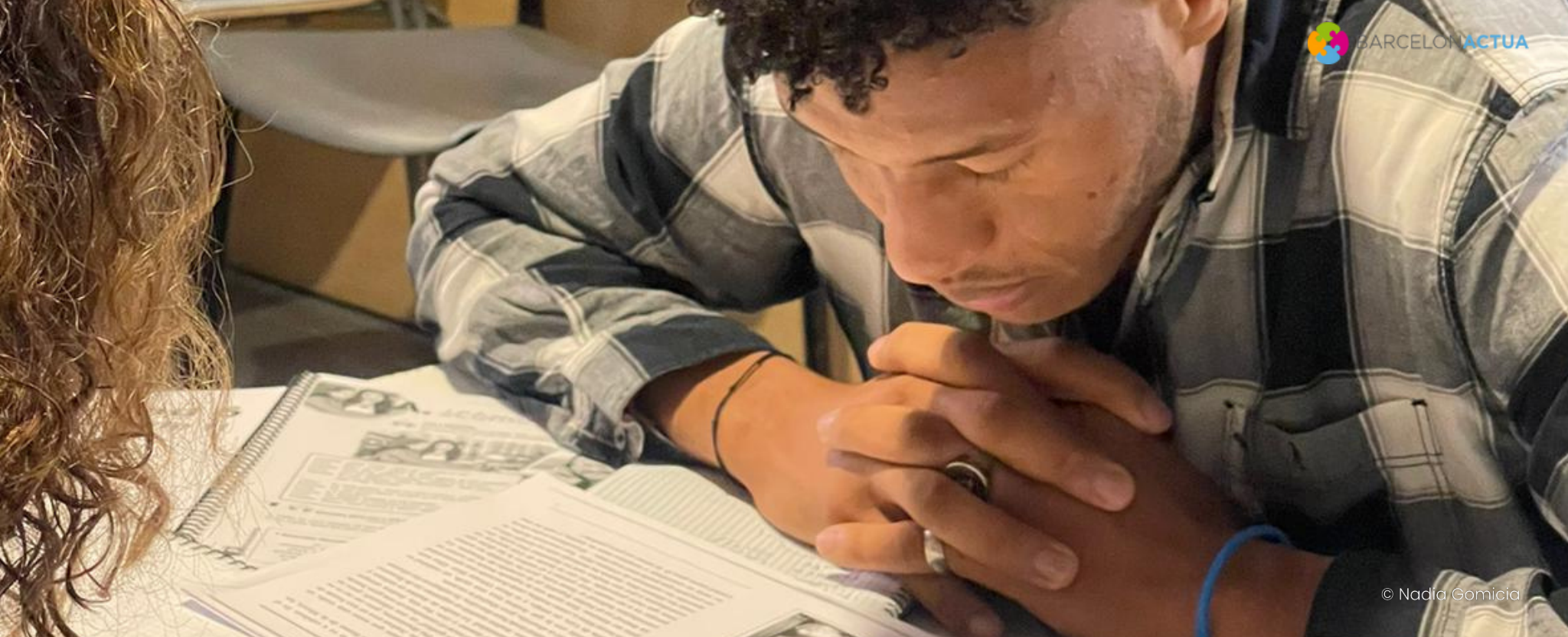
# 19

PEOPLE LEGALLY  
ASSISTED

## LANDING

The Landing Program is aimed at vulnerable migrants without family references and offers a set of landing activities focused on improving language skills and socialisation opportunities.





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## LINES OF WORK

### **I. Social integration and guidance for asylum seekers, humanitarian migrants, unaccompanied minors, and ex-foster young people.**

We work through language classes, recreational and educational activities, legal advice, and vocational guidance to provide personalized support that caters to the specific needs of the community.

### **II. Raise awareness and mobilize civil society regarding unaccompanied migrant youth in vulnerable situations.**

The bond that emerges through the accompaniment provides a transformative experience for both parties, offering a space where the person receiving support can express themselves, be heard, and navigate their situation more effectively.

Likewise, it allows volunteers to learn about other cultures and break down established prejudices and stereotypes.

### **III. Facilitating connections with other organizations.**

We offer various points of support and guidance to provide assistance and advice in the migration process.





*"I met my mentors, Josep Maria and Lidia, at the border of France," explains Shedrack, a student in the Landing program. He was walking across the border, trying to reach a town where he believed an acquaintance could help him in his job search, when Josep Maria and Lidia saw him. "They asked if I was okay and gave me their phone number in case I returned to Spain and needed help," Shedrack explains. He assured them that he was fine and continued on his way. But when the French authorities forced him to return to Spain and he arrived in Barcelona without knowing anyone, he retrieved the phone number they had given him and contacted them.*



***"I started with the most important thing in order to search for a job, language classes."***



*"The first thing they did was find me a place to stay," Shedrack explains. Then, Josep Maria and Lidia, volunteers from the Foundation, took him to BarcelonActua. "I started with the most important thing in order to search for a job, language classes," he narrates. Shedrack attends the language immersion activity three times a week and also participates in the BACuinetes meetings. "The cooking activities help me to continue practicing the language, to learn about the culture and gastronomy here, and at the same time, they allow me to meet*

*new people and expand my support network in Barcelona," emphasizes Shedrack*

Shedrack's landing process had already begun, but his asylum application still needed to be processed. "The Foundation advised us on what to do and is providing us with very good support, both for me and my mentors," Shedrack admits.

Shedrack is from Nigeria and had to flee due to a well-founded fear of persecution. "They killed my sister, and my father told me that I had to leave because if something happened to me, no one could provide for the family," he recounts. Thus, Shedrack embarked on a long journey filled with violence that led him to Barcelona. "I am still awaiting the final response to my asylum application," Shedrack emphasizes. Now, although he legally could access a work contract without having a definitive resolution, in practice, fear and unfamiliarity from companies deny him that possibility.

Shedrack continues to study Spanish, and as soon as his situation allows, he will enter the employability program. "I will be truly happy if, thanks to this program, I can finally find a job and provide for my family," he affirms. And he repeats again and again that now his life is here in Barcelona, and his greatest wish is to be able to work to help all those who have helped him and those in need. "My Catalan family, Josep Maria and Lidia, have done everything possible and more to help me, and they continue to do so. That's why now I want to help them, and all those who need it," he repeats.

87

STUDENTS  
HOUSED

378

VOLUNTEERS

100%

OF STUDENTS LEGALLY  
ASSISTED

21

JOB PLACEMENTS

71

TRAININGS

24

EMANCIPATIONS

# BAC STATION

The program was created as a comprehensive residential shelter for unaccompanied migrant youth in situations of homelessness and without family support. The BACstations are temporary accommodation spaces that focus on key pillars such as education, socialization, language learning, administrative/legal support, physical and emotional health, and job integration.

In these homes, our students can live, eat, and find shelter while continuing their educational and language learning itineraries. Additionally, we work towards their social inclusion by involving the local community and volunteers in the project, enabling the individuals under our care to achieve full emancipation and autonomy.





## LINES OF WORK

### **I. Train, include, and guide homeless migrant youth through a sheltered space.**

Education is the foundation of a dignified and enriching future. That is why all the individuals in our care are committed to receiving training and learning the language. At the same time, we provide comprehensive support for their administrative, legal, and employment situation to help them achieve full autonomy.

### **II. Raising awareness and mobilizing civil society about young migrants without family support.**

Volunteer mentors, academic advisors, language tutors, therapists, job coaches, kitchen volunteers, and recreational activity volunteers involved in the project establish connections with the individuals being supported through the process of accompaniment.

This provides a transformative experience for both parties, offering a space of safety and understanding where the students receiving support can express themselves, be heard, and gain better guidance. It also allows volunteers to learn about other cultures and break free from established prejudices and stereotypes.



*"On the day I turned 18, I had to leave the center for minors in Melilla," explains Youssef\*. When unaccompanied minors reach adulthood, they are required to leave the centers that accommodate them, and in many cases, they have nowhere to go, leaving them unprotected. "I ended up sleeping on the street until I received the NIE that they had helped me process at the center," he narrates.*

As soon as he had the document, he came to Barcelona. *"I went to a center to ask if I could sleep somewhere in the city, but they told me I had to wait, that there were no available spots." Until he was able to enter one of the Red Cross shelters, Youssef slept near the beach. It was the rainy season. "It was very tough, but I had to endure," he shares.*



*I could start from scratch.*



BarcelonActua was preparing to open the new BACstation Arc de Triomf when an educator told Youssef about the program. *"I came for my first interview, and they told me that at the BACstation, I could sleep, eat, study languages, participate in training programs, receive legal support to renew my NIE, and be part of the employability itinerary," Youssef recalls, emphasizing that when he left the meeting, he couldn't have been happier. "I could start from scratch and do everything right," he notes.*

Youssef started studying Catalan and Spanish. And shortly after, he began taking various culinary and restaurant training courses. *"I wanted to study cooking because I really enjoy eating," he says with a laugh, admitting that he loves Catalan food and has a talent for making rice dishes. "I also volunteered at Toma&Daca in El Raval," he explains. A few afternoons a week, he would go to La Llar del Raval and help cook and serve dinners to the guests. "It's one of the things I enjoyed the most. I don't want anyone to go through what I went through when I had nothing to eat and was living on the streets," Youssef confesses.*

*"I also had two mentors who are now very good friends of mine," Youssef adds. Mentors are individuals who accompany BAC students, providing a space of trust and security to share and support each other. "I improved my language skills thanks to them, I met many people, and I knew that if I had any problem, I could call them," he emphasizes.*

*"Things have really changed a lot for me. I've experienced very difficult times, but now I'm doing well," he confesses. Youssef managed to renew his NIE for 5 years, and through the employability itinerary, he found a job in the kitchen of a hotel in Barcelona. "It's been 8 months since I was able to leave the BACstation and get my own room," he explains. He also acknowledges that on that day, he felt very happy, but at the same time, he knew he would miss his educators. "For me, BarcelonActua is a home, a family," he points out.*

11

COMPLETED FAMILY  
PLACEMENTS

13

FAMILIES TRAINED

40

VOLUNTEERS

3

JOB PLACEMENTS

100%

OF STUDENTS LEGALLY  
ASSISTED

8

LANGUAGE  
STUDENTS

# BACHOSTING FAMILIES

The BACHosting Families program works to create a bond between BACstation students and BAC volunteer individuals through direct coexistence.

The program ensures the provision of basic needs such as accommodation and sustenance for our vulnerable students while also enabling them to establish a new family circle and support network within the city.





© Rebecca

## LINES OF WORK

### **I. To promote the emancipation of young people.**

The creation of a strong family and support network is complemented by individualized support for the student through training, administrative and legal assistance, and employment integration.

### **II. Raise awareness and mobilize civil society in support of vulnerable young migrants**

We establish a family-student-foundation contact that allows us to personally showcase the harsh realities that many young migrants face

(homelessness, lack of a solid support network, irregular administrative situations, inability to access decent housing without education or employment, etc.) and helps engage people in contributing to improvement.



*"I decided to take this path because here I can envision a future,"* says Ibibi after explaining that on the day he turned 18, he could no longer stay at the center for minors where he was and decided to come to Barcelona. He didn't know anyone or anything here, but he believed he would find more opportunities than he had in his hometown.

*"When I arrived, I was assigned a social worker who informed me about the shelters where I could sleep and eat,"* Ibibi points out. It was she who told him about BarcelonActua. *"I was able to enter the BACstation and start from scratch,"* he explains. Now, Ibibi had a home, could continue studying languages, pursue training courses, and build a new social network. *"I had a mentor who supported me a lot and taught me many things about her culture. She even explained to me who La Moreneta is,"* he says with a laugh.

Ibibi admits that he really liked the BACstation and that's why he wanted to take all the opportunities that came his way. He also says that he requested to be part of the BACacollida Families program because he was sure that if he lived with a family in Barcelona, he could continue to progress and meet new trustworthy people. *"Well, and for the affection they would give me too,"* Ibibi confesses with a shy smile.

Not long after, the program coordinator called Ibibi. *"She told me they already had a family for me, and I was very happy,"* Ibibi explains. He also admits that he was nervous because, although the first meeting with Lina and her

three children had gone very well, he wanted to make sure to respect the family's culture and guidelines so that everyone would be happy with the coexistence.

Ibibi confesses that on the day he arrived, he felt that everything would be fine. *"We played, went for walks, cooked Catalan and Moroccan food, and shared how our day went,"* he explains. They cared for each other because they are a family. And before reaching 6 months with the family, Ibibi found a job. *"Right after I managed to renew my NIE, and thanks to all the cooking courses I took through the Foundation and the internships, I was offered a job,"* he proudly states. That meant he could start looking for a room and become independent.



***"They are my second family, my Spanish family."***



He narrates with excitement how his host family celebrated his new position as a cook with pride. *"They are my second family, my Spanish family, and when they are happy, I am happy too, and vice versa,"* he says, admitting that he has no words to thank them for everything they have done for him. *"When I arrived, I didn't know if anything would work out. It was a dream, and now it has become a reality,"* Ibibi confesses.

# 19

SCHOLARSHIP  
HOLDERS

# 100%

OF STUDENTS  
RENEWED

# 15

VOLUNTEERS

# 13

STUDENTS WITH  
MENTOR

# 8

STUDENTS TAKING  
ENGLISH CLASSES

# 60%

PARTICIPATING IN  
GIVE&TAKE

# U-BAC SCHOLARSHIPS

The U-BAC Scholarship program aims to promote social mobility through education by enabling talented youth from high-complexity institutes in Barcelona to access university education.

The scholarships, which cover the four years of the degree, encompass a key pillar of the program the constant and personalized monitoring of the students.







## LINES OF WORK

### **I. Facilitating university degrees and access to high value-added jobs for young people coming from High Complexity Institutes in Barcelona.**

U-BAC Scholarships aim to empower young people in vulnerable situations to have the same opportunities for success as their peers.

For many students, the inability to

afford the initial payment of tuition and the uncertainty of receiving a public scholarship prevents them from considering whether or not to attend university.

With U-BAC Scholarships, the payment of university tuition, transportation, educational materials (including co-financing for a computer based on academic performance), and English classes are covered.

Academic and emotional support is also provided to ensure that students successfully navigate their university journey. Additionally, in the first year of college, they receive support from a mentor, and in their final year, they have a career coach to guide them in their job search.



*"I only have 3 subjects left to finish my degree," proudly states Oriol Martínez, a chemical engineering student at the Autonomous University of Barcelona. This university degree opens up a world of possibilities for Oriol, and he has no shortage of ideas and future projects. "I want to pursue a master's degree and specialize in biological and environmental engineering. I have a startup project underway, and I would also like to spend some time abroad to experience other cultures and ways of doing things," he explains.*

Oriol is confident in his abilities and emphasizes that he never doubted his ability to achieve good grades in high school and attend university. However, during his last year of high school, he did not consider going to university. *"We were not going through a good economic situation at home, and enrolling without knowing if I would receive a state scholarship was a commitment I couldn't take on," he explains.*

After attending a talk by the BarcelonActua Foundation about the U-BAC Scholarships at his school, Galileo Galilei in Nou Barris, Oriol thought that perhaps there was a chance for him. *"I felt hopeful,"* Oriol remarks, emphasizing that if the Foundation believed he could qualify for a scholarship, he had nothing to lose by trying.

Weeks later, Oriol received an email in his inbox. It was a letter informing him of the status of his application. "I read it and

*started shouting to tell my mother that I had been awarded the U-BAC scholarship,"* explains Oriol excitedly. His mother was overjoyed, and as they celebrated the good news, she reminded him that he had received it because he deserved it, and she had no doubt that his father would be proud of him.



***This scholarship is what has allowed me to pursue what I truly want in life.***



The U-BAC scholarship covers the tuition fees for all 4 years of university, transportation, educational materials, and English classes. It also provides students with a mentor to offer support and guidance. *"This scholarship is what has allowed me to pursue what I truly want in life, without my resources being a limiting factor,"* admits Oriol. He firmly believes that no one should refrain from considering any path due to a lack of resources.

Now, just a few months away from graduation, Oriol speaks about his university experience with a smile of satisfaction and pride. *"Nobody should be afraid to pursue higher education because it is not only an academic experience but also enriches us on a personal level,"* he emphasizes. He expresses gratitude for the individuals and organizations that work to ensure that people facing inequality can benefit from resources like these.

# MIGRANT UP

Every year, migrants with university degrees arrive in our city. The obstacles they face in utilizing their educational background for employment are significant, not only due to their irregular status but also because of difficulties in validating their degrees and a lack of information and networks.

The Migrant Up Program provides information and guidance for degree validation, offering scholarships for any additional credits required for

homologation, as well as postgraduate studies to complement their education.

Mentors and career advisors are actively involved in supporting students and facilitating their integration into the workforce.

We have begun building the ecosystem for this program in the last few months of 2022, and we currently have 4 students, 3 volunteers, 1 university, and 1 company involved.

## LINES OF WORK

**I. Facilitating access to high value-added jobs for migrants with higher education degrees from their home countries.**

Homologation and scholarships for pursuing complementary education make it possible for society to harness the potential and human capital of these individuals.

**II. Promoting the diversity of racialized and culturally diverse profiles in companies and administrations, so that this diversity becomes an asset for these organizations and helps break the association of these profiles solely with low value-added jobs.**



*"At the age of 16, I had to leave high school because the economic situation wasn't good," admits Ahmed, a student of Migrant Up, as he confesses that his only dream was to continue studying. And he left. "From the moment I left Ghana until I arrived at the center for minors in Barcelona, I went through things that I wouldn't wish upon anyone," he confesses.*

*"The first thing I told my educator was that I wanted to study," he emphasizes. And so he did. They prepared a study plan, and he started a vocational training program in computer science. "At first, it was very difficult because I didn't speak the language, but studying was all I had. It allowed me to escape and opened my mind," he explains. Upon completion, his strong determination to continue his education enabled him to enroll in a vocational course program in computer science.*

While studying, he turned 18 and had to leave the youth center. But luckily, he was able to move into a shelter home. *"Later on, I was able to rent a room because, thanks to the vocational degree program, I was able to do internships, and after finishing, I was offered a job at the company," he recounts.*



***It is a space of opportunities.  
They support you to study.***



*"I wanted to give back to the community everything they had given me, and since I couldn't do it with money, I decided to do it with*

*love," he explains. So he started volunteering, accompanying people with different abilities. It was there that many doors opened for him. And as if by chance, he came across the BarcelonActua Foundation.*

*"It's a space of opportunities. They support you so that you can study and not settle for just any job. They believe in you and believe that we all should have the same access to jobs," he explains, recalling the path that led him to BAC.*

When he learned about the Foundation, he was determined to pursue an advanced course in programming. *"I submitted my pre-registration, but I didn't know how I was going to manage the enrollment," he admits. But by the time the list of accepted students was published, BarcelonActua had already decided to grant him a scholarship. "They paid for my tuition, transportation, and assigned Yikai, a student from the U-BAC Scholarships, as my mentor," Ahmed recounts, jokingly suggesting that without Yikai's tutoring, he wouldn't have passed the course.*

*"I attend classes from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., work from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m., and study at home from 10 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.," he explains. He earns just enough to cover his rent and prioritize his studies. If there's one thing that defines Ahmed, it's his perseverance and eagerness to seek opportunities that are not initially given to him. "I want to go to university and study computer engineering," Ahmed explains. He wants to study and occupy spaces reserved for qualified individuals to demonstrate that migrants can also reach those positions and dream of a future away from precarious jobs assigned to them out of necessity.*



## 06. Volunteering

## VOLUNTEERS IN GROUP ACTIVITIES.

*"When I came across BarcelonActua, it seemed like a project of disruption and hope to me. Starting as a volunteer allowed me to see that volunteering is activism, it is acting according to your beliefs. And BAC allows you to contribute and build, while also helping you grow and bringing you closer to other worlds that are beside us but unfamiliar."*

Victoria de los Ángeles Pérez,  
Coordinator of Aula de Lectura

*"What I love most about being a volunteer is feeling like I'm part of a small family, even though there are many people involved. I think at BarcelonActua, it's very easy for volunteers to feel like active contributors to the impact of the Foundation because we are the ones coordinating the activities. I have always felt heard and valued. Moreover, I have learned to be more flexible and open-minded."*

Maite Torres, Coordinator of Saturday activities with children (Menuts)

*"I have learned so much! Both from the volunteers and from the guests at La Llar del Raval. I have learned to share, work as a team, and ask for help when needed. We are a big family filled with exceptional, dedicated, and committed people who share the same goal. At La Llar, I have also learned that we are all equal, that the guests are people just like me and you."*

Xavier Serra, Coordinator of Sunday breakfasts at La Llar del Raval

## VOLUNTEERS FOR INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT

*"Feeling that your experience can be useful for another person, in this case a much younger person who is starting their journey, is very rewarding. Moreover, for me, being a U-BAC mentor is a completely bidirectional process. You teach and learn at the same time. Taking a walk through the city with the person I mentor while we discuss the meaning of life or while we outline a study plan for the semester, it's priceless!"*

Elpida Theodorakakou, Mentor of Hamza Sabir (U-BAC scholarship student)

*"I started by participating in Rodes Solidaries, and I really enjoyed the project. Later on, I decided to become a mentor and accompany someone who wants to start a new life here, so they feel supported by us. I have helped them, and they have helped me a lot too. Being a mentor always brings a smile to my face and helps me believe that together we are making the world a little better."*

Joan Dalmau, Mentor of Imad Ksigha and Mustapha Hachami (BACstation students)

*"At BarcelonActua, if you want to take action, you can truly do so! I am a mentor, and I love it because it is meaningful. Being by someone's side with humanity and optimism, offering psychological and socio-emotional support to help women believe in their abilities, can yield unexpected results. And let's not forget that this support is not only beneficial for the women themselves, but it also has a direct impact on their children."*

Manuela Algeri, Mentor of Alexandra Jaramillo (Women of the World)

## EXPERT VOLUNTEERS

*"What I like the most about being a volunteer at BAC is the warm reception of different ideas presented by volunteers, making us feel like an integral part. I greatly appreciate the dynamism, transparency, and respect with which they treat everyone. It is an organization built with love and professionalism, and it provides a unique space for volunteering!"*

Adela Ros, Psychologist

*"While working, I realized that the people I dealt with regarding immigration issues were often lost. As a result, I decided to offer BAC my assistance in advising individuals who have doubts about regularizing their situation. And I was warmly welcomed! It is gratifying to be a volunteer and to see how the work we do in the legal itinerary is highly valuable and allows us to submit immigration files."*

Jordi Roses, Lawyer

*"What I have enjoyed the most is being able to meet Zulaikha (U-BAC student) and later Yolanda (Woman of the World) and feel that I could contribute to their lives, as well as learn a lot from them. I am passionate about the fact that the enrichment is mutual. And I believe that this contact is very powerful for me and my family because it sensitizes us and helps us see realities that we wouldn't have contact with if it weren't for BAC."*

Anna Knörr, Pediatrician and Positive Education Expert

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

*"I heard about BarcelonActua and got in touch because it's challenging to find volunteer opportunities for minors, and as a teacher, I feel a responsibility to promote social responsibility. Through the talks and volunteering at BACstations, we have managed to expose our students to other realities. Truly, everyone loves participating in the volunteering activities, and each week they are more eager to go!"*

Gemma Garmeson, San George teacher

## TAKE&GIVE

*"I was homeless, and I arrived at BAC as a guest at the dinners of La Llar del Raval. Shortly after, I decided to become a volunteer. I didn't have legal papers, and volunteering felt like breathing once again. I could contribute and it gave me life. I believe that we can all help and we all need help, that's why I became a volunteer. La Llar is a space of love where everyone is welcomed with open arms. They are my family."*

Mohamed Oussama, volunteer at La Llar and student at BACstation Gràcia

*"I am a Woman of the World, and I really enjoy participating in all the activities. One day, they needed a volunteer to prepare and distribute the food packages we receive weekly, and I agreed because I believe it is a very important support for everyone, and I truly have a great time doing it! We learn and share about our cultures, and it is helping me grow and gain professional experience."*

Juleydi Villanueva, volunteer for food packages and Woman of the World

# CORPORATE VOLUNTEERING

Through enriching volunteering experiences organized ad-hoc for companies, our goal is to impact the thoughts and attitudes of employees and businesses, raising awareness and providing information about the situations of exclusion, discrimination, and institutional racism faced by migrants and individuals experiencing homelessness.

Corporate volunteering, in turn, offers new social and professional horizons to individuals at risk of exclusion through socialization and bonding with volunteer workers.

205  
VOLUNTEERS

12  
VOLUNTEERING  
COMPANIES



*"I believe that corporate volunteering is very important. Firstly, because when we come together, we have a greater impact. But also, it is a wonderful option that allows corporate teams to unite. They find themselves in a different space where they can interact from a more human perspective, where they not only engage their minds but also their hearts. It brought my team closer together.*

*Every time I engage in corporate volunteering, I come home filled with love, joy, and new learnings. It truly is an exchange. At first, you think you are giving, but everything comes back to you in an invaluable way. It is a person-to-person exchange, disregarding our professions, possessions, and backgrounds. It is a genuine human exchange. This experience has placed me in the world, shown me a different reality, and made me care deeply about it."*

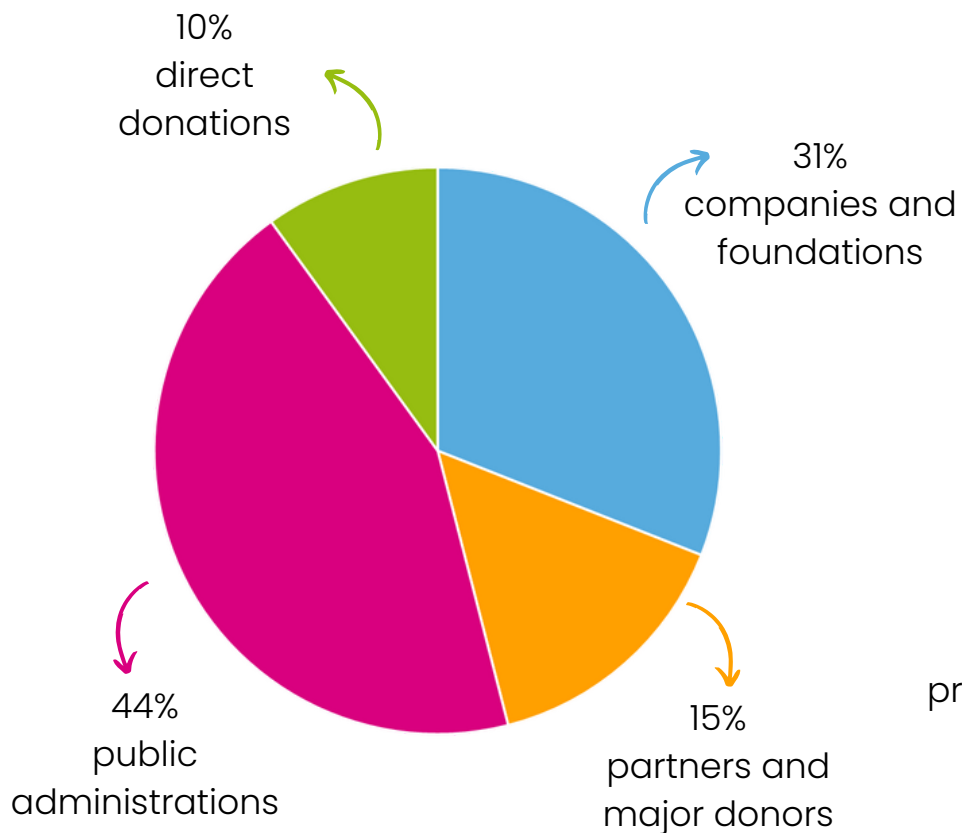
Silvia Olle, Corporate Volunteer Coordinator with Danone.



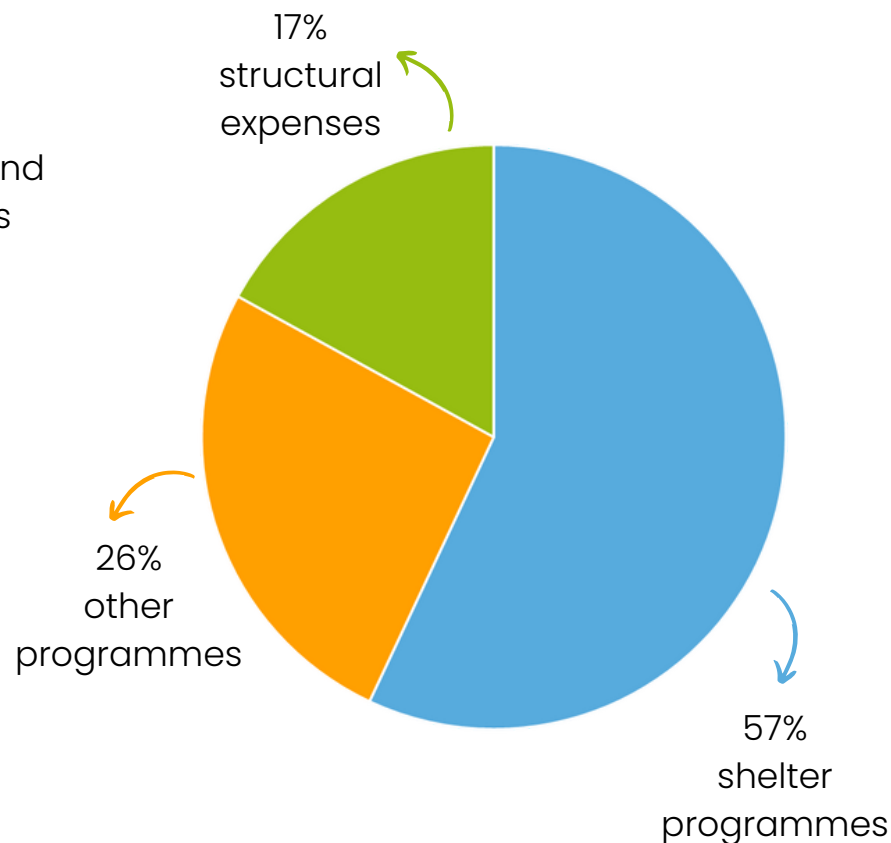


# 07. Financial statements

**INCOME**  
**815.082€**



**EXPENSES**  
**792.874€**



Capital: 30.000€  
 Surpluses from previous years: 3.159 €  
 Surplus for the year 2022: 22.208€  
 Financial equity as of December 31, 2022: 55.368€

Audited accounts (summary sheet on the next page)

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## INFORME DE AUDITORÍA DE CUENTAS ANUALES ABREVIADAS EMITIDO POR UN AUDITOR INDEPENDIENTE

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Al patronato de la "FUNDACIÓ BARCELONACTUA"

### Opinión

Hemos auditado las cuentas anuales abreviadas de **FUNDACIÓ BARCELONACTUA** (la Fundación) que comprenden el balance abreviado a 31 de diciembre de 2022, la cuenta de pérdidas y ganancias abreviada y la memoria abreviada correspondientes al ejercicio terminado en dicha fecha.

En nuestra opinión, las cuentas anuales abreviadas adjuntas expresan, en todos los aspectos significativos, la imagen fiel del patrimonio y de la situación financiera de la Fundación a 31 de diciembre de 2022, así como de sus resultados correspondientes al ejercicio terminado en dicha fecha, de conformidad con el marco normativo de información financiera que resulta de aplicación (que se identifica en la nota 02 de la memoria) y, en particular, con los principios y criterios contables contenidos en el mismo.

### Fundamento de la opinión

Hemos llevado a cabo nuestra auditoría de conformidad con la normativa reguladora de la actividad de auditoría de cuentas vigente en España. Nuestras responsabilidades de acuerdo con dichas normas se describen más adelante en la sección Responsabilidades del auditor en relación con la auditoría de las cuentas anuales abreviadas de nuestro informe.

Somos independientes de la fundación de conformidad con los requerimientos de ética, incluidos los de independencia, aplicables a nuestra auditoría de las cuentas anuales abreviadas en España según lo exigido por la normativa reguladora de la actividad de auditoría de cuentas. En este sentido, no hemos prestado servicios distintos a los de la auditoría de cuentas ni han concurrido situaciones o circunstancias que, de acuerdo con lo establecido en la citada normativa reguladora, hayan afectado a la necesaria independencia de modo que se haya visto comprometida.

Consideramos que la evidencia de auditoría que hemos obtenido proporciona una base suficiente y adecuada para nuestra opinión.

Inscrito en el Registro Mercantil de Barcelona Tomo 10963 Libro 9982 Folio 69 Page 138320 Inscripción 1, CIF: B08060645



# 08. In the Media


 [BarcelonActua Press Room](#) 





**For more information**

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 Fundació BarcelonActua