



March 24, 2022

The Honorable Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas
Secretary
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
2707 Martin Luther King, Jr. Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20528-0525

RECEIVED
By ESEC at 9:51 am, Mar 25, 2022

Dear Secretary Mayorkas:

I am writing on behalf of the Home Care Association of America (HCAOA) and its more than 4,000 member organizations regarding the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine. HCAOA would like to partner with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security in assisting those fleeing the war in Europe.

The home care industry can offer immediate employment to those displaced by this terrible crisis. Immigrants already make up a large and valued segment of our caregiving workforce. In fact, nearly one third of our industry's home care workers were born outside the United States.

Home care, often referred to as personal care being provided in someone's private home, helps older adults and individuals with disabilities maintain healthy, active lifestyles for as long as possible. Our industry is currently experiencing both explosive growth and an unprecedented workforce shortage. For example, the number of home care workers increased by 151% between 2008 and 2018. Yet Paul Osterman of MIT's Sloan School of Management projects a national shortage of 151,000 paid direct care workers to develop by 2030. **Immediately employing Ukrainian refugees as caregivers would provide them the income they need to sustain themselves while displaced, all while helping our industry and the thousands of families we serve.**

I would appreciate an opportunity to meet with you or your staff about this matter and look forward to assisting the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and Ukrainian people in any way that we can. Please don't hesitate to contact Eric Reinerman at (305) 542-5749 or via email at eric@hcaoa.org if you have questions.

Thank you for your attention to this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Vicki Hoak".

Vicki Hoak, CEO



**U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services**

April 12, 2022

Ms. Vicki Hoak
CEO
Home Care Association of America
444 North Capitol St., NW, Suite 428
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Ms. Hoak:

Thank you for your March 24, 2022, letter to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). Secretary Mayorkas asked that I respond on his behalf.

We are heartened by letters from individuals like yourself who demonstrate a generous spirit towards Ukrainians, refugees, and other vulnerable immigrants who seek protection in our country. U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services is committed to efficiently processing the various immigration benefits available to Ukrainian nationals, including employment authorization applications for those individuals who have proof of work eligibility. Employers like Home Care Association of America may confidently hire them once they receive this authorization. We are also aware that the Embassy of Ukraine has launched efforts to match Ukrainians in the United States with housing and employment opportunities, if you wish to contact them for more information about their efforts. The Embassy's general contact number is (202) 322-2616.

For more information about efforts that DHS is undertaking to assist Ukrainians seeking safety from the conflict in Ukraine, please see the DHS Fact Sheet, "DHS Efforts to Assist Ukrainian Nationals," which DHS will update periodically.¹

Thank you again for your letter and interest and willingness to help. Should you require any additional assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

¹ https://www.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/2022-03/Fact%20Sheet%20on%20DHS%20Efforts%20to%20Assist%20Ukrainian%20Nationals_1.pdf

Ms. Vicky Hoak
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ur M. Jaddou", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ur M. Jaddou
Director