

SUMMARY REPORT | FEBRUARY 29 - MARCH 1, 2020

Organized by the Center for Human Rights and Humanitarian Studies, Hack for Humanity is a humanitarian focused hackathon at Brown University that brings together students from across campus to learn about the most pressing needs in the humanitarian sphere and develop creative ideas for innovative programs or technologies that could improve the lives of disaster and conflict affected communities around the world.

During the first weekend in March, 65 Brown undergraduate and medical students across 15 interdisciplinary teams, came together at the Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs with the common goal of generating creative ideas to address the complex issues surrounding refugee and migrant health. The participating teams focused their efforts on one of three contexts:

Syrian Refugees; Central American Refugees and Migrants; and Venezuelan Refugees and Migrants

Over the course of the hackathon, participating teams interacted with a selected group of faculty mentors in order to gain a better understanding of the core issues associated with providing health services to displaced populations in the different context areas. Following final pitch presentations by each team, a panel of judges selected the top three teams. The first place team was awarded \$3,000 in seed funding to further develop and pilot their project idea.









65 STUDENTS
15 TEAMS
17 MENTORS
\$3K IN SEED
FUNDING
2 DAYS OF
CREATIVE
PROBLEM
SOLVING

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

VASSILIS MICHAILIDIS
CHIEF OF STAFF, THE HOME PROJECT

Vassilis Michailidis is the Chief of Staff at the **The Home Project**, a unifying initiative set up to address the needs of unaccompanied refugee children arriving in Greece. Through its programs *The Home Project* looks to provide relief from suffering to all those affected by the Syrian crisis and to give hope out of despair. Vassilis is responsible for the day-to-day coordination of the management team, as well as the management of communications and information flow. He collaborates closely with key partners to ensure that the organization's model is implemented with efficiency.







Hack for Humanity offers students an inspiring, creative, and collaborative platform to productively explore their ideas with active mentorship support.









STUDENT PITCH PRESENTATIONS

Seed Grant Winner - Fighting La Roya (Coffee Rust Disease) in the Northern Triangle 2nd Place - eGloo! Eco-brick homes to reduce health risks among Syrian refugees 3rd Place - Amana: A secure medical database for coordinated refugee healthcare

- Project Apoyo: Female Centered Community Building in the US/Mexico Borderlands
- Soccer for Zarqa: Fostering community between refugees in Zarqa & Jordanians
- Madre-A-Madre: Social and Emotional Support for Venezuelan Mothers and Children
- Maternal Care CHWs: Addressing Maternal Health in Refugee Camps in Greece
- Project Pilas: Improving Shelter Facilities through Laundry Area Implementation
- Mentoras Maternas: Venezuelan-Colombian Maternal Mentorship
- Doulas para Damas: Empowering Venezuelan Refugee Women
- Viajamigo: Helping Central American assylum seekers understand their rights
- Brighter Days: Algorithm matching asylum seekers with temporary job opportunities
- Going Herb-an! A Community Agricultural Research Center
- MediCloud: A medical record database for refugee shelter preparedness
- Syrian Reconnect: A solution for reconnecting Syrian doctors to Syrian refugees



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS AND PARTICIPANTS

This event would not have been made possible without the generous support from the Hearst Foundations, Brown Design Workshop, Alpert Medical School, Center for Middle East Studies, and the Brown Global Health Initiative. We also want to thank all of our wonderful mentors and judges for sharing their wealth of knowledge and experience, Finally, kudos to all the participants who put in a remarkable amount of energy and dedication to develop their project pitches. See you next year!