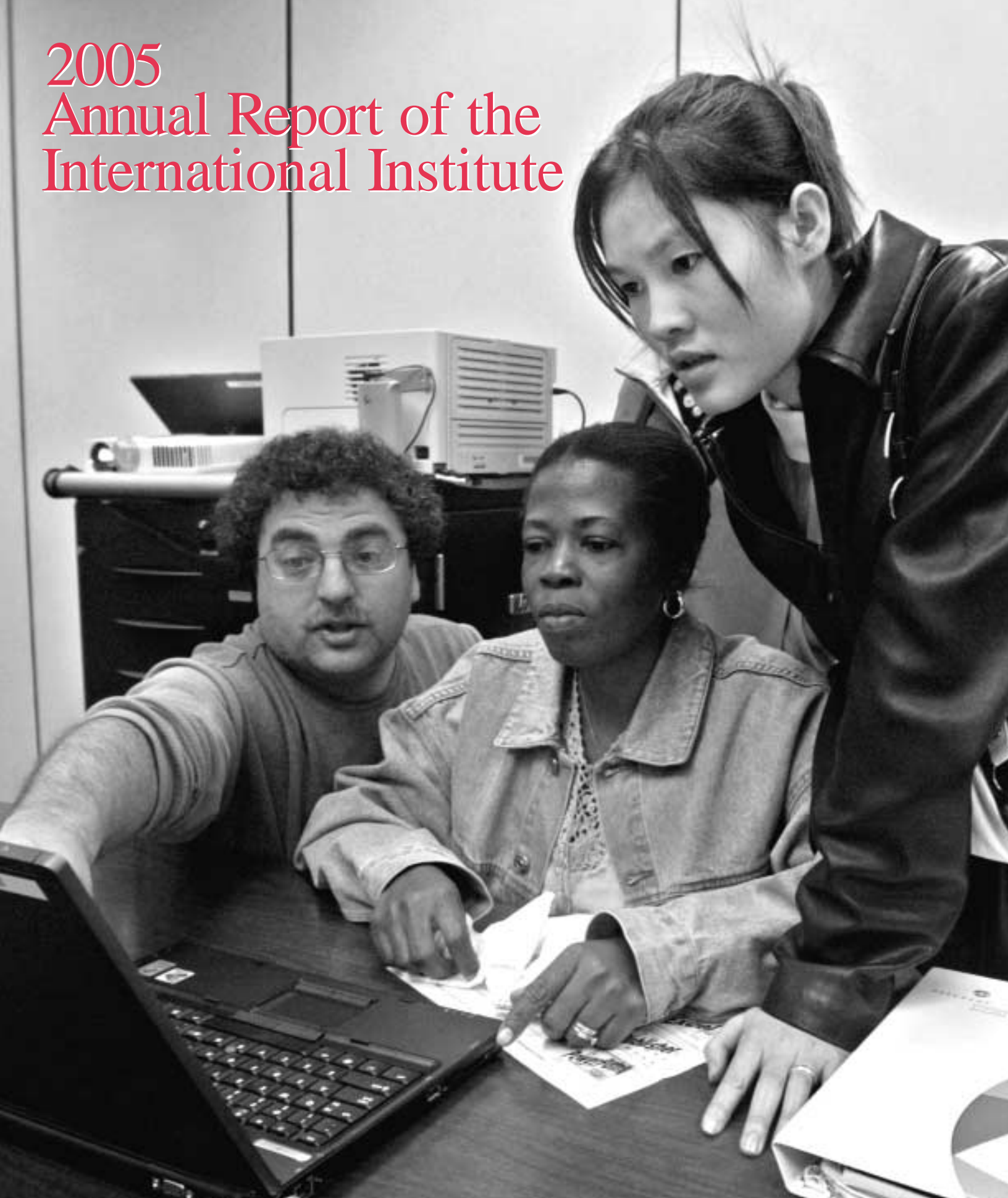


2005
Annual Report of the
International Institute



Gateway for New Americans

2005 Year In Review

Anna Peterson Crosslin; President & CEO

In all, we served more than 8,000 immigrants and refugees of more than 100 ethnicities. In addition to our highly acclaimed English classes, job placement, and counseling services, we added community meditation services as well as services to victims of trafficking. Our Patient Care Assistant Program was certified by the Missouri Department of Elementary & Secondary Education.

In January, members of our recently established Ethnic Heritage Council visited with Robin Carnahan, Missouri's newly elected Secretary of State. The session, held at the Institute, provided a chance for immigrant leaders to learn more about how the secretary's office facilitates voting and business development.

In May, Betsy Slosar, our VP for Economic Development, was selected as Minority Small Business Champion of the Year during Small Business Week festivities. Nominated by St. Louis SCORE Chapter 21, Betsy has devoted herself both personally and professionally to providing refugees with opportunities to become business owners.

In late spring, "Living as a Refugee: Mohamed's Story" was published by Ticktock Limited of Great Britain. This real-life story features Mohamed Nazari, an Afghan refugee teen who calls St. Louis "home." Kudos to staffers Amy DeLeal and Beth Radtke who saw this project to fruition.

Our June gala/auction was a superlative event. Under the leadership of honorary co-chairs Peasy and Andy Love, event chair John Wuest, and dinner committee co-chairs Anne and Bill Tao, we drew a lively crowd of 375, netting more than \$100,000 for agency services. Our Festival of Nations again drew an audience of many thousands in July. Mayor Slay and other city officials joined us for the Parade of Nations and opening ceremonies. There, we awarded certificates to several *Business Links* Program graduates in recognition of their outstanding efforts in establishing and expanding their businesses.

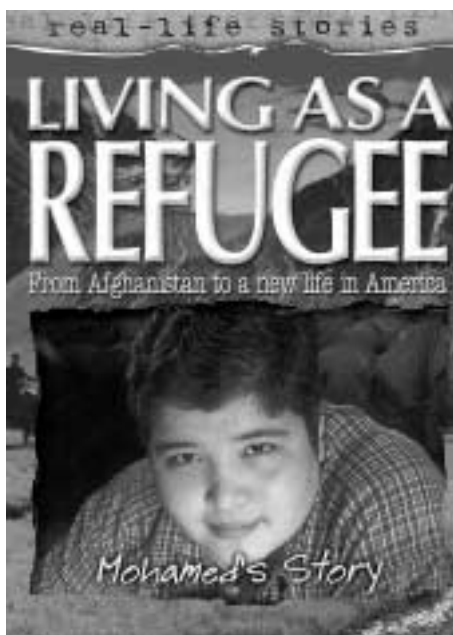
In October, Ann Rynearson, our much-revered Sr. VP for Culture & Community, celebrated her 25th anniversary. During her tenure,



Wish You Were Here! Our biennial gala auction was a rousing success, netting more than \$100,000. (From left) John Wuest, gala chair; Zack and Jill Hummel; Anna Crosslin; and Peasy Love, gala honorary co-chair with husband, Andy (not pictured).

she has worked to help ethnic communities preserve and present their cultures. And her work in building cross cultural bridges has established the Institute as a major and well-respected partner with ethnic and service organizations alike.

Also in the fall, we formally launched the International Institute Business Solutions



St. Louisan Mohamed Nazari is featured in this real-life series published in Great Britain. Copies are available from the Institute (314-773-9090 x 121) for \$20/\$22 post-paid.

Center, a social enterprise that provides language and cultural expertise to local businesses. We help businesses work more effectively in the global marketplace and with more ethnically diverse workforces. We are now working to expand the program to more than 20 other metropolitan areas.

For three days in December, we hosted officials from the International Commission on Missing Persons. They collected blood samples from 400 Bosnians for DNA matches to help identify remains in mass graves across the former Yugoslavia. St. Louis now has one of the largest Bosnian populations outside Bosnia.

Throughout the year, we focused on strengthening leadership and internal communication at all levels in our agency. In the 2006, we'll revisit branding and marketing in conjunction with our strategic planning update. As a result, we hope to remain strong and well-directed, so we can effectively serve our clients in a climate of increasing financial and policy challenges.

Administrative Services

Cesar Figari, VP Finance & Operations;
Marisa Echevarria, Accounting Services;
Christina Juelfs, Community Relations

Individuals & Families

Suzanne LeLaurin, LCSW; Sr. VP & Division Director

The Individuals and Families Division provides both short-term and long-term services to newcomers. Some services are for refugees only; others are for all immigrants.

We worked collaboratively with several agencies under formal contracts (African Mutual Assistance Association of Missouri, African Refugee and Immigrant Services, Bilingual International Assistant Services, Center for Survivors of Torture and War Trauma, and the Immigrant and Refugee Women's Program). These efforts will expand in 2006 with a technology grant from SBC Communications.

We continued our active role in the Refugee and Immigrant Consortium of St. Louis, a coalition of service providers dedicated to enhancing community services for new Americans to help them achieve their full potential. Also, we were represented on several workgroups and on the Community Advisory Board of the Regional Health Commission, an initiative to address health disparities in our community.

Around mid-year, we became an inaugural member of the St. Louis Rescue and Restore Coalition sponsored by the US Department of Health and Human Services. We are chairing this community-wide coalition of 140 agencies, which includes social service and immigrant legal providers and law enforcement.

Late in the year, we received a new grant to serve victims of human trafficking. We will work collaboratively with Catholic Family Services and Legal Services of Eastern Missouri to serve victims as they are identified.



Young Liberian refugee unwraps a doll that she got for the holidays from the International Institute.

Our identification of "best practices" continued and we have converted to an outcome focus for all our services. All departments made progress in implementing our strategic goal for tracking client progress within individual programs as well as for inter-departmental coordination.

These efforts offer exciting possibilities for us to enhance our effectiveness as an agency by placing the client at the center of our endeavors. At the same time, we face technology challenges to making this coordination a reality for the 8,000+ clients we are serving each year.

Photo by Kevin Manning/Post-Dispatch

Education Anita Barker, MEd; VP & Director

In 2005, we served 2,361 individuals of more than 100 ethnicities through a variety of ESOL (English to Speakers of Other Languages) programs.

Programs included core weekday and evening ESOL for adults (16+ years), featuring a curriculum into which workplace and basic academic skill development has been integrated. For pre- and low-literate ESOL students, the Literacy Tutorial program provided individualized literacy instruction with the help of trained volunteer tutors.

Two sessions of a 10-week Bridge-to-College course were offered to help qualified students develop the academic reading and writing skills needed for success in higher education. Other programs included US Citizenship preparation classes (one for the elderly; two others for intermediate-level students), and an ESOL Family Literacy Program as well as

General Education Development (GED) test preparation classes. Michigan testing services were also provided on a weekly basis.

Field trip experiences were provided to families through the Saturday Discover St. Louis program and topic-based afternoon electives. Additional enrichment experiences consisted of a performance by the Shakespeare Festival Company, concerts by chamber group musicians, and presentations by guest speakers on community-related topics.

Finally, in response to requests from local organizations, we provided fee-based customized training services to help address cross-cultural and English language challenges experienced by staff in those organizations. Consulting services this year included an advanced-level business writing course for bilingual employees, English language assessment and curriculum

development services for non-literate immigrant workers, and cross-cultural competency training to enhance service delivery to non-native customers.

Education Department programs were funded through federal and state grants, speaker honoraria, consultation-generated fees, charitable donations as well as through collaboration with the St. Louis Public Schools' Adult Education and Literacy (AEL) Program and St. Louis Community College (Forest Park).

We also benefitted from the assistance of 177 Volunteers-in-Education who contributed a total of 6,090 hours.

Assistant Directors

Phyllis Mithen, PhD
Jan Rodriguez, MA

Social Services & Mental Health

P. Ariel Burgess, MSW; VP & Director

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Photo by Dawn Majors/Post-Dispatch

Fikreta Sajtovic is interviewed at the International Institute before giving blood for DNA testing to ID missing Bosnian relatives.

Social Services

In 2005, we provided services to 726 refugees and asylees. Of these, we sponsored 463 for resettlement; the balance was comprised of secondary migrants.

The diversity in the resettlement program was even greater than in 2004. Afghan, various Russian ethnicities, Somali Bantu, Liberian, Congolese, and Eritrean groups continued to be resettled. Mesketian (or Ahiska) Turks, Uzbeks and Ethiopians joined us as well. A small number of Vietnamese also came late in the year.

More than 4,900 received immigration supportive assistance. We provided information and referrals as well as application photos and help completing various applications. In all, more than 7,000 applications were completed, including citizenship and family reunification petitions.

We also expanded our Social Work department to provide more specific services to clients after resettlement issues have been met. The team of three social workers receives referrals for conflict resolution, parenting skills, community resources/referrals, medical case management and other social work services.

As a result of collaborations, refugee children received dental exams and services from *Give Kids a Smile*; school clothing from *Operation School Bell*; and families and individuals were selected for participation in the *United Way 100 Neediest Cases*. During the Hurricane Katrina disaster, we fielded calls for assistance for foreign-born evacuees and provided services as needed.

Mental Health

We offer services to individuals, families and children in group or individual therapy settings. Staff works with clients suffering from complex trauma syndrome as well as those clients struggling with the effects of cultural adjustment and intergenerational trauma. Therapy and support groups expanded to include Liberian teen girls, elderly Afghans, and Somali Bantus.

Care Access for New Americans (CANA) debuted in March after a year of planning. CANA is a collaborative of eight mental health and substance abuse providers with expertise in providing services to the foreign-born. In all, 85 clients were screened and referred. Our three therapists focused on obtaining appropriate and applicable assessment tools for referred clients. In November our mental health services were recertified by the State of Missouri.

Program Managers & Supervisors

Marsha Campbell, CANA Coordinator; **Lara Fallon**, Social Work Coordinator; **Hap Dinh**, Immigration; **Booker Gilliam**, Housing; **Asmira Ogresovic**, Casework Supervisor; **Basia Waite-Wright**, Senior Therapist

Employment

Glenda Sullentrup, MA; VP & Director

In 2005, 52% of placements made were in the service industry. We made 501 placements with 197 companies. In all, we provided job counseling, career planning, job readiness classes, vocational training, and placement to 1,260 clients. The average starting wage was \$8.63. Our goal is to move refugees from initial placement to continuous job upgrades as they gain knowledge, skills, and abilities.

This year we saw a sharp decline in numbers of job placements in manufacturing. Our placements in manufacturing dropped from 50% to only 28%. This trend has highly negative ramifications for our clients since manufacturing jobs generally pay more than service jobs. We are investigating targeted job training to improve the job outlook and wages for our clients.

We introduced an assessment process to streamline service delivery. A thorough assessment of each client is made to determine appropriate levels of services. The goal is to move refugees from complete

dependence on us for their job search to complete independence as they progress through the stages of resettlement and learn job search skills.

National City Bank generously donated a large amount of office space in which we have created a nursing lab for our Patient Care Assistant training program. This space has decreased costs to the program (renting a nursing lab) and has enabled us to introduce our first day time class.

Tax preparation assistance is provided each year in collaboration with our *Business Links* staff. In 2005, 125 returns were completed yielding just over \$115,000 in total tax refunds for our clients.

Program Managers & Supervisors

Paul Costigan; **Kathy Tucker**; **Lany van L. Maas**; **Kelly Patterson**; **Jasmira Pasic**; **Spogmai Hashmi**

Youth & Elderly Services

Jane Knirr, MFA; VP & Director

Youth

In 2005, we provided services to a total of 323 youth. Our Youth Career Services program is funded through the Workforce Investment Act (WIA). The program focused on improving academic performance, enhancing job readiness and expanding awareness of career opportunities for a total of 112 youth.

Students gathered for Boys' and Girls' Day where students discussed various issues, built social skills, learned about health and, of course, had fun. The student-written newsletter *The Torch* was published. *Our Little Store* was operated. With support from S.L.A.T.E., 32 students were placed at 15 job sites for summer employment. Some also attended one-on-one financial literacy workshops and opened savings accounts.

Students participated in the Progressive Youth Center's *We are One* and *Me in the Mirror* programs courtesy of a grant from Commerce Bank. Meanwhile, a grant from Boeing provided funds for an additional after-school tutor. The St. Louis Art Museum's *Art with Us* program provided drawing and painting classes and a visit the museum. And *Healthy Alternatives for Relationships among Teens (HART)* was offered in collaboration with Women's Support and Community Services.

For most of 2005, the Youth Career Services program was at its maximum number of participants. So, the St. Louis Public Schools provided support to expand tutoring to 49 more students. As part of the collaboration, we held a five-week summer program at Dewey International School for 33 newly arrived immigrant and refugee children (ages 5-12). An additional two week program was also held at Long School for more 17 students. In January, 112 clients attended our annual Children's Holiday Party.



Gracacin Serife plays bingo at the International Institute's Elderlinks Program.

Children's Holiday Party 2005

Annual festivities delight an audience of young and old.



Photo by Beth Radtke/International Institute

ElderLinks

This year, the *ElderLinks* program was funded by the St. Louis Area Agency on Aging (SLAAA). The program offered refugees (60 years and older) socialization opportunities, social services, citizenship training and field trips. The program served 279 clients from Afghanistan, Bosnia, Cuba, Iraq, Laos, Poland, Russia, Somalia and Vietnam.

During weekly meetings, guest speakers were invited to discuss topics such as the new Medicare Part D prescription drug program. Special events were held for celebrations such as Bosnian *Eid* and *Tet*, the Vietnamese New Year. There were opportunities for field trips to pick peaches and apples and to attend events like the *Village of Many Colors*, the Missouri History Museum's Wartime Bosnia Commemoration, and the St. Louis Art Museum's *Treasures from the Royal Tombs of Ur* exhibit.

In collaboration with Grand Oak Hill Community Senior Center, Vietnamese visited with American seniors weekly and together attended the YMCA's *Activate America* program.

The Elderly Refugee Service Guidebook was translated into two languages. An edition of the *ElderLinks* newsletter was also published in five languages. A grant from the United Way provided some especially needy elderly refugees with food, utility, or rent assistance.

During the year, 48 program participants passed the US citizenship examination.

Photo by Anthony Souffle/Post-Dispatch

Culture & Community

Ann M. Rynearson, PhD; Sr. VP & Division Director

Programs within the Culture and Community Division help new Americans take the next steps toward rebuilding life in a new community. The division includes services for economic development as well as translating and interpreting, crime prevention and safety, ethnic community development, and the agency's ever-popular festivals.

The agency remains a leader in helping St. Louisans understand their new neighbors. Senior staff provided dozens of public presentations to thousands of area residents as well as state agencies, civic organizations, and schools. A grant from the Stupp Foundation, entitled *Diverse Communities—Stronger Communities*, is enabling us to work with Southside neighborhoods and local institutions to build understanding between groups.

In July the sixth annual Festival of Nations was held in Tower Grove Park. Saluting the diverse heritages of South St. Louis, this highly successful two-day festival attracted more than 20,000 visitors, even with 100+ degree heat! In fact, many fairgoers commented on the surprising comfort from the park's many shade trees.



Member of Samulnori Woolrim, Korean drum and dance troupe, prepares for performance at the annual Festival of Nations.

Photo by Kathryn Bish/International Institute



St. Nicholas Greek Dancers are a favorite with crowds at the annual Festival of Nations.

Photo by Kathryn Bish/International Institute

New this year was the *Up Close and Personal* stage, presenting storytellers and traditional music on acoustic instruments. The International Sports Meadow was expanded to feature many Asian martial arts, Scottish games, and other unusual pastimes. The Festival of Nations has become the largest, most diverse multi-ethnic event in the region, with more than 50 traditions represented.

In 2005 the ASC Foundation made it possible to launch a major program to train ethnic leaders and other influentials in mediation techniques. Also launched late this year is the International Institute Business Solutions Center, a fee-for-service program to provide support for businesses responding to our increasingly diverse community. Thus Culture and Community is responding positively and creatively to the emerging needs of our clients, our region and our nation.

Many Bosnians are now moving to South County communities. There, Bosnian children are now as much as 40% of students in some school districts. We are playing a leading role in smoothing their integration by chairing a FOCUS St. Louis Task Force to address the challenges and opportunities faced by the schools. And we are a partner in a HUD-funded initiative to build stronger relations between Bosnian and other residents of the Affton area.

By year end, plans were underway to launch two research initiatives. *Passages* is the long-awaited effort to gather and preserve historical evidence on immigration to St. Louis and on the International Institute's role therein. We are also collecting snapshot-level details on the demographics, life style, history and traditions of many contemporary local immigrant groups for future planning and research.

Language Services

Marcia Wilderman; Manager

For the past decade, the Institute has been providing interpretation and translation services in 40+ languages for more than 500 commercial, governmental and non-profit organizations each year.

In 2005, Language Links morphed into International Institute Language Services as our services became the core line of business in our new International Institute Business Solutions Center (IIBSC).

Building on our existing reputation of excellent language services, IIBSC offers consulting and training, research and analysis, and direct marketing opportunities on a fee-for-service basis.

Customized services and products of the IIBSC will help St. Louis businesses work more effectively with their foreign-born customers and employees. And the fee-based service will help us support other services which have been negatively affected by funding cuts.

Additionally, we are now offering telephonic interpreting. Customers using this service have 24/7 access to 150 languages—all within seconds. This service is ideal for businesses and providers which depend on walk-in customers or which have frequent emergencies.

With the launching of the IIBSC and telephonic interpreting, we continue to fulfill our leadership role in meeting the diverse language and cultural needs of our community.



Community Connections Program

Pamela A. DeVoe, PhD; Program Manager

The Community Connections Program (CCP) helps strengthen refugee and immigrant organizations so that they can better serve their members and communities.

In 2005, we offered two leadership and organizational capacity-building workshop series for refugee Mutual Assistance Association leaders. The workshops were also available to immigrant leaders for a fee.

A major new initiative this year was a groundbreaking Community Mediation Training Program, specially adapted to address the needs of immigrants and refugees. During the ongoing workshop series, ethnic leaders indicated an interest in mediation training. So, we entered a partnership with the Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Program of the School of Law at Washington University. Together, we have developed and implemented a culturally sensitive community mediation training program.

A generous grant from the ASC Foundation enabled us to launch the program in August with a series of 13 focus groups on traditional methods of conflict resolution in different cultures. As a result, we have developed a specialized curriculum adapted to the needs of immigrants.

In December we held the first of two training series—the second taking place in early January, 2006. In total, an amazing 41 out of 49 participants completed the highly intensive training which lasted for 24 hours over a series of days.

In an unexpected but welcome development, program participants asked us to sponsor an Ethnic Mediation Council for program graduates. Working with these ethnic influentials, the program staff is in the process of establishing the council, the first of its kind in St. Louis—if not the nation.

Collaborating with the Institute's sister agencies around the country we have also been developing a Cultural Competency Training Program for possible implementation on a national level. In November, the CCP manager and staff from two of our sister agencies field-tested initial results in New Jersey at annual SIETAR USA conference for multicultural trainers and specialists.



(Right) Robin Carnahan, newly elected MO Secretary of State, talks about voting issues with immigrants at the International Institute.

Photo by Huy Richard Maeh/Post-Dispatch

Economic Development

Betsy Slosar, MSW; VP & Director

Economic development services promote long-term economic security for refugees and immigrants. Our staff provides business assistance to new American entrepreneurs and promotes family well-being through savings, financial education and free tax preparation assistance.

The Individual Development Account (IDA) Program offers participants incentives and support to set a savings goal and achieve it. Through a grant from the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR), the Institute matches clients' savings deposits and provides education to help them understand and navigate financial systems in the U.S.

In 2005, the Institute's original IDA project ended. A total of 391 households successfully completed all program requirements and acquired major assets such as a home, higher education/job training, business capital or an automobile. We also received a new five-year grant from ORR. The Institute was one of only eight organizations nationally to receive such funding. The new program will serve 150 additional refugee households.

The department's *Business Links* program helps New American entrepreneurs start, stabilize or expand small business ventures. Clients receive assistance with business planning, financing, and a host of other business concerns. Thirty-four businesses were opened or expanded in 2005. Since 1999 we have produced 179 business starts or expansions, creating 240 jobs.

The *Business Links* program grew in significant ways. Our partnership with the St. Louis County Economic Council and the City of St. Louis resulted in the debut of a satellite *Business Links* office at the Midtown Enterprise Center, a business incubator. Now refugees with home-based businesses have an array of administrative services and a business location without the expense of becoming tenants. *Business Links* was also awarded a major grant from Hewlett-Packard. HP provided \$150,000 in technology and services so we can provide training and technical assistance to refugee entrepreneurs. The mobile training lab and other state-of-the-art equipment are also available for use by other Institute departments.

For a list of businesses assisted by Business Links, visit the Institute's website at www.iistl.org and click on "Support a New American Business Operator."



Abdul Rasheed Askari of Pakistan runs Modern Tailoring LLC of Kirkwood. He is just one example of a Business Links success. Rasheed, who came to the U.S. in 2001 with his family, has 12 years experience in the trade, mostly in his native Afghanistan. He is an enthusiastic business owner because he loves his craft.

Photo by Wayne Crosslin/Post-Dispatch



Sanja Sasvari is the owner operator of Top Mop Quality Cleaning Services and an Institute Business Links client. Here, she is pictured with Mayor Slay who presented her with special Business Links recognition during the Opening Ceremonies at 2005 Festival of Nations. Two other sets of Business Links clients were also recognized: Morees and Luna Alyatim of Page Auto Sales as well as Hasan and Almaza Pasic of Verona Restaurant and Coffee Bar.

Photo by Kathryn Bish/International Institute

2005 Wish You Were Here! Gala

St. Louis Goes Tropical

Wish You Were Here! St. Louis Goes Tropical! Our second-ever gala auction was even more successful than our 2003 event. Our 375 guests enjoyed a magnificent evening of dining, drinking, dancing and bidding on a great selection of auction items. Meanwhile the event netted the Institute \$100,000 to support much needed programs and services.

The gala was most ably led by Honorary Co-Chairs Peasy and Andy Love, Chair John Wuest, and Dinner Co-Chairs Anne and Bill Tao.

The World's Fair Pavilion was transformed into an island paradise with Polynesian dancers welcoming guests with real orchid leis. Tiki torches flamed, and vibrantly-colored table decorations featured glass bowls with gracefully fluttering tropical fish. It was a stunning scene!

The incredible array of silent and live auction items brought in top dollar! We featured a fantastic array of international getaways to Montego Bay, Puerto Vallarta, and Paris—and round-trip airlines tickets to get there! Closer to home, successful bidders claimed East Hampton New York getaways as well as a week in the "Big Apple." And one special guest won the unparalleled experience of tossing out the first pitch at a Cardinals baseball game. Wow!



(From left) Husina, Zarghona and Ali Sultani are applauded on their successful resettlement by the audience at the 2005 Wish You Were Here! gala. Pictured at right is Anna Crosslin, Institute president.

A special thanks to Love Companies, Heartland Bank, Sandy Tsai, and Richard Tao who collected – or offered – some absolute treasures for the oral auction.

Ali Sultani briefly addressed the crowd. Ali, an Afghan refugee who recently graduated from Roosevelt High School, shared his family's heartening story about overcoming hardships and getting a fresh start in America with the help of the International Institute. *Wish You Were Here!* was an absolutely fabulous party.



Carol and John Van Hoogstraat land one of the evening's auction highlights – The Pitch and Perch, enabling their grandson to throw out the first pitch at one of final ballgames in the Cardinals' 2005 season.

Photo by Kathryn Bish/International Institute

Financial Statement*

For Year Ending 12/31/05

TOTAL ALL FUNDS REVENUES

Contributions (incl. gala)	\$131,274
Gala Tickets & Auction	\$115,338
Foundations (incl. gala)	\$217,305
Donated Services	\$540,408
Contracts and Grants	\$4,064,390
United Way	\$157,087
Fees, Sales to the Public, and Other Revenue	\$372,355

Total Revenues **\$5,598,157**

TOTAL ALL FUNDS EXPENSES

Employment	\$848,430
Education	\$867,835
Cultural Transition (incl. refugee resettlement)	\$1,748,546
Mental Health	\$401,407
Youth	\$225,168
Economic Development	\$403,745
Intergroup Relations	\$498,599
Management & General	\$462,714
Fundraising (incl. gala expenses)	\$102,137

Total Expenses **\$5,558,581**

CURRENT FUND

Revenues in Excess of Expenses	\$39,576
Unrestricted Net Assets on 12/31/04	\$1,160,370
Unrestricted Net Assets on 12/31/05	\$1,199,946

Address questions to:

Anna Crosslin, President
(314) 773-9090, ext 119

*Unaudited Statement as of 2/1/06. Final audit available after 8/1/06.

Photo by Kathryn Bish/International Institute

Community Support

Kate Howell, Volunteer Coordinator; Katy Stigers, Media Coordinator

Hundreds of individuals and dozens of organizations welcomed newcomers to St. Louis by giving generously of their time and effort. More than 30 churches, school classes, scout troops and other groups organized collection drives. They amassed necessities such as baby items, school supplies, personal care goods, and *Warm Welcome* packages for new refugee arrivals. Some helped by providing service—newly-arrived refugee children visited *Give Kids a Smile* for free dental work.

Many dedicated groups continued their support of our mission. Since 2000, Nerinx Hall High School has collected hundreds of coats and warm-winter accessories. This year, the Jewish Community Relations Council joined our annual coat collection drive. The Buddhist Tzu-Chi Foundation donated scores of brand-new comforters for the ninth year in a row.

Private citizens and businesses assisted New Americans, too. For example, area residents “adopted” 30 refugee families through the agency and the St. Louis Post-Dispatch’s *100 Neediest Cases* programs. MasterCard International adopted several families in the spring and fall, providing them with much-needed household and baby items.

Finally, community support efforts included celebration as well as necessities. Two collegiate groups helped to make the Children’s Holiday Party a success. The Public Service Committee at the Washington University School of Law and the Service Leadership Program at Saint Louis University’s Cook School of Business provided toys and household items for more than 300 children and their families. Harrah’s St. Louis Casino & Hotel prepared and donated our traditional Thanksgiving feast, making it possible for more than 450 immigrant newcomers and guests to enjoy the lively event. This special meal was a highlight of the year for both clients and staff.

Volunteers – Hooray!

In 2005, more than 700 volunteers provided 16,000 hours of work, valued at \$270,000.

Our most popular volunteer positions were in our Literacy Tutorial for adults and After School Tutoring for refugee teens. Dozens of chaperones accompanied new American families on Saturday *Discover St. Louis* field trips.

2005 also brought many opportunities for clients to learn computer skills. Volunteers were integral to the Typing and Basic Computer Skills classes.

Students from local universities and high schools contributed thousands of service hours. Interns and practicum students gained valuable real-world work experience, sometimes giving 40 hours of their time each week providing valuable support to new Americans.

Volunteer assistance is absolutely critical to our numerous special events, including our fast-growing Festival of Nations in Tower Grove Park. More than 300 community members helped with children’s arts & crafts activities, beverage sales, clean-up and other important duties at this spectacular annual event.

Community organizations were a major part of the 2005 Festival of Nations. Gateway to Grace Church, the Network of South Asian Professionals, the Lindenwood French Club and others were vital to the success of the event by providing many volunteers.

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Kiku Obata & Company*

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Willert Home Products*

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\$10,000 or more

Anonymous
ASC Foundation
Hewlett-Packard
The May Department Stores
Company Foundation
Anne & John McDonnell
MO Foundation for Health
National City Bank
The Pettus Foundation
Regional Arts Commission

\$5,000 - \$9,999

The Boeing Company
Employees Community Fund
of Boeing St. Louis
Harrah's St. Louis
Heartland Bank
MasterCard International
Kathleen & Paul Munsch
SBC Foundation
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\$2,500 - \$4,999

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Hallmark Senior Housing
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Love Funding Corporation
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Mallinckrodt/Tyco Healthcare
Mercy Health Care
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Missouri Arts Council
Nestle Purina PetCare Company
Manuel Prado
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St. Louis- Old Newsboys Day

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African Mutual Assistance
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Theresa & Henry Biggs
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Stores Company
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2005 Annual Report of the International Institute

Mission

*To strengthen the
St. Louis community
by helping immigrants
and their families
become secure and
successful Americans
and by promoting
the value of ethnic
diversity in the social,
cultural and economic
life of the region.*

Core Values

*Multicultural
Competence
Ethnic Diversity
Community Partnering
Global Perspective
Service Focus
Entrepreneurial
Leadership
Integrity*



United Way
of Greater St. Louis