Wells Fargo volunteer helps refugee children with Fro-Yo snack at the Institute’s annual Children’s Holiday Party.

Photo by Wayne Crosslin/International Institute

© International Institute of Metropolitan St. Louis, June 2016
2015 Year in Review

In January, the International Institute relocated to its new campus at 3401 Arsenal St., once again taking its place as the northern anchor of the City’s thriving International District. The move quadrupled our office, classroom and meeting space. We are our region’s Welcoming Center for New Americans. So, our new campus enables us to expand essential community integration services for immigrants and their families.

A total of 93 staff provided services to 7,605 clients. In all, 1,237 volunteers contributed 22,816 hours. We sponsored 639 refugees and IRP in St. Louis plus 79 in Springfield, MO for a total of 716 new Missouri residents. Newcomers hailed from Afghanistan, Bhutan, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Iraq, Somalia, Syria, and other corners of the world.

In spring, we launched Career Advancement for International Professionals (CAIP), a 16-hour program for foreign-born professionals who benefitted from networking, resume preparation, and job interview skills-building. It is the initial building block in a program to create career paths for immigrant newcomers, especially for those with engineering and health career backgrounds.

In June, I was named one of 10 White House Champions of Change selected from around the US in honor of World Refugee Day. My visit to the West Wing of the White House for the ceremony was an inspiring - yet humbling - experience.

Our new campus was an immediate hit with visitors, who were eager to learn about our community’s growing ethnic diversity. We conducted 118 tours and operated dozens of service learning projects, especially for schools and corporate affinity groups. In October, our campus was recognized with the Mayor’s New Development Award at the annual St. Louis Development Corporation luncheon.

Senior staff made 153 presentations and trainings to community, government and corporate groups who sought us out as the local authority on refugees and immigration. Several groups also visited with us for learning and sharing, including delegations from Global Cleveland and the International Institute of Minnesota.

Much of the fall was spent educating St. Louisans about the US Refugee Program and about Syrian refugees scheduled to begin arriving in larger numbers in 2016. I provided dozens of media interviews and community presentations in the aftermath of the Paris terrorist attacks to combat anti-refugee and anti-Syrian reactions from elected officials and the general public. St. Louisans were eager to learn the facts and figures. In this period, visits to our web site grew from 7,000 to 12,000 weekly.

The Institute’s 2016-18 Strategic Plan reached its final review stages. Adopted in February 2016, our plan charts a course for the Institute in the short and longer term. Thus our services will remain well-operated and relevant in the face of impending client and program growth.

Anna Crosslin
President & CEO
Pillar I: Immersion
Top-Notch, First-Touch Services for Newcomers

Refugee Resettlement

English Classes for Adults

Citizenship Preparation

Job Training & Placement

Specialty Services

- Social Work
- Counseling
- Elderly
- Human Trafficking

Immigration Assistance

Our resettlement program continued to help refugees build new lives in St. Louis. In the first hectic months after their arrival, we addressed basic needs for sponsored refugees, including food, housing, clothing, transportation, interpretation, medical access and orientation to the US and St. Louis. New arrivals joined programs with thousands of other clients to learn English, support their families, and to eventually take their places as fully participating St. Louisans of immigrant heritage.

This year, Walgreen’s Pharmacy commenced an on-site immunization program for adult clients. Barnes Jewish Hospital and Healthy Kids Express provided immunizations to children. Newcomer families also benefitted from the support of partner organizations, including the National Conference of Jewish Women/Back to School Program and United Way 100 Neediest Cases.

The majority of new arrivals attended job readiness classes and Extended Orientation (EO); meanwhile they learned English. We offered literacy through advanced-level English classes in morning, afternoon and evening formats. Students in need of individualized literacy instruction got extra help thanks to the assistance of dozens of volunteer teacher aides. We aim to quickly help newcomers understand the American workplace culture and the new neighborhoods in which they are living.

We helped immigrants and refugees get jobs within a few short months after arrival. Prior to first placement, many new arrivals enrolled in our state-certified training programs: Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA), Alterations and Industrial Sewing, and Hotel Housekeeping.

In all, we made 500 job placements during the year at an average starting wage of $8.97. More than 80% were full time jobs; 69% included employer-provided health insurance.

In 2015, we launched Career Advancement for Immigrant Professionals (CAIP). CAIP is designed for foreign-born professionals with a bachelor’s or advanced degree from a foreign university. The program familiarizes students with professional job search skills including networking, resume preparation, and job interview practice. After graduation, students are matched with local volunteer professionals to help develop employment networks in St. Louis.

The Workforce Solutions Program also launched Career Pathways services for newly arrived refugees and immigrants who have a goal of earning a college degree in the US. We worked with participants to create career maps, including academic and professional certifications necessary to transition from entry level to management – and beyond – in their chosen field.

Refugees and immigrants also prepared for their US Citizenship application and test. Beginning, intermediate and advanced level classes were offered along with a telephone-based tutorial program. Computer training, Michigan Test services, and higher education counseling were also provided. Our collaboration with the TRIO Educational Opportunity Center continued as well.

A host of specialty services in social work, counseling, elderly, human trafficking and domestic violence capacity building were offered. Social work provided a range of services, including medical care access, health literacy, and family conflict. We referred clients for substance
abuse and persistent mental illness. Counseling focused on forced migration trauma which affects all areas of well-being. In addition to US Citizenship services, Elderly Services conducted quarterly events for refugees 60+ on a range of topics, including Medicare, weatherization, disaster preparedness and utility assistance.

In Human Trafficking, we continued oversight of two Rescue and Restore Coalitions which raise awareness about the issue and help link possible victims to service providers. Our region includes all of Eastern Missouri including a program in Southeast MO.

Our two Immigration Specialists continued to assist clients identify and obtain proper federal forms and prepare immigration applications. Our focus is on helping clients with paperwork associated with Lawful Permanent Residence, US Citizenship, refugee family reunification, and travel documents.

IISTL’s branch office in Springfield MO began resettling refugees in fall 2014 since a number of refugees with overseas relatives are now residing there. In all, 79 refugees were settled in the region. We are also providing cultural competency and health literacy education to health providers in McDonald County.

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**2015 Accomplishments**

- **1,100** attended ESOL classes.
- **96** received computer instruction.
- **1,314** obtained immigration services, including document preparation and photos.
- **341** prepared for US Citizenship; US Citizenship tests passed: **82**

**Ethnicities of Refugees Sponsored (706*)**

- Congolese: 21%
- Somali: 19%
- Iraqi: 13%
- Bhutanese (Nepal): 13%
- Afghan: 11%
- Syrian: 7%
- Burmese: 5%
- Cuban: 3%

* 79 Refugees resettled in Springfield

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**2015 Lead Underwriting**

- **Adult Education & Literacy Program**
- **ESOL Classroom Instructors**
- **Mental Health Services**
- **Health Insurance and Health Literacy Services**

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Photo by Wayne Crosslin/International Institute
Pillar 2: Investment
Economic Security for Immigrants and All St. Louisans

II Community Development Corporation
Small Business Center
• Business Loans up to $35,000
• Financial Literacy and Business Development

Asset Development
• Matched Savings
• Credit Counseling

Volunteer Income Tax Assistants (VITA)
Tax Services

II Global Farm

The International Institute Community Development Corporation (IICDC) is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the International Institute. IICDC is a certified Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) created with two overarching goals:

• Increase the number of immigrant entrepreneurs in the region, and
• Help our clients become bankable.

Immigrants and refugees are at high risk of being underbanked, although they are 60% more likely to be entrepreneurs in St. Louis. IICDC provides loans and technical assistance to this group of individuals. While they do not qualify for mainstream lending, they have the skills and experience to become successful entrepreneurs.

We use a combination of public and private funds to help immigrants realize their American Dream. With the capital and business development assistance provided by IICDC, our clients' businesses help stabilize families, create jobs, and strengthen the St. Louis economy.

IICDC offers micro loans of up to $10,000 to refugee entrepreneurs, utilizing funding from the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR), DHHS. A second fund, capitalized with financing provided by four local banks allows us to offer microloans of up to $35,000 to immigrants. This fund can also be accessed to leverage refugee loans.

Our culturally sensitive underwriting process includes substantial hands-on technical assistance to help our clients develop business plans, build and repair credit, and prepare financial projections.

In 2015 we managed almost 100 loans, including 45 new loans totaling more than $227,000. Clients used these funds to start or strengthen business such as used car sales, taxis and Uber, restaurants and bakeries. The table on page 6, prepared by the St. Louis Regional Chamber utilizing IMPLAN data analysis modeling, demonstrates the financial contribution of IICDC-assisted businesses in our community.

We also operated the Women’s Entrepreneur Loan Fund (WE Fund). The fund provides budding female entrepreneurs with access to low interest loans up to $1,000 for up to 18 months. To date, 31 women-owned businesses have been supported by the WE Fund.

An example is Ida. She saw other women entrepreneurs in the African community increase their income by selling traditional clothing. Her dream was to one day join those women entrepreneurs and sell her creations to the larger community. We helped Ida prepare her first business plan, connected her to a successful WE fund graduate for mentorship, and provided her with start-up seed money.

We also offer matching savings accounts known as the Individual Development Account (IDA) Program. Clients are able to leverage their savings to obtain a dollar-for-dollar match toward acquiring assets including homes, reliable cars, post-secondary education tuition, or new or expanded small business. Funding comes from a collaborative partnership with the United Way of Greater St. Louis and another from the Office for Refugee Resettlement/DHHS.

continued on page 6
In 2015, 59 IDA accounts were opened bringing the total being managed to 184. These savers are making monthly deposits toward an aggregate savings goal of $450,000. The chart on the left offers details about assets being acquired.

We also coordinated submission of 503 state and federal income tax returns under our VITA sponsored Earned Income Tax (EITC) filing service. This free service helped St. Louisans, of whom 77% were foreign-born, obtain accurate information and file their returns. On average, beneficiaries received just under $1,260 in tax refunds. In total $522,748 in federal and $168,129 state refunds were filed.

The International Institute Global Farm (IIGF) program teaches refugees how to raise healthy and family-friendly produce for personal use in Missouri’s climate and how to sell excess produce for supplemental income. This year, through a grant from the Daughters of Charity, we added Season Extension training for participating farmers. In the training they learned how to protect their crops from fall frost to prolong the growing season and grow food in their homes in the winter with grow kits. Additionally, farmers in our season extension training were able to start growing from seed in late winter to get a jump on the spring planting season.

During the 2015 growing season, 44 families maintained plots at IIGF locations. Due to limited space, most families grew healthy food for personal consumption rather than for resale. Five participating farmers grew sufficient produce to feed their families and still have 2.38 tons to sell. These farmers generated a total of $11,305 to supplement their family incomes.
The International Institute Community Development Corporation (IICDC) was founded in 2006 to increase micro lending to St. Louis’ immigrant entrepreneurs, a market niche that is underserved by traditional financial institutions. The IICDC is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Institute, with separate 501 C (3) tax exempt status that provides and receives services through a Memo of Understanding with the Institute.

IICDC is recognized as a certified Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI), by the US Dept. of the Treasury. As such, it can make loans to under and unbanked individuals in economically-distressed target markets. By using pooled loan funds provided by our partner banks we meet community needs and help banks receive Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) credit.

The Institute’s economic development employees serve as loan officers for the IICDC pooled loan fund. The Institute’s Senior VP for Programs also serves as President of the IICDC.

The IICDC pooled loan fund enables us to make loans up to $35,000 to immigrants, including refugees. Our banking partners (Carrollton, Midwest, PNC, and Pulaski) have helped us carefully build our portfolio by contributing to our pooled loan fund, providing volunteer time, and by serving on our Loan Review Committee.

In 2015, the IICDC processed just under 100 micro-loans of which 45 were new. Repayments totaled $213,728 in principal and interest; the outstanding balance in our loan fund as of December 31 was $278,448. Since the inception of our micro-lending program, we have disbursed $1.84 million in 245 loans to help strengthen immigrant businesses.

We are grateful to Bank of America, Citi and TIAA-CREF, all of which contributed funds that allowed us to provide in-depth technical assistance to our clients in business accounting, and helped us conduct a satisfaction survey of our clients.

IICDC Board of Directors

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As new Americans become integrated in the broader community, they want to preserve their arts and share them with all St. Louisans. Among the most popular venues is our annual Festival of Nations – the largest, most diverse multi-ethnic event in our region.

This year, Festival of Nations was held on August 29 and 30 in Tower Grove Park. More than 150,000 visitors attended. Saturday was our largest turnout ever. As a result, we reversed the dramatic decline we experienced in 2014 most likely due to unseasonably hot weather as well as community unrest in Ferguson and around St. Louis.

We welcomed Wells Fargo Advisors as the festival’s 2015 Presenting Sponsor. WFA presented a $65,000 check to Michael Zambrana, Festival Chair, on Saturday on the World Music Stage. The funds in the name of Wells Fargo Advisors and their Asian employee affinity group were given in support of the festival as well as the Institute’s volunteer program. The company also provided dozens volunteers at the festival and to support other Institute activities throughout the year.

Hundreds of ethnic organizations and volunteers continue to make Festival of Nations a magnificent celebration. More than 50 ethnic food booths provided a veritable world feast. As in the past, more than 80% of festival-goers cited the food booths as the main reason for their visits – year after year.

We continued to work to educate St. Louisans and people all around the nation about refugees and the complexities of the US immigration system.

During the year, we provided 271 speeches, trainings and tours to 7,385 community members in social service, faith, business, health, and other settings. Included in the total are 18 group trainings offered locally and nationally by senior staff to help businesses build their cross-cultural competencies. Anna Crosslin continued to play a

continued on page 10

Filipino dancers delight the audience at the annual Festival of Nations.

Photo by Roger Popwell/International Institute
leadership role in the STL Mosaic Project, a city/county initiative with a rapidly growing national presence.

Emerson Hall of Nations welcomed dozens of large meetings and events including two US Citizenship ceremonies, the Metropolitan CRA Annual Conference, Leadership STL’s annual immigration day, and a visit from officials of Global Cleveland.

Our Bagels & Coffee Speaker Series attracted large audiences for programs about refugee resettlement, the 20th anniversary of the massacre at Srebrenica, and migration and diversity issues in New Zealand.

In the fall, staff stepped up their presentations in the face of widespread anti-refugee and anti-Muslim hostility in the aftermath of the Paris terrorist attacks. Press conferences were held to inform the media, and community presentations were frequently hosted frequently for 150+ guests. The International Institute’s web site became the most visited location in St. Louis for the most current and accurate information about the Syrian refugee crisis and refugee resettlement issues.

Our staff and student interns shared information and stories with 398 posts on Facebook, Twitter and other social media sites which were reposted and retweeted thousands of times.

In addition, the Institute was featured or mentioned 116 times in regional or national media.

In June, Anna Crosslin traveled to the White House with nine other recipients from around the US to receive the WH Champion of Change award in honor of World Refugee Day. Opening remarks were made by Ambassador Susan Rice, National Security Advisor. Pictured here from left: Nadia Kasvin, Crosslin, Ben Gucciardi, Zeljka Krvavica, Marwan Sweedan, UN Ambassador Samantha Power, Sasha Chanoff, and Gatluak Thach.

Photo courtesy of White House publications office
Supporters, Collaborators and Partners

All divisions of major networks/institutions are listed by INSTITUTIONAL name first, with department or program following.

Ameren  
AmeriCorps STL  
Armstrong Teasdale LLP  
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Bank of America  
Barnes J ewish Hosp.  
Better Family Life  
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Local Harvest Grocery  
MasterCard Worldwide  
MIRA  
Mission Center STL  
MO Arts Council  
MO Botanical Garden  
MO Career Centers  
MO Citizens for Arts  
MO Dept. Health & Sr. Serv.  
MO Family Support Div.  
MO Found. for Health  
Money Smart STL Week  
New City Fellowship  
Niagara Foundation  
NINA  
Oasis Int’l  
Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, PC  
Old Newsboy Day  
Places for People/Comm.  
Alt.  
PLAN STL  
PNC Bank  
Principia College  
Prosperity Connections  
Pulaski Bank  
RAC STL  
S Grand CID  
SAGE Metro St. Louis  
Shakespeare Fest. STL  
SLACO  
SLU High School  
SLT Children’s Hosp., - CAB  
SLT Chinese Am. News  
SLT Conv. & Visitors Bureau  
SLT County  
Div. of Workforce Dev.  
Police Dept.  
World Trade Center STL  
STL Economic Dev. Partnership  
STL Mental Health Brd.  
CANA Network  
STL Modern Chinese Schl.  
STL Mosaic Project  
STL Public Schools  
AEL Program  
K-12 Bilingual/ESL Prog.  
Nahed Chapman Academy  
STL Regional Chamber  
STL Regional Health Comm.  
STL Rescue & Restore Coaltn.  
STL Symphony Orchestra  
Saint Louis University  
Boeing Inst. of Int’l Bus.  
School of Nutrit. & Dietetics  
TGE Neigh. Assoc.  
TG South Neigh. Assoc.  
Tower Grove Park  
Tzu Chi Buddhists  
UMOS  
Univ. of MO-STL  
Schl. of Educ.  
Schl. of Social Work  
United Way STL  
Multicult. Giv. Init.  
Wmn’s. Leadership Giv. Init.  
US Attorney’s Office - E MO  
Anti-Human Traff. TF  
Hate Crimes TF  
US Bank  
US Bankruptcy Crt. E MO  
USCIS  
STL Field Off.  
US Dept. Treas. - CDFI  
US Social Security Admin.  
Vatterott College  
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GWB Soc. Work Schl.  
Law Schl.  
Olin Business Schl.  
WE Global Network  
Webster U.  
Welcoming America  
Wells Fargo Advisors  
Empl. Affinity Grps. Foundation  
YWCA – Sex. Assault Cntr.  

Rachel Mapp, Career Advancement for International Professionals instructor, assists a CAIP student with resume preparation.
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As of December 31

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AVP Corporate Community Relations
Enterprise Holdings

Wendy Richardson
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MasterCard Worldwide

Jennifer Schwesig
Partner, International Practice Group Leader
Armstrong Teasdale

Kiku Obata
President
Kiku Obata & Company

William Willert
President
Willert Home Products, Inc.

2015 Staff
As of December 31

Administration

Anna Crosslin – President & CEO

Suzanne LeLaurin – Sr. VP
Programs & IICDC President

Cesar Figari – VP & Director
Fin. & Operations

Marisa Echevarria –
Sr. Accounting Services Mgr.

Christina Juelfs –
Sr. Administrative Services Mgr.

Kelly Moore –
External Relations Mgr.

Kristen Rosen –
Development & Events Lead

Henry Berry
Emsada Bilkan
Ziata Bilkan
Carrie Brickey
Nancy Frillman
Saad Hussein
Rosa Puerto
Eeesa Sahib
Yashika Sharma
Hannah Rae Warrick

Economic Development

Diego Abente – VP & Director
Nadya Kanim
Nha Nguyen
Katrina Parkinson
Altnai Sagandykova

Education

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Sarah Barnard – Education Prog. Mgr.

Andy Uecker – Educ., Office/Data Sup.

Charmain Burrus
Robert Coffey
Hazel Douglas
Fanya Epshteyn
Angela Folkes
Hyrije Hoxha
Mirsada Karadzic
Eric Kramer
Marlene Kruse
Sevil Kyazimova
Lois Lafferty-Gude
Lubabal Mntanga
Leslie Myers
Mary Owens
Amy Pushkas
Richard Rash
Jackie Schmid
Brandi Squire
Mike Sullivan (AEL only)
Ada Williams

Client Services

P. Ariel Burgess – VP & Director


Blake Hamilton – Workforce Solutions Mgr.

Kari Hoggard – SW MO Branch Mgr.

Kathy Tucker – Resettlement Mgr.

Hayder Alfati
Hazira Caus
Marilou Connoyer
Semere Desu
Caitlyn Drozda
Rodney Gonzalez Rodriguez
Ganga Gurung
Abdulahi Haji

Yashika Sharma

Hannah Rae Warrick
Volunteers

Feleg Abraha
Hana Alem
Abdullah Ali
Youmna Amin
Margaret Andersen
Elizabeth Anderson
Emily Anderson
Vaughn Anderson
Janet Armbruster
Monica Baer
Stephanie Barker
Lauren Barylske-Zaidi
Daniel Behr
Angela Berch
Mallory Beirne
Kathleen Blosser
Shawn Boddin
Sister Susan Borge
Megan Boyd
Rachel Braver
Sarah Bridges
Nizeyimana Brightte
Angela Buchern
Janice Buget
Victoria Cancila
Cathy Carney
Eric Casper
Tiffany Chen
Anna Chen
Jiaiang Chenghong
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Beatrice Connaghan
Nelson Curran
Cindy Curtis
Anna Darling
Christiona Darris
Mable David
Hannah Davison
Traci DeBeir
Madeline Dehart
Hannah Dons
Kate Dorsey
Rebecca Dougherty
Josefinna Duque
Nancy Durbin
Stephanie Edney
Madison Elmore
Emily Evans
Kim Ewing
Molly Farmer
Bridget Fox
Yvonne Franklin
Randolph Geary
Jody Gerth
Jeanette Glaenger
Marjorie Gold
David Gross
Cathleen Haar
Tesbin Habbal
Saqib Hassan
Lisa Heitlaus
Laurie Hellmuth
Ted Hellmuth
Eric Herst
Laura Hinson
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Shayn Jackson
Hadja Jaffery
Ricardo J. Johanning
Aaron Jones
Nancy R. Jones
Joshua Kazdan
Rachel Kent
Nan A. Kern
Marta Kolcz-Ryan
Lois Kordenbrock
Janet Kostal
Blessing Kuebbee
June Lane
Anette Larman
Emmanuela Larsen
Bokjung Lee
Nicholas Lemen
Shelley Lewellen
Patricia A. Lewis
Nicholas Linan
Philip Max Lorenz
Linda Luks
Sharon Maes
Ramona Marshall
James Martin
Michel Mayouba
Marlyn McCarthy
Kyla McKinney
David Mitchell
Yolanda Mitchell
Zainab Mohammed
Steven Monda
Marcela Morales-Quezada
Amy Morros
Mina Mujanovic
Correne Murphy
Chloe Neal
Judy Nelson
Anh Nguyen
Pham Nguyen
Phuc Nguyen
Shelley Nibberich
Vicky Niolet
Dan O’Connor
Brooke Odenwald
Jennifer Oeffner
Sonia Oladapo
Carol Oliver
Stella Oparaji
Lisa Overholser
Joan Park
Emma Patton
Garie Perry
Nicholas Perryman
Maria Przada
Barbara Rajski
Fran Raniere
Brook Raye
Carolyn Recenwal
Catherine Richardson
Ryan Riggis
Sarah Rizzo
Jennifer Roberts
Ryan Roberts
Tilottama Roy-White
Niyoyakira Rozineti
Dan Ryan
Geri Ryan
Richard Sandler
Elina Sapkota
Baldev Sara
Zainab Mohammed

Hellmuths Receive Lebadang Award

Education Department volunteers Laurie and Ted Hellmuth were the 2015 recipients of the International Institute Award, designed by noted Vietnamese artist, Lebadang.

The International Institute Award is usually given biennially to recognize the work of a volunteer who makes largely unsung contributions that move the agency’s mission forward.
2015 Honor Roll Donors

Wells Fargo Advisors joins Festival of Nations as Presenting Sponsor. Pictured here, WFA festival volunteers join Mike Zambrana, festival chair, and Anna Crosslin to celebrate $65,000 in donations from WFA to IISTL in 2015.

$65,000
Wells Fargo Advisors

$10,000-$19,999
Midwest BankCentre
Enterprise Holdings
Daughters of Charity Foundation of St. Louis
PNC Foundation
Schwab Charitable Fund
US Bank
Webster University

$5,000-$9,999
Bank of America
Charitable Foundation
Citi
Alice & Tony Tharenos
The Boeing Company
T-Mobile

$2,500-$4,999
PCH Communications, LLC
Greater St. Louis Community Foundation
Central Reform Congregation
Commerce Bank
Laurie & Ted Hellmuth
IISTL Junior Board
Jane Allen & J. Kenneth Jones#
Anh Pham-Nguyen & Hoang Nguyen
Silicon Valley Community Foundation
Sports Strategies, Inc.
Sandy & George Tsai

$1,000-$2,499
Anthony A. Gonzalez-Angel
Anonymous
Dipankar Bandyopadhyay
Galen D. Bingham
Nancy W. Day
Joseph Ernst
Marc Fairman
First Bank
Dianne G’Sell
Mary P. & Bob Heger
Janice Hinduja

Arindam & Shanna Kar
Ward M. Klein
Phillip & Denise Klevorn
Gregg M. Lemley#
Thomas Oldenburg
Paragon Architects
Garie & Kenneth Perry
Purina Pet Care Company
Tom and Kathy Reeves
Wendy P. & Christopher Richardson
Theodore & J John Sanditz
J. Eduardo & Robin Seuc
Ami & Shah & Beth A. Fisher
Suburban Journals
Old Newsboys Day
Richard K. Tao & C. Elliot Cori-Tao
Wells Fargo Community Support Campaign
Jeffrey C. Whitford
Michael A. Zambrana

$500-$999
100 Neediest Cases Program
At&T United Way
Employee Giving Campaign
Mary Bard
Cynthia Bowdry
Kenneth A. Brown
Janice A. Cerny
Sam B. & Khaliah Charrington
Donna & Lawrence Collins
Commerce Bancshares Foundation
Adrienne Costello
Tina L. Deallore
Janice Elliott
Vera Emmons
Rick E. Essen
First Unitarian Church of St. Louis
Nancy E. Fox
Katherine E. Cochrane &
Joel Glassman
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Theresa Grumke
Steven G’Sell
Joseph Hess
Trevor Holland
Jackson Lewis P.C.
Kiku Obata & Company#
Ann & Randall Lipton

Malinckrodt Pharmaceuticals
Tom Marlay
Missouri Botanical Garden
Randal & Gayla Narike#
Nicole Natlos
Pulaski Asaazz & Luz Robles-Razzaq
Regional Business Council
Martin Rischall
Robert Scheipman
Jim Storey
Adam Streeter
Nancy Symeonoglou
Helen G. Turner#
Clarence Wagner
Allysa Weeks
Erin Elizabeth Williams

$250-$499
Afton High School
Dinorah & Edgar Aguilar
Kikue Atkin
Aya Sofia Restaurant
Carole E. Barricklow
Fred & Linda Berger
Bevo Mill Neighborhood
Ezeew Biru
Aegion Corporation
Vickie Danenberg
Elaine Berger Rev. Lvg Trust
Zaheeda Fidahussain
Jemriah Fleming
Robert Garavaglia
Sahal Ghodbane &
Martha Lynn Turner
James C. Guylo
Cathleen & Robert Haar
Anjum Hassan
Anne & Robert Herlage
Timothy Hill
Sharri Hilmes
Arus Joyce
Christy Kiss-Leong
Ashley Kohn
Limitless Planet
Stacy Mann
Susan S. Marcus
Steven Miller
Les Myers
Lucy Novario

Pangea Group
Parkway School District Board of
Education, Craig Elementary School
Rotary Club District 6510
Sara Ruffin
Shaw Neighborhood
Improvement Association
Amelia Shekar
St. Louis Community College
Peter Tao
Eugene Toombs
Tower Grove East
Neighborhood Association
TRUSTR
Sarah Wilson

$100-$249
Marilyn S. Abbott
Malak Ahmed
Pamela F Anderson
Daniel & Lisa Anderson
J anet Armbruster
Bayless Consolidated
School District
Anita M. & Tim Barker
Lorraine T. Bemis
Bryan Benecke
Aurthur Bennett
Marvin Berkowitz
Dean Berry
L. Celeste H Blumer
Mary Breining
Nate Brison
Eric Brown
Alexandra Burns#
Susan Bushnell
Drew Canning
Diana Carlin
Cathy & Bob Carney
Edi Casabar
Chaminade College
Preparatory School
David B. Cherrick
Mary L. Clark
Susan Cobb
Scott Cohen
Angel Colon
Charmayne Cooley
Matthew Crawford
Ryan Day
Joe & Carmen Dence
J oseph Dickmann
Ngoc Doan
J lo Doane
Carolyn Dodson-Ching
Gabriel Duex
Caitlyn Drozda
J ean Dugan
Lindsey Durway
Melanie Embick
Marcel Esqui
Ethical Society of STL
Collier Evans
William Falk
Susan H. Fliesher
J ohn Fotenos
J ey Frank
Friends of Christine Ingrassia
William Frithworth
Christina Gamel
Amanda Gioia
Laura Halffmann
Chelse Hand
Levi Harris
Nancy Hilerud
William Hildebrandt
Scott Hippsley
Richard Hoff
Denae Homs
Alan W. Hopeff
Laura Horwitz
Hyryje Hoxha
Frances Hsieh
Hua-Chen Hsu

Wendy Huss
Carol J onak
Karen Jordan
Christina J ulffs
Emma Kafalenos
Shelli Kastin
Mark Kearns
Robert B. Kern
David L. & Ligaya Kirkland#
Norma Vavra Klein
Amparo Kollman-Moore# &
Ron Moore
Katherine Kornfeld
Alan & Karen Kretchmar
Jennifer Kubiszewski
Teresa Kurtz
Ladue Chapel Women’s Assoc.
Amy E. Lampe
Ruth Lee
Stephen LeLaurin
Suzanne LeLaurin
David Machicaco
Sharon Maes
Patricia & Chris Maguire
Jordan Mahaney
Patty Maher
Scott and Lisa Martin
Marilyn McCarthy
Matthew Mcdauley
Margaret McClellan
McKendree University
Kent McNeil
Behar Mehmeti
Metro STL CRA Association
David Meyer
MD Council for a Better Economy
Dinny Moore
Amy Morros
J asna Mruckovski
Leslie Myers
Michael Naccarato
Anita Newman
John Newmark
J uli Niemann
Marvin Nodiff
Betty J. Okenfuss
Nina Oneil
Bipin Patel
Hannah Petri
David W. Piston
Robert and Cynthia Reeg
Robert Richter
Rosanne Richter
Paul Robinson
Eka Ruliyana
Luar Salamun
Daniel Schesch
Schnucks - Script Card
Daniel Schreckenbach
Marjorie Schuchat
Nancy Sellers
Cynthia Seltzer
Loretta Selzter
Lori Sharp#
Brian Sielbert
Matteo Signorino
Barbara Simon
Edgar Smart
Lance Smith
Springfield Diocesan Council of Catholic Women
STL Economic Development Partnership
STL Univ. Student Bar Association
STL PRO, Inc.
Amanda Stormer
Lauren Stone
Sundar Swaminathan
Alex J. Tetraeut
The Mission Center, L3C
George Tibbits
J effrey Trzeciak
Andy Ueker
Leslie Ulljee

continued on page 16
The 2015 Adopt-a-Family Program was the Institute’s biggest yet with 35 participating families. Here, a Congolese refugee family poses with members of their donor group. 

Photo by Wayne Crosslin/International Institute
Community Support

In 2015 the Institute received more than $55,000 of support in the form of in-kind donations. Through donations of new and gently used items from local community members, we are able to supply families with items they need to get settled into their new homes. Furniture, personal care items, clothing, and household supplies are essential in providing a warm welcome to our New Americans when they first arrive in St. Louis.

Our annual Adopt-A-Family (AAF) program received tremendous support this year from families, schools, businesses, and religious and civic organizations. While the Institute is able to supply families with basic necessities when they first arrive, the AAF program offers extra assistance at a time when the burden of heating bills and winter clothing needs can be high. The program also serves as a way for the community to learn about a refugee family and participate in welcoming them to our city. This past holiday season, 35 newly arrived refugee families received more than $39,000 of support in the form of rent and utility assistance, clothing, household items, school supplies, furniture, bicycles, toys, and more.

Check out our website for a list of our current needs. Please call ahead to arrange a drop off. Thanks for your support!

ICDC Donors

Fred & Linda Berger
Alberto del Pilar
William Delozze
Nick Garzia

Javad Khazaeei
Jay Staley
Narcisa Symank
Laura Tabat

Burmesse refugees work with ESL instructor.
Volunteers: Moving Our Mission Forward!

Over the past year nearly 1,237 volunteers have generously provided 22,816 hours of service to the Institute, its programs, and clients. The work of volunteers is essential in supporting our immigrants and their families as they strive to become self-sufficient members of the community.

Volunteers tutored English students, ran mock citizenship interviews, toiled in our two urban gardens, showed clients how to use public transportation, prepared taxes, and helped various departments settle into our new headquarters location. More than 450 of the volunteers came out in the August heat to ensure 150,000 St. Louisans enjoyed ethnic food, music, and dance at our annual Festival of Nations.

Some of our most dedicated volunteers were part of the nation-wide AmeriCorps program. These individuals dedicate a year of their lives to service! In 2015, 20 AmeriCorps worked full-time alongside staff in our Economic Development, Education, Workforce Solutions and Client Services departments. They set up client medical appointments, provided life skills training, prepared apartments for newly arrived refugees, welcomed arrivals at the airport, enrolled children in school, recruited and trained farmers, prepared resumes and training curricula, arranged immunization clinics and much more!

Thank you, in every language, to all our volunteers!

Junior Board Increases Impact

The Junior Board of the International Institute works to raise awareness of the agency and the importance of immigrants in our region, and to support Institute clients and programs through fundraising and events. These events include happy hour fundraisers and the annual Trivia Night, which yielded more than $9,000 for the programs of the International Institute. The Junior Board also provides essential volunteer support for Institute-sponsored events, including Festival of Nations and our annual Thanksgiving Celebration.

This year the Junior Board launched a brand new event, the Holiday Craft Bazaar. Held in the Institute’s gym at the beginning of the holiday season, the event featured local vendors selling unique crafts from countries around the world, kids’ crafts, hot drinks, and a food truck. Join us for it next year!

Junior Board of Directors

Hannah Verity – President
Hannah Burtness – Secretary
Shannon Lichti – Treasurer
Alexandria Burns
Maggie Dankert
Tahaira Khanam
Lori Sharp
Sarah Wion
Blake Hamilton - Staff Liaison
Kristen Rosen - Staff Liaison

Young Friends Members Make a Difference

The Junior Board serves as the leadership for the Young Friends of the International Institute. Joining the Young Friends provides an opportunity for globally-minded young professionals and students to connect with each other on their shared interest in celebrating multiculturalism and supporting the work of the Institute. Members each contribute important gifts of $45 annually in support of the Institute’s work to welcome immigrants and their families to St. Louis and help them get on their feet. Members get benefits to redeem at Trivia Night and Festival of Nations and special invitations to Junior Board events.

Visit our website to join this dynamic group, and thank you to our current Young Friends for your support!
On January 15, the International Institute relocated to 3401 Arsenal St. The new headquarters campus quadruples our classroom, office and event area with more than 130,000 sq. ft. of interior space plus 100 off-street parking spaces situated on nearly four acres.

We occupied almost 80% of the campus from the onset as new programs were launched and new audiences engaged.

Our New Beginnings Capital Campaign continued. The Neighborhood Assistance Program of the State of Missouri granted $200,000 more in Missouri tax credits for eligible users. In total, $500,000 in campaign donations have been eligible for the 50% tax credit program.

We received two generous gifts to underwrite important additional renovations. The Mysun Foundation provided $95,000 to ensure the completion of code-required work in our commercial kitchen so it could operate as a training site for our food service preparation program. The William T. Kemper Foundation donated $50,000 for our rear courtyard improvement project. In the fall, the Trio Foundation also made an extremely generous donation of $50,000 in support of our global farms.

In 2016 we will continue to raise funds to complete our capital campaign. We will work with major donors and community givers alike. We have been gratified by the widespread support for our clients and mission among St. Louisans. Our community recognizes and appreciates the high economic and social value of immigrant newcomers to our region and our nation.
In the first few months after arrival in St. Louis, refugees have a multitude of basic resettlement needs. Housing, food and transportation costs frequently exceed the small grant they receive from the federal government. We must reach out to the community for financial and in-kind support, especially for small families and individuals who arrive alone. More donations are essential for emergency housing and medical expenses.

As the chart below shows, each single person is eligible for a $1,125 resettlement allowance. After the full expense of resettlement, there is $2,500 still needed for basic necessities: utilities, food and a bus pass. Funds from the Tao Family Fund help bridge this gap.

Please make a donation today, using the enclosed envelope or by visiting our web site and clicking “Donate.”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Household Size</th>
<th>Single Person</th>
<th>2 People</th>
<th>3 People</th>
<th>4 People</th>
<th>5 People</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spending Money</td>
<td>$20</td>
<td>$30</td>
<td>$30</td>
<td>$40</td>
<td>$40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Security Deposit</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>$550</td>
<td>$650</td>
<td>$800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rent (3 months)</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
<td>$1,650</td>
<td>$1,950</td>
<td>$2,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Set-Up</td>
<td>$400</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>$600</td>
<td>$900</td>
<td>$1,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilities (3 months)</td>
<td>$945</td>
<td>$945</td>
<td>$945</td>
<td>$1,100</td>
<td>$1,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food @ $5/day/ each</td>
<td>$150</td>
<td>$300</td>
<td>$450</td>
<td>$600</td>
<td>$750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bus Pass (1 month)</td>
<td>$90</td>
<td>$180</td>
<td>$180</td>
<td>$240</td>
<td>$240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal-Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>$3,605</strong></td>
<td><strong>$3,955</strong></td>
<td><strong>$4,405</strong></td>
<td><strong>$5,480</strong></td>
<td><strong>$6,430</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resettlement Allowance</td>
<td>$1,125</td>
<td>$2,250</td>
<td>$3,375</td>
<td>$4,500</td>
<td>$5,625</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Funding Gap</strong></td>
<td><strong>($2,480)</strong></td>
<td><strong>($1,705)</strong></td>
<td><strong>($1,030)</strong></td>
<td><strong>($980)</strong></td>
<td><strong>($805)</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Financial Statement*

Current Fund

Revenues in Excess of Expenses | $47,987
Unrestricted Net Assets on 12/31/14 | $3,655,041
Unrestricted Net Assets on 12/31/15 | $4,996,037

*Unaudited Statement

Address questions to:
Anna Crosslin, President
(314) 773-9090, ext 119.

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We are a Missouri non-profit corporation with full 501 (c)(3) status.

**Headquarters**  
3401 Arsenal St.  
St. Louis, MO 63118  
(314) 773-9090  
info@iistl.org

**SW Missouri Branch**  
3046 Delaware, Ste. J  
Springfield, MO 65804  
(417) 720-1552  
hoggardk@iistl.org

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