

United for a better tomorrow

2025 ANNUAL REPORT



International
Institute of
Minnesota

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

2025: United for a better tomorrow

The last year was filled with growth and progress, despite the unprecedented challenges and ongoing policy changes coming from a new federal administration. We drew strength from our dedicated supporters, allowing us to continue delivering high-quality programs and advocacy for immigrants in our community. Thanks to the unwavering commitment of our volunteers and donors, we advanced our mission and supported New Americans affected by these national changes.

At the start of the year, we focused on our refugee services in anticipation of major federal program changes. Our team rapidly expanded its capacity, enabling us to resettle 250 refugees in just four months—one of the highest numbers in years—before the national resettlement program closed. This achievement was made possible by volunteers who provided essential items like beds, furniture, food, while also adding personal touches like toys for children, toiletries for parents, and warm blankets for all. For the remainder of the year, we welcomed Afghans arriving with Special Immigrant Visas (SIV), individuals whose service to the U.S. government put their lives at risk.

As record numbers of immigrants have arrived over the past three years, the Institute continues to offer a wide range of services to help stabilize their lives. Our Workforce Department plays a critical role in helping clients secure their first jobs in the United States and advance to positions with sustainable wages. Last year, our Medical Careers Pathway grew by 23%, serving more students and opening doors to careers in the healthcare

sector. Additionally, 106 participants have completed the Entrepreneur Training Program since its launch in 2024, with all passing a nationally recognized entrepreneurship certification. These programs succeed due to strong partnerships with community organizations, corporate supporters, and volunteers who serve as guest speakers, experts, and advisors.

In today's unwelcoming and xenophobic climate, our legal services remain one of the most vital resources we provide. These services ensure affordable access to legal support, which is essential for the safety and legal protection of the New American community. With donor support, we are expanding our legal team and increasing the number of clients we serve.

During these challenging times, we find hope and motivation in the people who stand beside us. Our volunteers and donors continue to support newcomers, demonstrating deep care for the well-being of immigrants in Minnesota and our broader community. Ongoing support of the Institute's mission is critical and inspires us to keep moving forward.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Jane Graupman



Please join us for our third annual fundraising event honoring the courage and contributions of refugees and immigrants.

iimn.org/event

Wednesday, May 6, 2026 | 5:30 p.m.
Renaissance Minneapolis Hotel, The Depot



IN 2025:

1,101 clients

secured permanent resident status or became a naturalized U.S. citizen – including children who derived U.S. citizenship from a newly naturalized parent

2,771 people

served in two or more Institute programs

A Nurse's Journey from Ecuador to Minnesota

Coraima added to her list of accomplishments since moving from Ecuador when she officially became a U.S. citizen last October, joining her husband and infant daughter.

"When I took the oath, I was so relieved," she said. "Finally, I'm going to be part of this country. This is really my home now."

“

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Coraima was expecting a difficult citizenship process, but the International Institute of Minnesota's immigration team helped her all along the way and made it quick and easy.

Coraima first connected with the Institute shortly after arriving in Minnesota in 2020.

Even though she knew limited English, she quickly progressed through the Institute's English program before enrolling in College Readiness Academy and Nursing Assistant Training.

"I was so nervous," she described before her classes began. "What if I don't know how to share my ideas?"

The Institute's instructors eased her anxiety with their patience and understanding.

"I am super grateful for the support because we need it," she said about the Institute's free trainings and classes. "People come here from different backgrounds and not many have

money to pay for private classes and trainings. It's helpful to have a place where you are welcome and it's free."

Back home in Ecuador, Coraima worked as a registered nurse (RN). When she discovered her degree and credentials did not transfer to the U.S., she was initially devastated.

Utilizing everything she learned at the Institute, Coraima was accepted into a nursing program, and is currently working as a licensed practical nurse (LPN) at an addiction treatment facility.

"I love my job," she shared. "I really like being close to the patients and getting to know them."

Working as an LPN is just another step along the way. Coraima has been in school while working and will graduate as an RN this spring. After that, she will continue her education and begin a nurse practitioner (NP) program to which she has already been accepted.

"Everything I've done has come to this point and I'm very proud of myself," she confidently said.

As she looks ahead to life after school, Coraima plans to spend more time with her 19-month-old daughter.

"I really love her. She's the best," Coraima doted about her daughter.

With the profound impact it has had on her family, Coraima urges other immigrants and refugees to take advantage of all the Institute's comprehensive offerings.

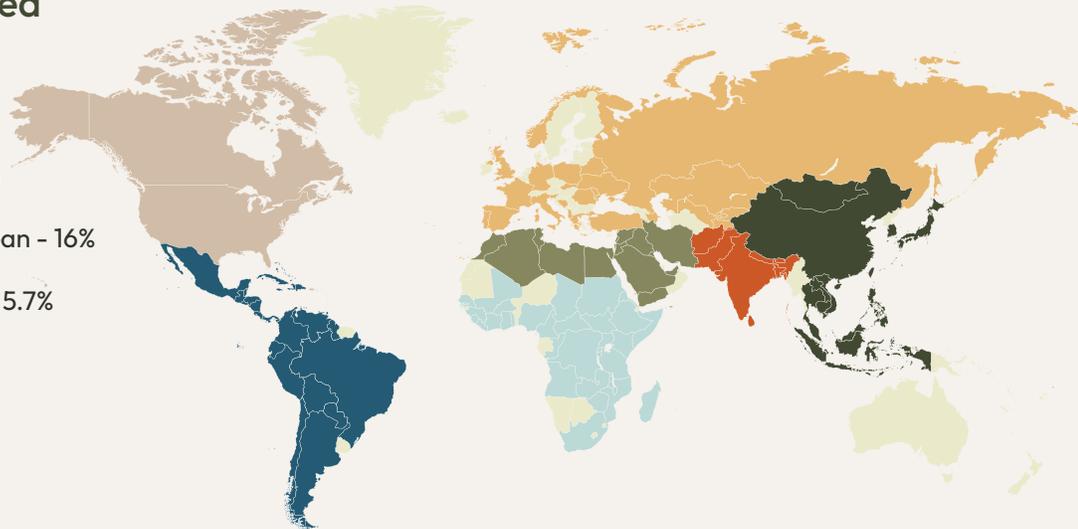
Reflecting on all she has achieved since arriving in Minnesota, Coraima gives one last piece of advice to any New American in a similar situation: "Don't be afraid. Changes are very difficult. To be an immigrant here is very difficult. It takes a lot of courage, and there will be a day when you think back and say 'that was easy'."

6,017 New Americans served in 2025

New Americans come to Minnesota from across the globe, enriching our state's cultural fabric, workforce, and economic vitality. Each new arrival we work with demonstrates remarkable perseverance as they overcome challenges, create opportunities, and add unique contributions to the community.

121 countries represented by our clients

- East Asia and Pacific - 14%
- Europe and Central Asia - 7.4%
- Latin America and the Caribbean - 16%
- Middle East and North Africa - 5.7%
- North America - 0.4%
- South Asia - 7.5%
- Sub-Saharan Africa - 49%



Note: Geographic regions are defined by the World Bank. Percentages are based on clients who reported their nationality across all programs.

2025: By the Numbers

We are deeply grateful to every donor, volunteer, and partner whose generosity has truly changed lives while contributing to Minnesota's future. This year, we faced policy changes and budget cuts from the federal government that challenged the existence of our core programs. Because of you, we continued our work and New Americans found stability, advanced their lives, and built a sense of belonging and hope for their families.



REFUGEE SERVICES

1,264 clients

served through housing, resettlement, case management, anti-human trafficking, and unaccompanied children services



IMMIGRATION SERVICES

3,024 clients

supported with citizenship applications, green card applications for refugees or asylees, DACA renewals, and other immigration services



EDUCATION

1,464 students

attended English classes, College Readiness Academy, citizenship classes, or Community Workshops



WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

1,530 clients

served through employment placement, job training, career advancement, or financial literacy



IN 2025:

339 students

participated in College Readiness Academy

164 students

received one-on-one navigation to apply for college, financial aid, or help with other forms of support to address common barriers to college success

54 students

received free college credit through Metro State University

Overcoming Obstacles and Building a New Life

With her 91-year-old father in the audience, Claudia walked across the stage and accepted her LL.M. (Master of Laws) from Mitchell Hamline School of Law last May.

“On this day, I knew how big my accomplishment was. I felt really proud of myself,” Claudia remembered.

As an attorney in Argentina, Claudia’s journey to her degree in the U.S. took decades of hard work, perseverance, and the drive to better her and her family’s lives.

Despite speaking limited English after moving to Minnesota in 2001, Claudia wanted to continue studying jurisprudence.

First, she wanted to improve her English. A Google search led her to the International Institute of Minnesota where she enrolled in the College Readiness Academy (CRA) program.

While taking the college readiness class at the Institute, Claudia’s instructor informed her about a program at Mitchell Hamline that offers scholarships to international law students.

“The Institute gave me all the tools, gave me everything,” Claudia shared.

Walking into class the first day, she immediately wanted to leave. The class was full of younger students who were more

fluent in English than her, but she stayed and persevered.

“I knew I had to move fast because I had to compete with people my children’s age,” she said.

While she understood the legal concepts she was studying, she struggled with writing.

As the year went on, Claudia approached her college readiness instructor at the Institute for guidance who reassured and encouraged Claudia by saying, “I gave you this opportunity because I knew you could do it.”

With her teacher’s words of encouragement and her family’s support, Claudia persisted.

“

I always look to the future, I always dream.

Her hard work paid off as she received her LL.M. at age 61 with her family in attendance.

After receiving her diploma, Claudia told her father, “I’m not only happy for me, but happy for you, because you always wanted me to study. I am doing this because of you.”

In 2024, Claudia received her green card and now dreams of becoming a citizen. She is a shining example of how it’s never too late to pursue your dreams.

“I always look to the future, I always dream.”

Your Impact

IN 2025

The International Institute of Minnesota provided services to 6,017 clients last year, thanks to your support. Whether New Americans work with the Institute for the first time through refugee resettlement or access our programs and services years after their arrival, our comprehensive programs offer tailored support, guidance, and education at every stage of their journey—from arriving in Minnesota to reaching long-term success.



Arrive

MEETING BASIC NEEDS

250 refugees

GREETED AT THE AIRPORT
AND RESETTLED IN MINNESOTA

Refugee arrivals from 16
total nationalities and 15
languages

48% of refugees
resettled were children

90% of families
resettled
live in Ramsey or
Hennepin Counties

21 unaccompanied children

reunited with family or
friends in Minnesota

83 survivors of human trafficking

received case
management and/
or housing navigation
services



Educate

BUILDING FOUNDATIONS

2,128 students

IN ENGLISH AND JOB TRAINING
CLASSES

144,051 hours
of English instruction

80 clients
graduated college
with our guidance
and support

**222 College
Readiness
Academy
graduates**
persisted in college

**11 internationally-
trained physicians**
secured competitive
residencies with our
career support and
guidance



Employ

SHAPING OUR WORKFORCE

483 clients

PLACED IN JOBS

183 clients

began their first American job

\$23.45/hour average wage

for graduates of hospitality, medical, and business career pathways

47% of job placements

were in the top 10 in-demand jobs, helping fill Minnesota's critical worker shortages

18 of 23 major industry groups

employed our clients, highlighting the diverse industries impacted by our clients

373% wage increase

at employment for all job training graduates



Thrive

CULTIVATING STABILITY

786 clients

ACHIEVED U.S. CITIZENSHIP

\$400,800 saved by clients

in naturalization application fees to USCIS

338 clients

improved their financial literacy through financial coaching

315 clients

adjusted their immigration status to become lawful permanent residents

7 homebuying advising clients

purchased their first home



Thank you for standing with New Americans

Our committed community of supporters— from individuals and foundations to community and corporate partners —are the reason we can do our life-changing work. Throughout 2025, you helped us respond to rapid change and demonstrated your solidarity with New Americans with every gift. When the future of our programs was at risk, you responded with generosity. Thank you.

DONORS

The following individuals and organizations helped advance the Institute's mission in refugee services, education, workforce development, and immigration services with generous gifts to the International Institute of Minnesota from October 1, 2024 – September 30, 2025.

\$300,000 - \$100,000

Fred C. and Katherine B. Andersen Foundation
Greater Twin Cities United Way
The Johnson Family Gift Fund
The Pat and Tom Grossman Family Fund
Target Foundation
Thrivent

\$99,999 - \$50,000

3M
Laura and Ben Cooper
Opus Foundation

\$49,999 - \$25,000

An Anonymous Fund of Headwaters Foundation for Justice
Anonymous
Asian Americans Advancing Justice-Southern California
Sharon and Randal Cochrane
F.R. Bigelow Foundation
Mark & Terri Henneman Community Fund
McKnight Foundation
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Myers Family Fund
Paul and Sheila Steiner Charitable Trust
RealTime Talent
Ruth and John Huss Fund

Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation
Tilney Kaemmer Fund of HRK Foundation

\$24,999 - \$10,000

Azek Cares Foundation
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Robert Carlson and Gregg Larson
Comcast
David M. Wark & Mary Ann Barrows Wark Foundation
Jane Graupman
Hardenbergh Foundation
HRK Foundation
Hugh J. Andersen Foundation
Kathy and Allen Lenzmeier
Jeffrey L Mandel, MD
Marbrook Foundation
Marsden
Valerie and David Pace
Philotimo Foundation
Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation
Jason Spaeth
U.S. Bank
The Zoffer Family Fund

\$9,999 - \$5,000

The Alces Trust
Allina Health
Ameriprise Financial
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Bond & Devick Wealth Partners
Carma Coon
Val Cunningham
Courtney Cushing
Kiernat and Robert Kiernat
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Presbyterian Homes and Services
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SJW Fund of the Minneapolis Foundation
St. Joan Of Arc Catholic Community
Sunrise Banks
The Susan Denk and Deborah Cundy Fund
The Farley Family Fund
Thomas and Andrea Moffatt Fund
Daniel Townsend
Bonnie Watkins and John Zakej
Elizabeth Welsh
Kayla Yang
\$4,999 - \$2,500
The Ann and David Heider Fund
Anonymous (2)

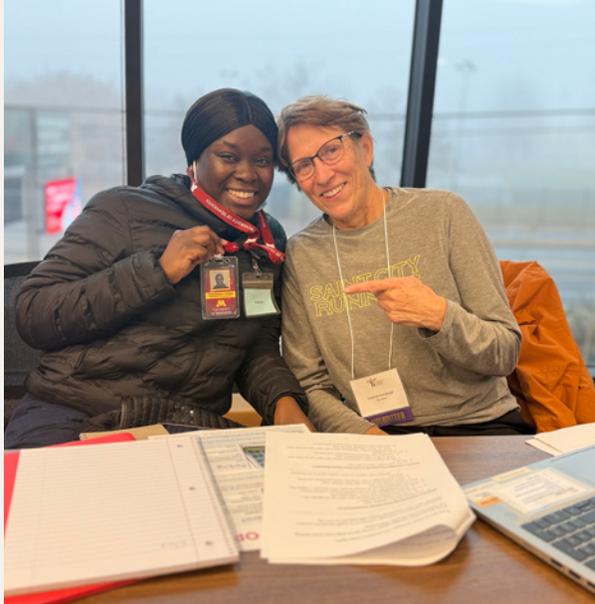
Terri Banaszewski
Sara Barsel and Randy Neprash
Bix Produce
Brent & Courtney Miller Giving Fund
Sherilyn and Andrew Burgdorf
June Cheng and Ron Garber
Christopherson Advocates, LLC
Contreras Edin Giving Account
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Dorsey & Whitney LLP
Fredrikson & Byron, P.A.
Mary and John Garcia
Mary and Rolf Gilbertson
Dixie and John Graupman
Rochelle Gunn and Jim Mayer
Lili Hall Scarpa
Hayden Family Fund
Abbe and Aaron Holmgren
Karen Hoyle
Jesse Okie & Mary Harrington Donor Advised Fund
John and Sue Stillman Fund
Charlotte and Ward Johnson
Jill and Chuck Koosmann



Please visit our online annual report for a complete listing of donors, including tribute gifts and memorials, volunteers, and government grants.

iimn.org/annual-report

Lindsey Kopp
 Land O'Lakes, Inc.
 Lee Family Charitable Fund
 Karen Lilley and David Hansen
 Steve Lindell
 Longview Foundation
 Mairs & Power
 Mary Ann Barrows Wark and David Wark
 Megan McEllistrem-Ramirez and Ray Ramirez
 NER Fund
 Andrea and James Rubenstein
 Asitha Sandanayake
 Paramita Sarkar
 Charles Schmidt
 Shindelar/Buck Donor Advised Fund
 Mary and Mark Sigmond
 SKSK Morris Family Fund
 St. Francis United Methodist Church
 Stahl Construction
 The Irene Qualters Fund
 The Sjaastad Family Charitable Fund
 Timothy and Susan Palmer Family Charitable Fund



Thank You, Volunteers!

This year was not without its challenges, but with the dedication of our amazing volunteer community, we have been able to adjust to the times and continue to meet the highest needs of our students and clients. To the 451 volunteers who walk alongside us day in and day out, thank you— for not only the time, skills, and energy you bring to the Institute, but your flexibility, adaptability, and willingness to help out in countless ways. Thank you for the numerous hours orienting newcomers to the community, assisting with filling out job applications, greeting clients with a smile at the front desk, working with students in classrooms, and so much more. We value all the ways that you make Minnesota welcoming for New Americans and we truly couldn't do this work without you.

View a complete list of our 2025 volunteers at iimn.org/annual-report.

By the Numbers:

451 volunteers, including 34 interns, served over 11,500 hours!

20 volunteer mentors matched with recently arrived refugees or survivors of human trafficking

65 clients learned how to navigate public transportation thanks to a Bus Buddy volunteer



REFUGEE SERVICES
3,251 hours



IMMIGRATION SERVICES
4,601 hours



EDUCATION
2,444 hours



WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
796 hours



GENERAL SUPPORT
412 hours

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Inspiring Confidence to Build a Lasting Legacy

“

My life and career will continue to be part of the Institute. My success will be part of the Institute. I am made by the Institute. If I can do it as a single mom, a single woman, any immigrant can do it.

— MIMI, Graduate of Nursing Assistant Training

Read her full story at iimn.org/annual-report/

IN 2025:

188 clients

entered healthcare careers, addressing the state's number one workforce shortage

69%

of workforce students were women

33%

wage increase among clients who sought our help to advance their careers

Board of Directors

OFFICERS

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President
Consultant

Evan Doran
Vice President
President, The Doran Group

Jon Justin
Secretary
Managing Director, Accenture

Kitty Gogins
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**Fatemeh (Mary)
Hedayatirad, Ph.D.**
Food Scientist, Educator,
R&D Scientist, General Mills

Charles Horwitz
Director, Government Contract
Compliance, 3M Company

Paul McEnaney-Rodriguez
Director of Market Intelligence,
UnitedHealth Group

Sam Myers
Retired Attorney, Nilan Johnson
Lewis PA

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Registered Nurse, North
Memorial Medical Center

Paramita Sarkar
Vice President & General
Manager, Ameriprise Financial

Kirsten Van Hulzen
Chief Human Resources
Officer, Marsden Services

Thank you to our former 2025 board members, Mary Miklethun (past President) and Megan Mason for their service.

2025 Financials

OCTOBER 1, 2024-SEPTEMBER 30, 2025

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

ASSETS

Total Current Assets	2,078,896
Investments	7,338,797
Other Assets	10,617
Property and Equipment - Net	11,600,814
Total Assets	21,029,124

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Liabilities

Total Current Liabilities	524,779
Total Liabilities	524,779

Net Assets

Without Donor Restrictions:	
Board Designated	2,145,630
Undesignated	17,954,371
Total Without Donor Restrictions	20,100,001
With Donor Restrictions	404,344
Total Net Assets	20,504,345
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	21,029,124

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

REVENUE

Government Grants	6,183,326
Contributions	2,786,735
Investment Income	777,550
Special Event Income	261,132
Program Service Fees	195,785
Other Income	110,149
Total Revenue	10,314,677

EXPENSES

Program Services

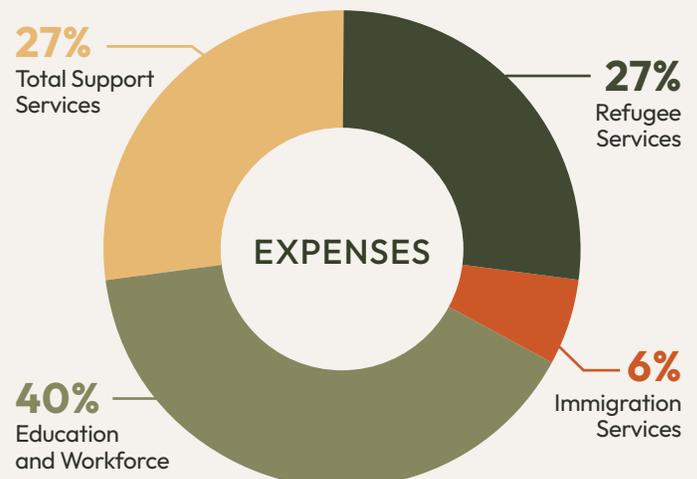
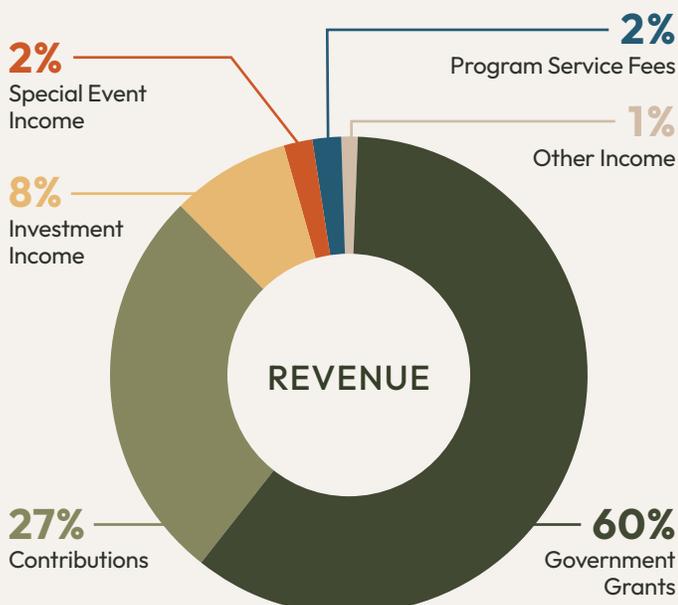
Education and Workforce	3,735,200
Refugee Services	2,517,556
Immigration Services	542,263
Total Program Services	6,795,019

Support Services

Management and General	1,757,314
Fundraising	779,655
Total Support Services	2,536,969

Total Expenses

Total Expenses	9,331,988
Net Revenue	982,689



“

The Institute gave me
all the tools, gave me
everything.

— CLAUDIA, Graduate of
College Readiness Academy



International
Institute of
Minnesota

Find more stories
and information at:
www.iimn.org

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