



International Institute of New England

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International Institute of New England Resettling Refugees Together in New England

The International Institute of New England (IINE) invites you to become part of a local response to one of the greatest humanitarian challenges of our time. Every day, we welcome refugees and other new Americans in the same way and in the same spirit as previous generations welcomed our parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents to the United States.

Today, there are more people forcibly displaced than at any other time since World War II, including an unprecedented 21 million refugees forced to flee their home countries to escape persecution.

At the Institute, our case managers and social workers help over 600 newly-arrived refugees rebuild their lives in New England each year. Refugees receive a small amount of short-term public assistance, and the Institute helps them to become self-sufficient as quickly as possible. At the same time, our staff helps families navigate a new culture while managing lingering health and mental health issues caused by violence, war, torture, and other extreme trauma.

“Today I am in school, I'm in college, I can speak English, I can do a lot of things.”

Claudine Kawaya, IINE-Lowell client
Turmoil behind, they rebuild, The Lowell Sun, September 18, 2016

“Refugees in the U.S. have a higher employment rate than [U.S.-born], and their earnings tend to rise rapidly over time, while their reliance on social assistance declines sharply.”

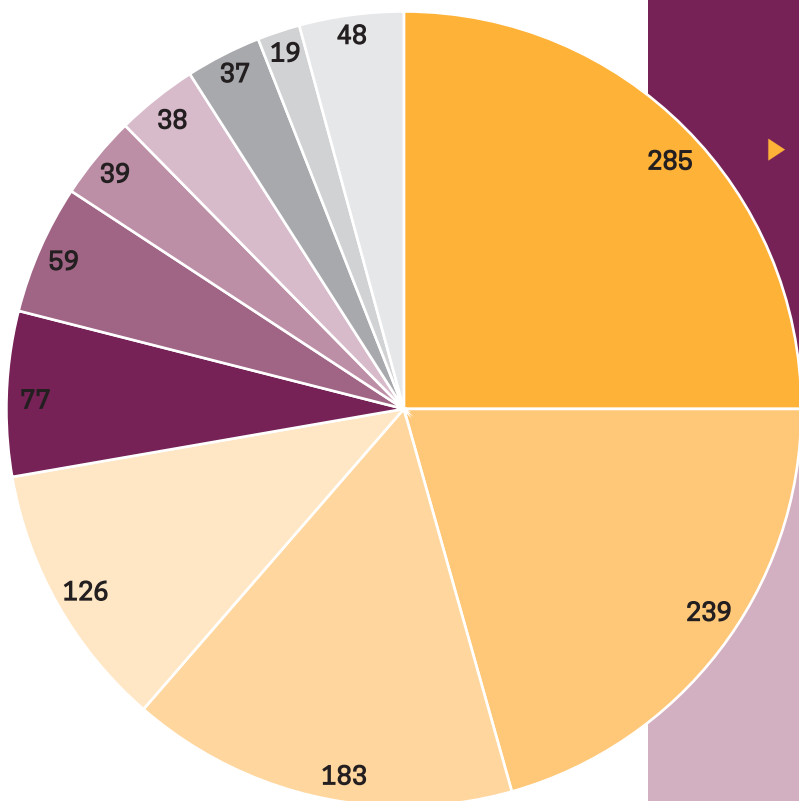
Philippe Legrain, Economist

Refugees Work: A Humanitarian Investment that Yields Economic Dividends, May 2016

Clients Served (October 1, 2015-September 30, 2016)

Country of Origin / FY16 Clients Served (Refugees, Special Immigrant Visas, Secondary Migrants)

Democratic Republic of the Congo	285
Iraq	239
Somalia	183
Bhutan	126
Myanmar/Burma	77
Afghanistan	59
Sudan	39
Syria	38
Eritrea	37
Burundi	19
Other	48



Local Response IINE Resettlement Overview

Across our operations in Boston, Lynn, and Lowell, Massachusetts, and Manchester and Nashua, New Hampshire, we serve refugee families and individuals who have lost everything – homes, material possessions, and financial resources. Many have lost loved ones; each has lost their homeland.

IINE’s refugee resettlement program moves newly-arrived families and individuals from instability to security by providing critical transitional support.

- ▶ **Pre-Arrival and Welcome:** We find a suitable apartment for each family, furnish it, and stock it with food and clothing.
- ▶ **Case Management:** Our case managers serve clients who have no existing work, rental, or credit history in the U.S., have limited health information, and have no former U.S. address. This is where we begin.
- ▶ **Cultural Orientation and English Instruction:** In their first 90 days in the country, adults enroll in the Institute’s cultural orientation and English for Employment (EFE) programming in order to give them the literacy skills they need to enter and succeed in the American workforce.
- ▶ **Job Readiness and Placement:** Our case management and employment specialists help clients build a household budget, assess each adult’s employability, provide workforce orientation and training, and finally, place clients in their first job.

In the past five years, IINE has resettled more than 3,000 refugees from 30 countries, and since 2012 has increased the number of refugees served annually by 28%.

The Institute is highly regulated by federal and state authorities. Year after year, we meet strict standards for program and service quality, which makes us an outstanding philanthropic investment.

A Public-Private Partnership

One of the United States' historic humanitarian traditions is the public-private partnership between the local, state, and federal government, and corporations, foundations, community groups, and individuals, to welcome and support refugees in their new communities. In this time of heightened persecution and humanitarian need, these partnerships are more critical than ever.

Federal resettlement funds support refugees in their first 90 days in the country, providing a one-time cash grant to each refugee intended to cover their rent, food, clothing, and transportation expenses over the entire three-month

period. Limited public funding provides cash support and case management services to refugees for an additional five to seven months, but taken together these funds only partially cover the full costs of professional services for refugees during their first year in the U.S.

To supplement this resource gap and ensure that clients receive the services they require, the Institute seeks to raise an additional \$1,000 per refugee.



A Family Reunited The Perez Family

For most of his childhood, Manuel Perez only saw his mother in pictures. She had left their native El Salvador for the United States when he was five, seeking the means to ensure a safer life for a family living in a country beset by increasingly deadly gang violence. Year after year, she sent whatever money she could save home to her father, who raised Manuel and made sure he received the education and protection that a good school could afford. A bright student, Manuel went on to university, where he learned, among other subjects, English.

In Massachusetts, his mother continued to work and hope that she could reunite her family in the U.S., far from the ever-present threat of gangs. When President Obama created a special refugee program in 2014 for minors seeking protection from violence in Central America, it seemed like her dream could finally become a reality. As a lawful immigrant, Manuel's mother could apply for her son and also her father, as Manuel's legal guardian, to join her through the federal resettlement program. IINE-Boston

Community Services Manager Courtney White helped her to navigate the application process, explaining that if approved for resettlement, the Institute would be there to help welcome and support Manuel and his grandfather on arrival.

After 16 years of separation, Manuel finally reunited with his mother in September 2016. Regretfully, this reunion was bittersweet without his grandfather, who was killed earlier in the year, allegedly by gang members. Like his grandfather, Manuel has now assumed the role of protector for his two younger, American-born brothers, helping his mother to care for them while working and catching up on his studies. Ultimately, he hopes to return to college to study business.

“You think that once [refugees are] in the U.S. they'll be OK. And they are. But they have so many problems still... You never realize that until you're involved and you see what people are going through.”

Amanda Mujica, Plymouth Congregational Church
An outpouring of support for refugees, The Boston Globe, October 14, 2016



A Future to Build Upon

The Kaway Family

All Michel Kaway has ever wanted is a good life for his children. It's why the father of three first fled his native Democratic Republic of the Congo (then Zaire) for a refugee camp in a neighboring country after his family's political ties made him a target of security forces and vigilante groups. But, life in a camp offers minimal stability and scant opportunity for families, with adults largely barred from legally working and children prohibited from attending school past the primary level.

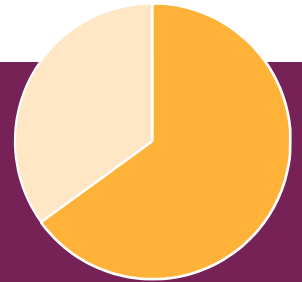
All of that changed, however, when Michel's family was resettled in Lowell four years ago. IINE-Lowell case workers helped Michel enroll his daughters in school, and worked with him and his wife, Marianne, to find jobs and begin to learn English. With the support of our staff, the family was able to stabilize financially, and finally start planning for the long term. Michel and Marianne saved enough to purchase a car, and their eldest daughter has since graduated from high school and is now attending college. Most recently, with the support of Habitat for Humanity, and the use of their own savings, the family achieved the milestone of homeownership and moved into their new home in time to celebrate the new year.

Because of generous support from the Institute, their future is bright.

IINE Funding Sources

Public vs. Private Funding

Public 65%
Private 35%



Music in Manchester

The Humagain Family

Rajesh Humagain, his wife Shanta Lama, and their son Manish arrived in New Hampshire from Nepal in the summer of 2016. With the help and support of the local Manchester community, the Humagain family attained economic self-sufficiency and successfully became active and engaged members of the community. Rajesh currently works with disabled youth as a residential counselor at Crotched Mountain, and Shanta works at Enviro-Tote, a promotional product supplier that sells reusable tote bags. Manish, who is thriving as a full-time student at Manchester Community College, joined the IINE-Manchester site office as a Nepali interpreter for the Institute's Bhutanese clients. The Humagains have remained a very close-knit family during their transition to a new community and have bonded over their love of music. In their spare time, they perform together.

“Newcomers become significant contributors to our society, sharing linguistic and cultural assets, as well as innovative ideas, entrepreneurial skills, and drive.”

Center for Applied Linguistics, “Immigrant & Refugee Integration”