

ANNUAL REPORT

world relief[®]
SPOKANE

01

SERVICES & OUTREACH

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When we work together, we are a force for good and change. Last year, with your help, refugees and other immigrants flourished in Spokane. Take a look:

2,924

REFUGEES AND OTHER IMMIGRANTS IMPACTED
IN 2020, INCLUDING:

153

NEW JOBS

151

NEW ARRIVALS

115

NEW CITIZENS

229

NEW GREEN CARD
HOLDERS

617

RECEIVED
LEGAL HELP



02

PANDEMIC RELIEF

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For many of our refugee & other immigrant neighbors, COVID-19 was not only a global crisis, but a personal one as well. Here's how you provided so that others could stay on the path to self-sufficiency:

\$124,800

WORTH OF FOOD DONATIONS RECEIVED AND DISTRIBUTED TO FAMILIES. DONATED BY SPOKANE SECOND HARVEST AND INLAND NORTHWEST FARMERS MARKET ASSOC.

1,129

CALLS TO ASSESS NEEDS DURING COVID-19

312

FAMILIES CONNECTED TO COVID-19 RELIEF SERVICES

125

PEOPLE REFERRED BY COMMUNITY AMBASSADORS TO WORLD RELIEF SERVICES

35

FAMILIES ASSISTED WITH RENT & OTHER URGENT EXPENSES

COMMUNITY AMBASSADORS

This new, strategic, and refugee-led movement is opening new ways for Spokane volunteers, churches and organizations to get involved. The Community Ambassadors are a team of leaders from the former refugee and immigrant communities, and are equipped with linguistic and cultural knowledge that spans continents. CAs are delivering food, PPE, and referring former refugees and other immigrants to additional World Relief services.

PICTURED: Pat Castaneda, the CA program manager, talks with a community member at a food distribution drive through this summer.



03

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

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Community partners throughout the region stepped up to help address the COVID-19 pandemic and other needs. Take a look:

40

PARTNER
CHURCHES

60

PARTNER
ORGANIZATIONS

77

BUSINESSES THAT
EMPLOYED REFUGEES

323

VOLUNTEERS

706

DONORS



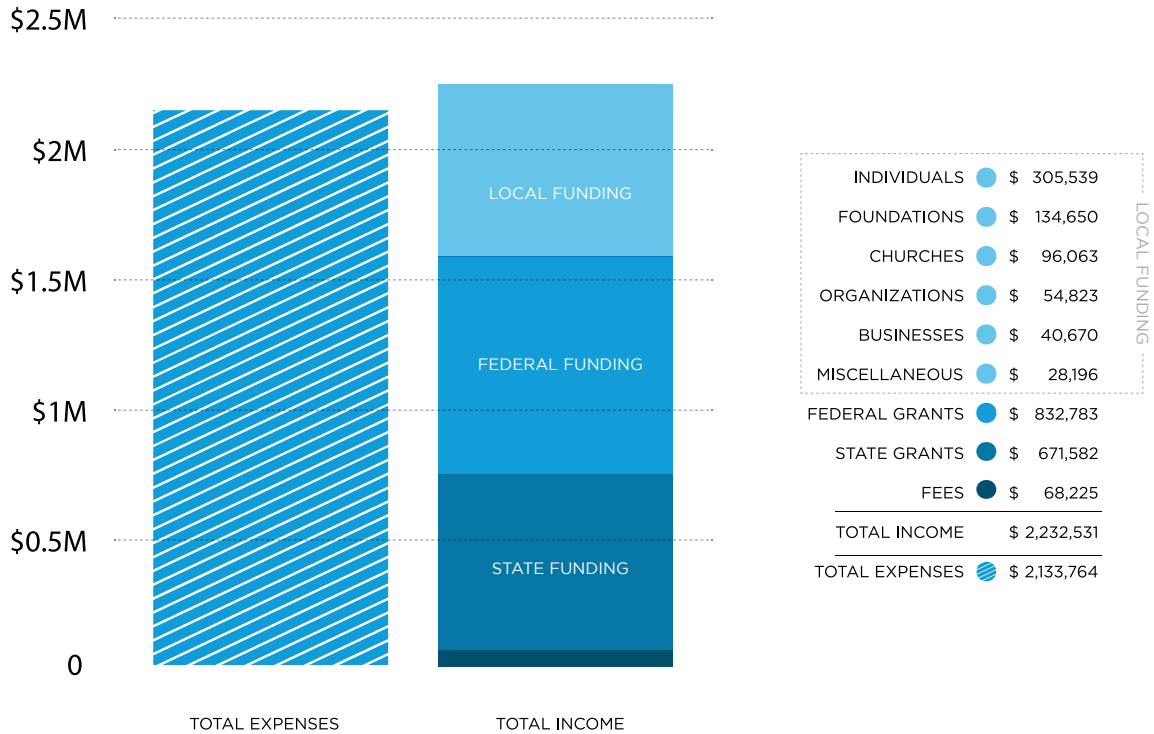
In June, a healthcare worker from the refugee community needed a bike to commute to the senior living facility where she worked. Because taking the bus puts her and her patients at higher risk for COVID-19, alternative transportation was becoming a matter of safety. Kourtney, a WR volunteer, showed up to deliver a bike and helmet to her this summer. He is an excellent example of the hard work and commitment all our volunteers show.

04

FUNDING

Your investment helped refugees flourish in Spokane. Your faithful support is changing our community for the better.

2020/FUNDING



Just before 8 p.m. on the last day of September, eight weary travelers touched down on the tarmac at Spokane International Airport and caught their first glimpse of their new home, more than 7,000 miles from the refugee camp where they had spent the past 14 years.

Bu Hae Gay and her husband, Pu Pu, entered the terminal with their six kids, ages 1 to 13, who had never known life beyond the barbed wire fence that surrounds the Mae La refugee camp in Thailand. About a dozen friends and relatives were there to greet them, including Bu Hae's sister, Aye Naw Win, who arrived in Spokane with their mother in 2007.

"I was so happy to meet all the family, including my mother and sister, whom I hadn't seen in 13 years," she told us later through an interpreter.



WINTER/2021

PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

WORLD RELIEF SPOKANE

1522 N. Washington Street, Suite 200, Spokane, WA 99201



Dear Friends,

2020 was among the most difficult years World Relief Spokane has ever faced. America hit an all-time low in the number of refugees who made it through the grueling application process — less than 12,000. Many who were resettled in previous years were swept over by a tsunami of layoffs, finding themselves vulnerable once again. The COVID-19 pandemic tore through our immigrant communities, stifled volunteer support, and forced our staff overnight to work remotely. And yet, in the midst of adversity this movement showed its truest colors. Spokane stood strong with our foreign-born neighbors. More donations were given than ever before. More refugees and other immigrants found support through World Relief Spokane than any prior year. And more innovation emerged this year than we've ever seen—women supporting their families by sewing masks, new emotional health groups, a team of immigrant community ambassadors, volunteers tutoring kids over zoom, and much more.

I learned a great deal about resilience this year from my immigrant friends. Most of all I learned that we can overcome anything when we stand together.

Looking ahead with great optimism,

Handwritten signature of Mark Finney in blue ink.

Mark Finney
Executive Director, World Relief Spokane

**A WORD
FROM OUR
DIRECTOR**

