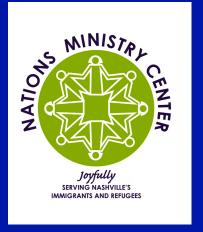


Investing in Hope ...

ANNUAL REPORT 2013



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Dear Friend,

JOBS. EDUCATION. FAMILY.

That's what Nations Ministry Center is all about. Our mission is to walk with refugee families as they secure employment, seek successful education opportunities, and build strong families. Our mission is advancing the American dream.

Thanks to your enduring generosity, we continue to serve families who have fled persecution, been resettled in America by the US government, and now seek to rebuild their lives. You make it possible for our over 250 volunteers to join with our staff in investing in hope for refugee families.

We celebrate 2013 successes and look forward to 2014 achievements in growing our after-school program and improving the quality of service, in increasing our presence in south Nashville, and expanding our jobs program and the DREAM Fund for vocational training.

In 2013, with you as our partners, Nations Ministry Center:

- Placed 69 refugees in jobs and 80% kept those jobs for at least 90 days with job placements averaging an hourly wage of \$8.88
- Provided job coaching to another 80 clients
- Assisted over 200 refugees with over 1,470 individual consultations to help families integrate into the American fabric
- Facilitated 250 volunteers giving 4,098 hours in four programs
- Served 52 children through after-school and summer reading programs

- Assisted more than 40 refugees in acquiring green cards and becoming US citizens
- Became accredited by the Department of Justice Board of Immigration Appeals
- Executive Director was a CNM Executive Director of the Year Award Finalist
- Provided DREAM Fund microgrants and loans to 19 newcomers who are pursuing vocational training
- Implemented an on-line reading improvement program to help children learn English

Thank you for investing in hope in the Nashville community.

MINISTRA CENTER Joyfully SERVING NASHVILLES

Sincerely, Chris Lovingood

Chris Lovingood Executive Director

in the community

jobs



Ciin came with her family to the United States from Burma in February 2012. In Burma, she was a registered nurse for 15 years, but her credentials are not immediately acceptable in the United States. Ciin spoke very little English when she arrived, but after attending English classes at Nations Ministry, she quickly learned how to communicate.

In August, she began academic English classes at Nashville State with help from Nations Ministry's DREAM Fund. Now, she is in her second semester and is honing her English skills by meeting with our Vanderbilt Divinity School intern once a week. The intern connected Ciin to Siloam, a medical clinic where many refugees receive health screenings, and she will begin volunteering there this month, translating and assisting with vital signs. And Ciin has already begun paying back her DREAM Fund microloan so other refugees may gain job readiness skills. Thanks to your generosity, Ciin is on her way to a healthcare career, and we look forward to keeping you informed as the story unfolds.

education



Ibrahim, from our cover, moved to the US with his mother in 2012 after his father passed away in Iraq. His traumatic past affected his performance in school. Last fall he started first grade as a struggling reader. He didn't enjoy reading out loud or doing his homework.

Six months later, he is an avid reader in our after school program, confidently completing his homework, comprehending the reading and retaining information. He races to finish his homework so he will have time to read a book. He loves to read the signs that we pass on the bus on the way home from school. It's amazing to see the tenacity he has gained through learning to read! We are able to provide Ibrahim with a firm foundation and allow him to reach his potential.

His Charlotte Park teacher recently said, "Don't know what you all do with him but he's been an entirely different student. Now he comes up to me every morning and greets me in English. His math skills have improved and he's interacting with other students now; sometimes he even comes to me to tattle, in English."

family



Ciin (profiled on the left) and her husband Khup along with their family fled persecution in Burma and were resettled to Nashville by the US government in 2012. They came to our English classes, and their youngest daughter attended our preschool. We eventually enrolled her in Head Start. We also helped enroll their son Pau at LEAD Academy. Even though Pau was new to America, he learned English quickly and is excelling at LEAD. He and his sister who is a Charlotte Park student participate in our after-school program and are on the path to successful lives.

When their family needed to apply for their green cards (which every refugee must do after being in the US for one year), we were happy to assist them. We saved their family \$1,500 in fees they might have paid for this assistance.

Khup works two jobs—one at the Green Hills Whole Foods and another in a restaurant—and their mother is preparing for a career in healthcare. They are beginning to live the American dream. This family will make America a better nation.

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Bellevue Presbyterian Church
Downtown Presbyterian Church
First Presbyterian Church
Harpeth Community Church
Hillsboro Presbyterian Church
Presbyterian Campus Ministries
Presbytery of Middle Tennessee
Second Presbyterian Church
St. George's Episcopal Church
Trinity Presbyterian Church
Westminster Presbyterian Church
Westminster Alternative
Christmas Marketplace
Woodmont Christian Church

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Week of Hope

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with our volunteers

"When I first started volunteering at Nations Ministry, I appreciated the chance to help prepare students for the citizenship test and improve their English skills. In the process, I have been able to learn some of their stories, and have come to realize what a courageous group of people I am privileged to help. Many of my students come to class after having worked their night shift, gotten their children off to school, and maybe snuck in a few hours of sleep. Their perseverance in the face of numerous challenges has been an inspiration to me in my work." — Don, Westminster Presbyterian Church member



"I guess I at first volunteered because I needed service hours, but I really love spending time with the kids and helping them with homework. I love seeing them get really excited when they read a book or figure out a math problem they've been struggling with."

— J.D., a junior at Father Ryan



with your gifts

REVENUE		EXPENSES		
Churches Individuals Organizations and Foundations Tennessee Office for Refugees Special Events/Other	\$52,771.48 \$53,811.07 \$93,236.44 \$61,270.56 \$7,794.57	Programs Administration Fundraising	\$223,966.26 \$ 18,493.32 \$ 10,460.95	
TOTAL	\$268,884.12	TOTAL	\$252,923.53	
NET INCOME: \$15,960.59		See our Givingmatters.com p	See our Givingmatters.com profile for complete financials.	