

2009 Annual Report

Project FINE

Focus on Integrating Newcomers through Education

*Strengthening
and enriching
our community
by facilitating
the integration
of people who
are ethnically
diverse.*



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About Project FINE



Project FINE is a private, non-profit organization based in Winona, MN, dedicated to easing the integration of ethnically diverse people into the local community. To accomplish this goal, we provide culturally and linguistically appropriate services and education. We also connect newcomers with existing services in our community. Our work is accomplished by a small staff, a dedicated Board of Directors, volunteers and extraordinary partners in our community.

Geographical Area Served:

We are proud to be able to
Winona County and the surrounding region.



Our Mission:

To strengthen and enrich our community by facilitating the integration of people who are ethnically diverse.

Our Vision:

To create a respectful and sensitive community.

“Partnering with Project FINE is always such a pleasurable experience. The staff members are extremely knowledgeable and resourceful and the quality of their work is unsurpassed. The entire region benefits from having such a vital resource in the Winona area.”

Connie J. Gores, Ph.D., Vice President for Student Life and Development, Winona State University

Our Values

People:

We treat everyone as individuals and appreciate each person's uniqueness.

Family:

We support and assist families through the process of building new lives in our communities.

Cultural Sensitivity:

We serve our community in a culturally and linguistically appropriate manner.

Respect:

We serve our clients with dignity and respect; we are compassionate and sensitive to their needs.

Diversity:

We honor and celebrate diversity

Collaboration:

We create partnerships with community businesses, organizations and individuals to assist our clients and to build a sensitive community.



Executive Director's Message

Dear Friends,

It is my pleasure to present the 2009 Project FINE Annual Report. In the years that I have been involved with Project FINE, the organization has traveled far beyond my wildest dreams. We continue to fulfill our mission through programs that make a fundamental impact in people's lives as well as the entire community.

2009 has been a strong year for us – full of growth and opportunities, as well as challenges. The report describes new programs and new contracts for services. Partnership continues to play a vital role in our organization; during the past year we maintained strong partnerships and developed new relationships as well. Through these partnerships, we were able to serve more clients in 2009 than ever before.

April brought yet another test of our disaster preparedness when the North Star plant in St. Charles was destroyed by fire and hundreds of jobs were lost. Project FINE worked shoulder to shoulder with the St. Charles community through the disaster, and had a meaningful impact in the lives of many individuals and families. We continue to work with the community as they cope with this huge devastation.

All of the remarkable accomplishments described in the report were possible because of our extraordinary partnerships, a dedicated Board of Directors, and passionate staff. I have been blessed to have walked this journey with all of you. I am positive that with your continued support, Project FINE will accomplish even more in the future.

Fatima Said

Fatima Said
Executive Director



“It has been wonderful working with Fatima and the incredible staff at Project FINE - they are clearly passionate about the students and families they serve. Winona is fortunate to have an organization that understands the needs of its' community and provides services to address the needs.”

Hannah Chan, MN Outreach Consultant, Great Lakes Higher Education Guaranty Corporation

Board President's Message

Since its inception in 1990, Project FINE has been committed to strengthening and enriching our community by facilitating the incorporation of people who are ethnically diverse. This year, 2010, marks a major milestone for Project FINE, as we will celebrate our 20th Anniversary. Since 1990, the face of Winona has changed dramatically; today more than 42 different languages are spoken in Winona County. In response to this increased diversity, Project FINE has expanded its programs and serve more newcomers than ever before.



It has been my privilege to chair the Board of Directors for the past three years. They have been exciting years during which the Board and staff have worked together in pursuit of our mission and vision. Strong leadership is essential to success, and Project FINE is very fortunate to have not only a dedicated Board of Directors, but also the passionate and diligent leadership of Fatima Said, our Executive Director. She has assembled a staff of exceptional individuals who are committed to the mission and vision of the organization and who function as an effective and efficient team under her direction.

In December 2006, the staff and Board of Directors developed a strategic plan, which outlined community needs and strategies for meeting the needs of immigrants and refugees who have chosen to live among us and for maintain Winona as a welcoming community.. We now have accomplished all of the goals called for in the plan. Accordingly, Project FINE will conduct an assessment in 2010 to identify unmet needs and opportunities for service to our neighbors and the community. The Board and the staff will draft a new strategic plan, one that will guide the organization through the challenges and opportunities that the next few years will bring. We will engage our stakeholders in the planning process as we continue to work towards our vision – *to create a respectful and sensitive community.*

Our vision remains a community that welcomes and respects diversity. With hard work, leadership and most importantly, the support of the community, we will continue to be successful.

Justin Green

Justin Green
Board President, 2006-2009

“The experience of being a newcomer to a community can for many be very stressful. Feelings of isolation and uncertainty can be magnified for those who are dealing with cultural and language barriers. The Project FINE staff understand these stressors and have worked with our students, families and staff to make Winona a better place to learn and live. They definitely are strong and welcome advocates for our newest residents!”

Paul D. Durand, Superintendent of Schools, District #861 - Winona Area Public Schools

Language Services

Giving a Voice

In 2009, Project FINE continued to expand our language services by increasing both the number of interpreters and the number of languages offered. We are proud to be the only organization in Winona County that provides professional interpretation and translation services for individuals and businesses. Our medical interpreter services are credentialed by the State of Minnesota, and Project FINE also has expertise in legal documents and procedures, including trials. With a roster of over 63 interpreters proficient in 24 different languages, Project FINE is able to communicate the needs of our limited-English-speaking clients, and let their voices be heard. Languages for which services are available include:

Arabic	Hmong	Romanian
Bosnian	Italian	Russian
Bulgarian	Japanese	Sign Language
Cambodian	Korean	Somali
Czech	Laotian	Spanish
Dinka	Mandarin	Thai
French	Nepali	Tibetan
German	Portuguese	Vietnamese

Project FINE requires that all interpreters receive comprehensive training related to the ethical and legal issues interpreters face. Interpreters also participate in quarterly training sessions for continued education. Project FINE also offers clients and service providers 24 hour service via an emergency contact number.

In 2009, Project FINE provided more than 2,183 hours of interpretation and translation services. We would like to thank all of our interpreters for their services, and their commitment to voicing the needs of our clients.



“Project FINE has worked to meet a defined and important need in our community. We are fortunate to have a strong partnership with Project FINE that assists our clients and patients to ensure specific healthcare needs are met. This is a value for all involved.”

Rachelle Schultz, President & CEO, Winona Health

Diversity Training

Increasing Understanding

In 2009, Project FINE continued to offer “Building Cultural Competency” training sessions for educational institutions, businesses, government agencies, and social service providers. The Winona area is becoming increasingly diverse, and we are committed to offering education and insight to build a welcoming and sensitive community.

Each training session is unique, and provides clients with relevant information to help meet the needs of their employees and customers. Typical training sessions cover cultural information, such as customs, beliefs, and family structure; common obstacles to employment and service access; and personal stories.

In 2009, Building Cultural Competency training sessions were provided to:

- City of Winona
- Winona Area Public Schools
- Cotter High School
- Minnesota City Bus Company
- Winona National Bank
- Workforce Center
- American Business Women's Association, Rochester MN
- Home & Community Options
- Ridgeway Community School
- MN State College - Southeast Technical
- Winona County Department of Human Services
- Philanthropic Educational Organization
- Human Resources Professionals
- MN Department of Corrections
- Winona State University



“Project FINE has worked to strengthen the cultural understanding within our faculty, staff and students at Southeast Tech. Fatima and her staff have been committed to helping us learn as much as we can about the people in our communities. By learning more about each other, we all gain a better understanding and become more inclusive.”

Nate Emerson, Vice President, MN State College - Southeast Technical

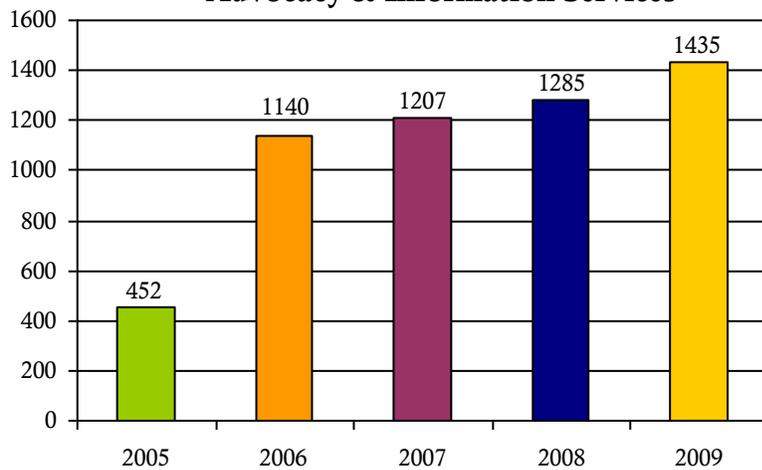
Advocacy & Information Referrals

Making Connections

Project FINE continues to offer advocacy and information referrals for newcomers as they adjust to life in the United States and become self-sufficient. We connect newcomer families with community services and provide linguistically appropriate information and referrals. We also assist newcomers in their interactions with schools, health care providers, law enforcement officers, and other government agencies.

Through our advocacy and information referrals, connections are made that benefit not only our limited-English speaking clients, but also the entire community. In 2009, Project FINE provided 4,407 hours of service to more than 1,435 newcomers in our community.

**Newcomers Served by Project FINE's
Advocacy & Information Services**



“Staff in the Family, Adult and Children’s units at the Winona County Department of Human Services comment often about the professional, approachable staff of Project FINE. This agency is very dependent on the services of Project FINE. Thank you for another year of being there for us.”

Julie A. Thompson, Social Services Manager, Winona County Department of Human Services

Disaster Response 2009

North Star Foods Fire, St. Charles

On April 17, 2009, a fire broke out at the North Star Foods factory in downtown St. Charles. What began as a small fire quickly spread throughout the building, causing the whole factory to burn down and releasing toxic fumes into the air. The entire community was affected by the fire, including many of Project FINE's Spanish-speaking clients.



Because of the dangerous fumes, the city was evacuated, and Project FINE was immediately on the scene to assist the St. Charles community. Project FINE staff and interpreters traveled to the different shelters, checking on clients and providing language services to emergency services professionals.



Since April 17, Project FINE has continued to assist families who lost their jobs due to the fire. Many of our clients were employed by North Star Foods, and the fire had a major impact in the immigrant community.

Over 200 individuals and their families have been assisted as they have overcome this obstacle. Project FINE staff and volunteers provided more than 150 hours of interpreting, translating and advocacy Services, most of which was provided in-kind.



“Our community suffered a major loss when North Star Foods was destroyed by fire, but the damages went much further than the loss of a building. We truly lost one of our greatest assets, the employees of the plant. Many of these employees were fortunate to have received the assistance of Project FINE. A building can be rebuilt, but the loss for the community will take years to replace.”

Bill Spitzer, Mayor, City of St. Charles

Navigating Community Systems

Empowering Clients

Many newcomers come to the United States and face not only language barriers, but also a culture and society that is different than their home country. Through this educational initiative, Project FINE provides information to newcomers about distinctively American social and structural systems, such as banking, housing, health care and employment.

With funds allocated by the United Way of the Greater Winona Area, as well as other business partners, Project FINE is able to offer educational sessions and workshops on a wide variety of topics. Over the years, many programs have grown out of this initiative, including educational sessions on the banking system, childbirth, U.S. Citizenship, entrepreneurship, and the American criminal justice system, as well as employment services. In 2009, we continued these educational efforts with clients on an individual basis.



Lee's Story

My name is Lee Xiong. My family came to this country from Laos because we supported the United States during the Vietnam War. I am a single mother of 13 children, including seven who live with me. My family moved from Hennepin County to the Winona area in June 2008. When I first moved here, Project FINE took me into their arms and provided me with their interpreting services and advocated for my family by helping us find housing; connecting me with public services; helping my children enroll in school; finding employment for my son; and meeting many more of my family's needs.

My children are very shy, but Project FINE introduced us to the Diversity Youth Quest program and they made friends quickly. My children come home and tell me of all the great things that they learned through the program events. One of my biggest concerns regards my 18 year old son who is hard of hearing and needs to have a sign language interpreter. Project FINE has helped remedy this situation by providing interpreting services for his appointments.

I am very grateful for all of the things that Project FINE has done for my family. Thank you.

“As a result of our Council’s ongoing collaborative partnership with Project FINE, the residents of Winona County have been provided with several unique and wonderful opportunities to learn more about the justice system. We look forward to working on many more successful projects with Project FINE in the future!”

Kalene Engel, Executive Director, Winona County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council

College Education Connection

Preparing for the future

This program is designed to provide academic support, motivation and access to resources for immigrant youth as they pursue post-secondary education. This goal is accomplished through monthly sessions for parents and students which focus on general high school and post-secondary information, completing college applications, financial aid, and ACT/SAT applications.



A simplified version of the program was held in 2006, with great success. Through the support of the Great Lakes Higher Education Guaranty Corporation, this program was expanded and re-introduced in July of 2009. The program consists of monthly informational sessions for parents and students, held in both Winona and St Charles. The program coordinator also spends time in three area high schools (Winona, Lewiston-Altura, and St Charles), assisting Students as they prepare for their future.

The program has been a huge success, with over 79 participants from July-December 2009. To date, 12 participants have applied for college, and many more students are preparing to apply.



“We are proud to support Project FINE’s College Education Connection program that helps students and families learn about post-secondary options. Project FINE truly understands that a college education provides students with more options and opportunities in life and is the key to building an educated workforce in our communities.”

Hannah Chan, MN Outreach Consultant, Great Lakes Higher Education Guaranty Corporation

Diversity Youth Quest

Promoting a Healthy Tomorrow

Since 2007, the Diversity Youth Quest program has grown significantly and has touched the lives of several hundred participants and their families. The program is designed to help middle and high school youth from immigrant families overcome the challenges of growing up in two cultures. Adolescence is a challenge for all youth, however language and cultural barriers create additional obstacles for newcomer youth. Diversity Youth Quest addresses these challenges, particularly mental health and social adjustment issues.



The program consists of monthly sessions by local professionals, which address the unique needs of participants. Presentations are held in both Winona and St Charles, and include supporting activities designed to build self-esteem and teamwork. The program continues to grow, with over 100 unduplicated participants in the 2008-2009 program year (August-July), and even more participants expected for 2009-2010.

Grants from the Blue Cross and Blue Shield of MN Foundation, Mardag Foundation, and the Winona Community Foundation will fund this program for another year. In 2009, the program also received additional funding from the Blue Cross and Blue Shield of MN Foundation's "Resilient Organizations Fund" to increase the capacity of the program through strategic partnerships with professionals in the areas of mental health and social adjustment.



"Students struggle between their own identity and that of their families no matter where they are from as they go through adolescence. Empowering the students that come to Diversity Youth Quest to learn about their world can make an exciting difference in their lives. I am grateful to be introduced to such a progressive program with people who are really passionate about its success."

Miranda Peterson, Mentor

Community Involvement and Events

Homes We Left Behind

This display depicted the various homes of immigrants and refugees from yesterday and today. This was the second project in collaboration with the Luxembourg American Cultural Society, the Winona Public Library and the City of Winona. Many immigrants and refugees in the Winona community shared their pictures for the event, and a reception for was held on January 10, 2009.

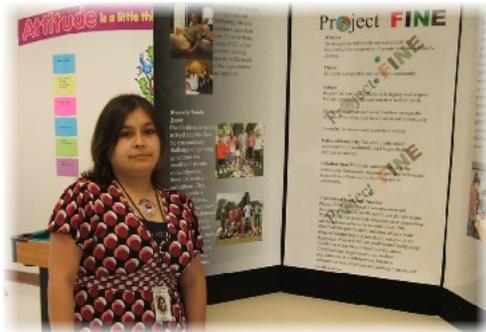


Annual Report to the Community for the Year 2009

This event is Project FINE's way of showing our appreciation and sharing our accomplishments of the previous year. It is also an opportunity for us to thank our partners and benefactors.

Human Rights Mediation

In keeping with the vision of Project FINE, the organization has worked in close partnership with the Winona Human Rights Commission to protect the rights of all community members. During 2009, the organization provided mediation services for 5 human rights cases.



Staying Well During Hard Times

Held on April 22, 2009, this health fair was designed to promote health and fitness for individuals who have lost their jobs or been impacted by economic hardship. Project FINE participated in the event, along with many other local organizations and health care providers.

Winona Newcomers Guide

Project FINE participated in this ongoing project, designed by the City of Winona. The organization provided information and cultural consultation to the City for the creation of the guide, which is designed for immigrants and refugees as well as international visitors and students. The guide gives newcomers insight into Winona, including information about the city, as well as the educational system and other community institutions.

CYFAR (Children, Youth and Families at Risk)

Project FINE participated in this three year project, organized by the University of Minnesota Extension Office, Winona County. Beginning in 2009, the program is designed to expose middle school students to science, and encourages them to set short and long term goals. Project FINE provided translation, interpretation services for the program, and was involved in recruiting the youth.



Community Involvement and Events

Winona County Fair

In July, Project FINE partnered with the Winona County Sheriff's Department and the Winona Criminal Justice Coordinating Council to host an informational display at the Winona County Fair. This event was a wonderful opportunity to increase awareness of the organization.



Healthy Kids Club

Project FINE continues to support Healthy Kids Club through event participation and presentations. In 2009, Project FINE presented at Camp Healthy Kids Club in July, and participated in the 2009 Healthy Olympics Kick-Off Event.



Fourth Annual Taste of International Cuisine

This annual fundraising event is an evening of cultural sharing that promotes the Project FINE mission and vision. Held on August 4th, attendees enjoyed delicious international dishes and a performance of "Fresh Off the Boat" by Mu Performing Arts.



Interpreter Potluck

In August, Project FINE hosted the 8th Annual Interpreter Potluck. Board members, interpreters, and staff shared international dishes, friendship and interactive games.

Winona State University Freshman Walking Tour

For the second year, Project FINE participated in the Freshman Walking Tour sponsored by Winona State University. Despite rainy weather, an estimated 175 students visited the Project FINE office to learn about the organization and its mission.



Gladiolus Days Parade

On August 30, Project FINE staff and youth program participants walked in the Gladiolus Days Parade in St. Charles. This is the third year that Project FINE has been involved in the parade, and it was a wonderful time!

Project FINE Welcomes New County Administrator

At the request of our clients, Project FINE held a dinner at the Community Center in St. Charles to welcome the new Winona County Administrator, Duane Hebert, to our area. Community members shared international dishes and had an opportunity to meet and talk with Mr. Hebert.



Community Involvement and Events



Winona County Courthouse Open House

On October 4, the Winona County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council hosted a Courthouse Open House for the community. Guided tours of the courthouse were provided, along with a trial re-enactment and other activities. Project FINE participated in the event by providing volunteer support, as well as translation and interpretation services.

Gifts for Winona

In 2009, Project FINE participated in the Gifts for Winona program, organized by Saint Mary's University by promoting the program and helping clients register.

Volunteer Fair, Winona State University and Saint Mary's University

On November 3, Saint Mary's University and Winona State University held a volunteer fair for local organizations. Project FINE hosted a booth at the fair as an opportunity to recruit student volunteers.

Toys for Tots

Project FINE attended the Annual Toys for Tots event on December 12 at the Winona Mall. Several volunteers offered interpreting services and helped distribute toys.

Recognition

Recipient, League of Minnesota Human Rights Commissions Award

Project FINE is proud to have received this award, which honors individuals and/or organizations that have made outstanding contributions concerning human rights issues. We would like to thank the City of Winona Human Rights Commission for their nomination and continued support. The following is an excerpt from the nomination:

"The Winona Human Rights Commission strongly believes that Project FINE's long list of accomplishments makes it one of the premier Minnesota organizations fighting for Human Rights... The hard work and concrete accomplishment of this organization deserves immediate recognition."

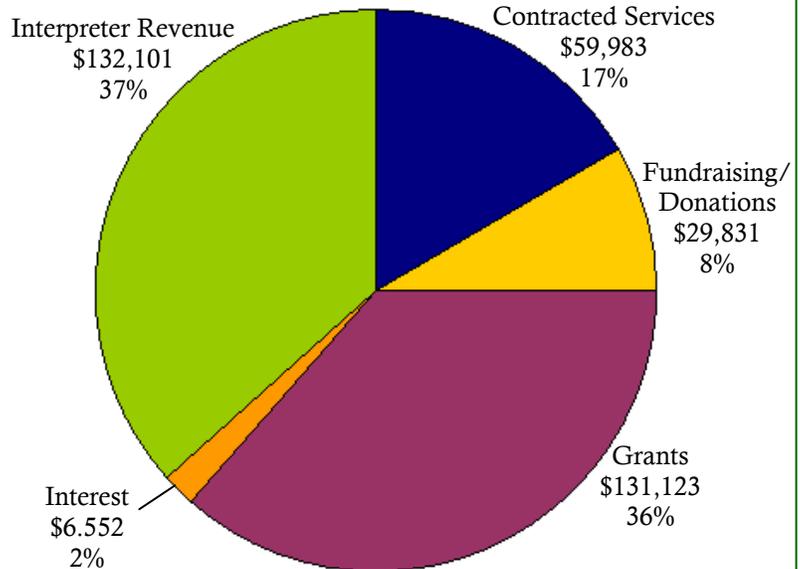
"As someone who professionally runs a museum depicting 18th and 19th century immigration, I am well aware of the many challenges and barriers that immigrants face beginning a new life in America. Project FINE is doing amazing things to help today's immigrant find their place within the American dream. Their outreach through education, direct services, and networking is often unsung and nothing short of heroic!"

Kevin Wester, Director, Luxembourg American Cultural Center

Financial Summary for 2009

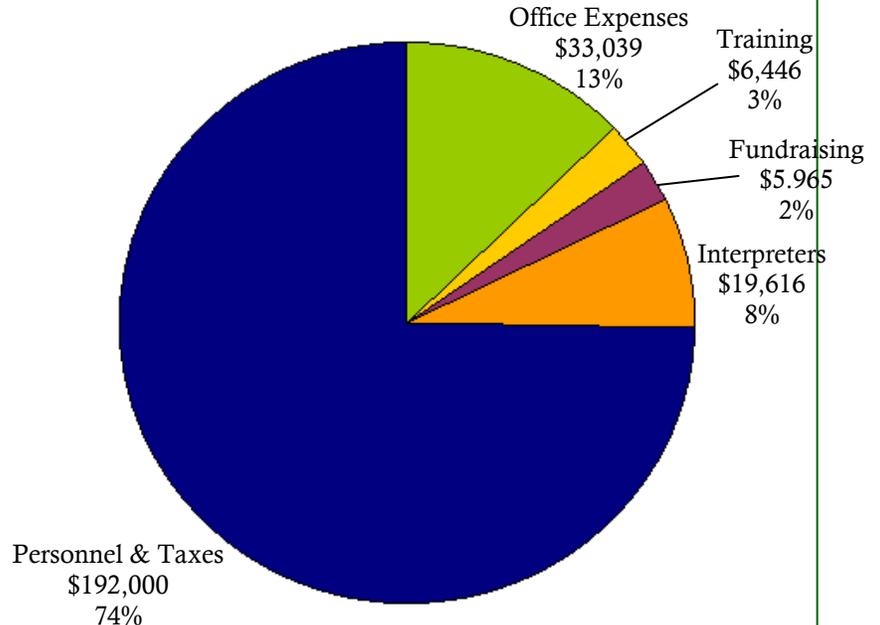
Revenue for 2009

Contracted Services	\$ 59,983
Fundraising/Donations	\$ 29,831
Grants	\$ 131,123
Interest	\$ 6,552
<u>Interpreter Revenue</u>	<u>\$ 132,101</u>
Total Revenue	\$ 359,590



Expenses for 2009

2009 Expenses	-\$ 257,070
Grants Received in 2009 for use in 2010	-\$ 79,433
Board Approved Reserve For <u>New Program Development</u>	<u>\$ 22,000</u>
Net Income	\$ 1,087



“Project FINE’s work of integrating newcomers benefits all of us. Understanding each other and giving all of us skills to work with people from different backgrounds provides a healthy foundation for the entire community.”

Beth Forkner Moe, Executive Director, United Way of the Greater Winona Area

2009 Partnerships

Strong and effective partnerships have played an essential role in the growth and success of Project FINE. Working relationships with local businesses, government agencies and individuals are very important to the organization, and a wonderful asset for our clients. Project FINE is thankful for our many partners and the contributions they make to create a welcoming and inclusive community.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Winona	Olmsted Medical Center
Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota	Peerless Chain
City of Saint Charles	Ridgeway Community School
City of Winona	RTP Inc., Winona, MN
Corporation for National & Community Service (AmeriCorps *VISTA)	Saint Charles School District # 858
Criminal Justice Coordinating Council	Saint Mary's University of Minnesota
Diocese of Winona	SEMCAC
Dr. Chris Carroll - Pediatric Dental Care	Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services
Family and Children's Center	Three Rivers Community Action
Family Medicine of Winona	TRW Automotive
Family-Based Services of Winona	U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Gold 'n' Plump of Arcadia	UCare of Minnesota
Great Lakes Higher Education Guaranty Corporation	United Way of the Greater Winona Area
Gundersen Lutheran Medical Center	University of Minnesota Extension
Hiawatha Valley Education District	Winona Chamber of Commerce
Home and Community Options	Winona Community Foundation
Housing and Redevelopment Authority	Winona Cotter High School
Knitcraft - St. Croix Foundation	Winona County
Lewiston Clinic	Winona Health
Lewiston School District # 857	Winona Human Rights Commission
Mardag Foundation	Winona National Bank
Merchants Bank of Winona	Winona School District # 861
Midwest Dental Clinic	Winona State University
Minnesota Department of Corrections	Winona Volunteer Services
MN College—Southeast Technical	Winona Workforce Center
Minnesota Third Judicial District	Women's Resource Center

*“Through Project FINE, AmeriCorps *VISTA members have improved the lives of many throughout Winona County. We are honored to be a partner as Project FINE continues to grow and prosper.”*

Sam Schuth, Minnesota State Director, Corporation for National and Community Service

Special Recognition of Partners

Each year, Project FINE designates a small number of its partners for special recognition through the Partners Award. In 2009, Project FINE is proud to recognize these very special partners:

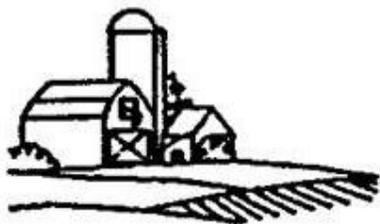
Winona Area Public School District #861



For the past several years, Winona Area Public Schools have partnered with Project FINE to support newcomer families and create an inclusive school environment. In 2008, Project FINE collaborated with the Winona Area Public Schools to offer Healthy Futures, a program designed to offer at-risk students educational encouragement and support. Their commitment to diversity education has resulted in ongoing trainings for district staff, faculty and bus drivers. Project FINE is honored to participate in the Winona Area Public School's Diversity

Advisory and Staff Development committees. Project FINE thanks the Winona Area Public Schools for their direct and intentional approach to inclusiveness, and for a successful partnership with lasting effects on tomorrow's leaders.

Southeastern Minnesota Rural Education and Resource Center



Project FINE and the Southeastern Minnesota Rural Education and Resource Center (located in St. Charles) have worked together for many years, connecting our clients with the food shelf and other resources. Over the last two years, several tragedies have occurred in St. Charles, and these events have deepened the relationship between Project FINE and the Resource Center. Following the North Star Foods fire in April of 2009, the Resource Center has gone above and beyond to

assist all residents of St. Charles. They partnered with Project FINE to offer emergency assistance to our clients, many of whom worked at North Star. Their assistance continues today, as they support English classes and job placement for the diverse population of St. Charles. Project FINE thanks the Southeastern Minnesota Rural Education and Resource Center for their ongoing collaboration and their service and dedication to the community.

Past Recipients of the Partners Award

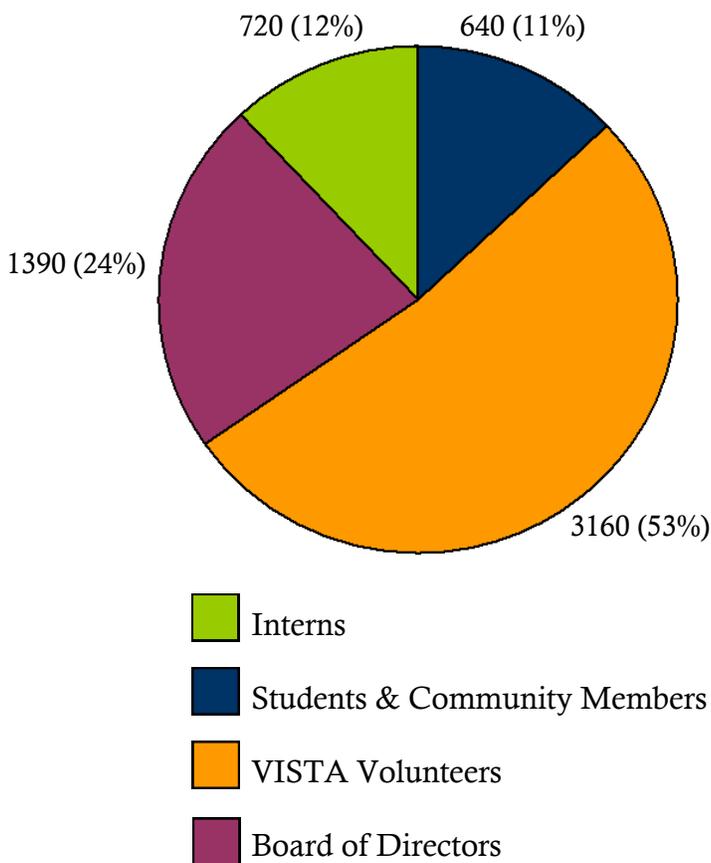
- 2008 - Corporation for National & Community Service
Winona Health
City of St. Charles
- 2007 - City of Winona
Winona National Bank
- 2006 - Winona County Department of Human Services
United Way of the Greater Winona Area
Winona State University

Volunteer Information

Thank you!

We would like to thank the many talented, generous and dedicated individuals who have contributed thousands of hours to support Project FINE's programs, events and activities. Volunteers are vital to the organization and help fulfill its vision of creating a more welcoming, respectful and sensitive community. The Project FINE Board of Directors and staff are truly grateful for the enthusiasm and commitment of our many volunteers.

Project FINE Volunteer Hours 2009 (6058 Total Hours)



“Project FINE is an asset to the community. With a diligent and passionate staff, they continually bring a beneficial resource to all of Winona.”

Katie Simota, Project FINE Volunteer

Board Members & Staff

Project FINE would like to thank its Board of Directors, who have volunteered their time and talents to advance the mission and vision of the organization. Their hard work and dedication is appreciated by the Project FINE staff and the entire community.



Dr. Justin Green, President
Diocese of Winona, Winona, MN

Paul Mundt, Vice President
Southern MN Legal Services, Winona, MN

Robin Hoeg, Secretary
Winona Health, Winona, MN

David Vaselaar, Treasurer
Winona National Bank, Winona, MN

Thomas Ames
St. Charles Public School District, St. Charles, MN

Heather Bach
Community Member, Winona, MN

Paula Brown
Hal Leonard Corporation, Winona, MN

Julie Chiasson
Community Member, Winona, MN

Wendy Davis
Edina Realty, Winona, MN

Alan DuCett
MN State College - Southeast Technical, Winona, MN

Mohamed Elhindi
MN State College - Southeast Technical, Winona, MN

Dr. Ahmed El-Afandi
Winona State University, Winona, MN

Vicki English
Winona State University, Winona, MN

Maria Garza-Cienfuegos
Saint Mary's University, Winona, MN

Dr. Scott Hannon
Winona Area Public Schools, Winona, MN

Alexander Hines
Winona State University, Winona, MN

Kevin Kearney
Winona Police Department, Winona, MN

Dr. Lilian Ramos
Winona State University, Winona, MN

William Spitzer
City of St. Charles, MN

Neng Vang
Community Member, Winona, MN

Hank Welle
Community Member, Winona, MN

Project FINE Staff



Fatima Said, Executive Director
Chong Sher Vang, Operations Manager
Katie van Eijl, Family and Youth Outreach Coordinator
Houa Vang, Family Education Coordinator
Maria Rodriguez, Hispanic/Latino Community Liaison,
Lead Spanish Interpreter
Dyan Laska, Bookkeeper
Guadalupe Pandora, VISTA Volunteer

We also recognize the contribution of Michelle Pastors, who completed her service to Project FINE in 2009.

Save the Date...

The fifth annual Project FINE Taste of International Cuisine Fundraising Event will be held June 13th at Visions Event Center. This year's event will feature the premier of the Project FINE Cookbook, delicious international dishes, and entertainment by participants of Project FINE's youth programs, including recipients of our College Education Connection Scholarships.

THE FIFTH ANNUAL *Taste of International Cuisine*

Hosted by Project FINE at Visions Event Center in Winona

SUNDAY ❖ JUNE 13, 2010 ❖ 4:30 — 7:00 P.M.

VISIONS EVENT CENTER AT SIGNATURES RESTAURANT

22852 COUNTY ROAD 17 IN WINONA, MINNESOTA

Spend a summer evening enjoying international cuisine, music, entertainment, friendship, and cultural sharing.

The fifth annual Taste of International Cuisine supports Project FINE and its mission: welcoming and integrating newcomers into our community

TICKETS:

Single Patron: \$100

Patron Table (Seats 6): \$500

Tickets may be purchased from the Project FINE office (County Office Building, 202 W. 3rd Street, Winona) or a Project FINE board member.



For information, call 507.452.4100

“Project FINE continues to do exceptional work in the community and make our growing diversity an asset, not a liability.”

Eric Sorensen, City Manager, City of Winona



We would like to extend a special thanks to everyone who has partnered with us since our foundation. 2010 is a milestone year for the organization, as Project FINE celebrates it's 20th anniversary. We look forward to serving newcomers and the community for many years to come!