

# Project FINE 2014 Annual Report

One Community Many Stories

### ***About Project FINE:***

Project FINE (Focus on Integrating Newcomers through Education) is a nonprofit organization based in Winona, MN dedicated to easing the integration of ethnically diverse people into the local community. To achieve our mission, 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, committed volunteers, dedicated Board Members and extraordinary partners.



**Project FINE**

*Focus on Integrating Newcomers through Education*

### ***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.

### ***Our Guiding Values:***

Diversity, Respect, Culture, Family, Partnership

### ***Geographic Area Served:***

We are proud to serve Winona County and the surrounding region.



# Welcome

About 4 years ago, my daughter Jami came home and told me about this fantastic person she met at Project FINE. At the time, I had no idea what Project FINE was, but I soon met Fatima and learned that they were looking to engage the local business sector and wanted to see if I would be interested in serving on the Board. I was unsure, but agreed to join and complete at least the first year of my three year term.



During my first year on the Board in 2013, I realized the impact that our programs and services make in the lives of newcomers. The following year, I agreed to serve as Board president and I am proud to continue that role in 2015.

I am involved with Project FINE because I believe in their mission and appreciate that they are a responsible organization. Working to build collaborations, they are able to help newcomers integrate into our community. Many of the people whom Project FINE serves helped us in the Vietnam war, or refugees who have similar stories of oppression and struggle. Others have come with the promise of the American dream, but all have come to work and have a willingness to learn.

Last spring, the Board reviewed our 2011-2014 Strategic Plan goals and analyzed the progress made over the past three years. I am proud to share that we met or exceeded all goals and developed a new Strategic Plan which will serve Project FINE and the community well for the next three years. Thank you for partnering with our Board, Executive Director and Staff in this work. We appreciate your continued support.

Tom Severson, Board President

Stories have always been a part of Project FINE, but our work in 2014 focused even more on the power of story, incorporating the stories and experiences of those we serve into every part of our organization. From our traveling One Community Many Stories exhibit to program development to our Board of Directors meetings, stories of triumph, tragedy and impact have been at the forefront.



For refugees and immigrants, sharing our stories can be hard, as many of us have overcome difficult circumstances. Despite the challenges, there is great power in sharing the stories of newcomers. True integration begins when we listen to each other and ask what we can do to help.

The outcomes and stories in this Annual Report are possible because of our many partners and friends. We are so grateful to all of you who collaborate with us to build a welcoming and inclusive community. You truly have a key role in Project FINE's story.

In addition to sharing stories of the past, we are working to help refugees and immigrants begin a new chapter in their story. Through our programs and services, newcomers gain understanding and develop connections that help them build their life in the United States. In 2014, Project FINE served over 2,600 newcomers from across our region and I am so proud to share this report and our positive impact with you.

Thank you for your continued support and collaboration. We look forward to many more years of working together to share our stories and shape our community.

Fatima Said, Executive Director

# *Community Impact 2014*

Over *2,600* *Newcomers served by Project FINE's Educational Programs*

*26* *Refugees and immigrants trained & empowered to serve as community leaders*

*7,251* *Hours of Advocacy and Information Referrals Provided*

*4* *Scholarships provided to high school seniors from refugee and immigrant families*

Over *200* *Hours of assistance and education provided to newcomers preparing to become Naturalized Citizens*

*370* *Individuals received Diversity Education from Project FINE*

*2,021* *Friends of the Hispanos Unidos de Winona and Hmong Sib Txaus Lug Facebook pages created to encourage newcomers to connect and build community online*

# Program Structure

Project FINE provides a variety of programs and services to help newcomers become oriented within the community and develop skills needed for involvement and participation.

In 2014, Project FINE staff and the Education Committee of the Board of Directors recognized the need to group organizational programs and services into three main categories. This restructuring was the result of a dramatic increase in programming over the past five years, as we grew from 6 programs in 2009 to 15 programs in 2014. While the content and intent of each program remains the same, each new focus area represents an ongoing need addressed by the organization.

A description of each program category is listed below and detailed description of programs, outcomes, and funding is included on the following pages.

## Navigating Community Systems

Providing educational resources to refugees and immigrants to ease their adjustment to the United States and begin the journey to self-sufficiency.



## Building Communities

Working to bring together a diverse group of refugees, immigrants and established residents to promote cultural sharing and learning and build understanding.



## Empowering Youth

Supporting youth from immigrant and refugee families as they pursue education and seek to find a balance between traditional and American cultures.



# *Navigating Community Systems*

## *Eva's Story*



In 2008, Eva and her son fled Cuba to escape the tyranny of a dictator. Leaving their loved ones behind, they came to the United States in search of a better life. When they arrived in Miami, Eva was thankful to be free. She found work at a fast food restaurant and began the difficult task of rebuilding their lives. After over a year in Miami, she was still earning minimum wage and struggling to survive.

Despite the challenges, Eva remained optimistic and in 2010 she heard that there were jobs available in our area. Despite the challenge and fear of starting over, she and her son moved north. Shortly after arriving in Winona, Eva learned about Project FINE. She came into our office looking for information about housing and employment and left with leads for both. Within two weeks Eva was hired at Ashley Furniture, where her strong work ethic and positive attitude helped her thrive. Before long, she was earning a higher income and her son was enrolled in high school. Eva felt like she was finally on the right path.

After Eva and her son adjusted to life in Winona, she visited our office again for information on becoming a naturalized citizen. Project FINE staff helped them complete their applications and study for the citizenship exam. Though their English skills were limited, they were both determined to succeed and in 2013, Eva and her son passed their naturalization exams and became United States Citizens.

Becoming a Citizen was a huge accomplishment for Eva but, true to her personality, she already had a new goal in mind – to become a homeowner. She started looking at real estate and asked Project FINE to help her with the purchasing process. When Eva applied for a home loan, the banker was very impressed at her excellent credit and how financially stable she had become in such a short time. Last October, she bought her first house and has been working hard to make it her home.

Today, Eva has truly built a new life in Winona and she is the first to admit she would not have been able to find the way without Project FINE. Eva's story is just one example of how our Navigating Community Systems programs help newcomers learn about life in the United States and become self-sufficient.

# *Language Services*

Through Project FINE's Language Services, businesses and service providers in Winona County and the surrounding region are able to effectively communicate with their non-English speaking clients and customers. In 2014, Project FINE provided 3,275 hours of interpreting and translating services in over 60 different locations. Our roster consists of 56 interpreters proficient in 24 languages, including ten who are currently registered with the Minnesota Department of Health's Spoken Language Healthcare Interpreter Roster. All interpreters receive training in ethics and Project FINE provides opportunities for continuing education throughout the year.

*Giving a Voice*

# *Advocacy & Information Referrals*

Newcomer families face many challenges as they adjust to life in the United States. Through Advocacy & Information Referrals, Project FINE staff provide information and connect refugees and immigrants with existing services in the community. This is highly beneficial for newcomers and service providers, as working together we ensure that the basic needs of newcomer families are met. In 2014, Project FINE provided 7,251 hours of advocacy and information referrals to more than 1,880 newcomers in our community.

*Making Connections*

# *Connecting Communities*

Connecting Communities supports technology training for refugees and immigrants focused on social media and internet safety.

*Using Technology to Connect*

In 2014, the 40 program participants created their own social media accounts to connect with others in the community and across the globe. Through the program, staff created Facebook pages for Hispanic and Hmong populations. These pages have been incredibly successful, gaining over 2,000 'friends' in six months. Using social media, Connecting Communities is providing a new way to build and strengthen relationships and share information. Program participants were eligible for reduced-cost internet through a partnership with Hiawatha Broadband Communications. Project FINE also received donations of four computers which were distributed to program participants.

This program is funded through a grant from the Blandin Foundation.



# *Learning Together*

Learning Together connects families and local professionals to build awareness of the value of early childhood education. Program activities include educational sessions for parents, parent-child activities and in-home parent mentoring.

In 2014, 54 parents and 58 children birth to age five participated in program activities. 104 parent mentoring sessions were provided and 100% of parents indicated that the program helped them understand the value of early learning.

The Learning Together program was funded through grants from Mardag Foundation, United Way of the Greater Winona Area and the Sheltering Arms Foundation.

## *Investing in Education*



# *Health and Wellness Initiative*



This initiative provides educational programming to help refugees and immigrants understand the value of preventive medicine. Program activities include educational sessions on various health topics and hands-on activities. Participants are also provided opportunities for physical activity including yoga, cardio, and strength-building exercises. During 2014, 65 individuals participated in program activities and began the path to a healthier life. Exercise sessions were offered in partnership with Winona State University and the Senior Friendship Center.

The Health and Wellness Initiative is funded through grant support from the UCare Foundation and the Winona Community Foundation.

## *Developing a Healthy Community*

# *Community Engagement*

The goal of the Community Engagement program is to empower refugees and immigrants to become agents of change and encourage others to live healthier lives. Program activities include training in engagement strategies and leadership skills and outreach to promote health education. In 2014, 40 individuals attended leadership training and 32 participated in health-related educational activities in the community.

The Community Engagement program was funded through a grant from the Blue Cross Blue Shield Foundation's Center for Prevention.

## *Empowering Healthy Leaders*

# *Building Communities*

## *Cha Neng's Story*



Cha Neng and his family were forced to flee Laos in 1975 and lived in a refugee camp for several years before settling in Minneapolis in the mid 1980's. After living in the city for over 20 years, Cha Neng longed for a peaceful, small town environment and moved to Winona in 2006.

When he was living in Minneapolis, Cha Neng was not connected to the community and didn't participate in local events. That changed when he moved to Winona and became involved with Project FINE. He attends virtually all of our educational programs and events and has grown tremendously.

The local Hmong Community has benefitted greatly from Cha Neng's cultural knowledge and musical skills. He plays a traditional flute called Qeej and has performed for various events. He also has a vast knowledge of traditional religious practices and is a resource for other Hmong families in the community.

Cha Neng is an active participant in all of our Building Communities programs and is a community leader through our Answering the Voices program. This program empowers leaders to understand and utilize various community systems to promote change. He has been very involved, encouraging others to attend and begin to make a positive impact in their families and neighborhoods.

Along the way, Cha Neng has learned the value of becoming a part of the community. He has gotten to know people from other backgrounds and is working hard to improve his English skills so he can communicate even more effectively. He often calls or stops by the Project FINE office to say hello, suggest new programs or services or share emerging community needs. He also donates several hundred pounds of produce from his garden to local food shelves each year because he wants everyone in the area to have fresh vegetables.

Cha Neng says that through Project FINE, he has learned the value of participating in the community and giving back. His story is an example of how the Building Communities programs foster positive connections and empower newcomers to play an active role in our community.

# Answering the Voices

## Building Diverse Leaders



Answering the Voices seeks to develop grassroots leaders from within the refugee and immigrant community to address challenges or issues and work toward innovative solutions. During 2014, program activities focused on leadership training for newcomers in Winona and St. Charles.

Twenty-six individuals completed leadership training and planned a series of community dialogues, which will be held in 2015. During the planning phase, participants researched needs and selected meeting dates and locations. They also chose the discussion format, prepared an agenda and invited local decision-makers to participate in the dialogues.

**“This program showed me how to properly engage and work with others to fix problems. I am so proud to be involved and am ready to work to improve my community.”**  
- Alma, program participant

The Answering the Voices program is funded through a grant from the Bush Foundation.

# Hearing the Voices

## Sharing Our Stories

Hearing the Voices encourages refugees and immigrants to document and share their personal stories as a way to promote understanding and build community.

Program activities began in September with a series of workshops on the importance of story. Following the workshops, students from Winona State University worked with interpreters to visit newcomers in their homes and collect their stories. These stories will be compiled into a booklet, which will be distributed at a Capstone Event in April 2015.

Hearing the Voices is funded through grants from the Southeastern MN Arts Council and Winona Fine Arts Commission.

# Diversity Training

## Increasing Understanding

Diversity training is provided on a variety of topics to local businesses, organizations, service providers and educational institutions. Training sessions are tailored to meet the needs of each client and often focus on specific cultural information, barriers to service and strategies to engage diverse populations.

During 2014, Diversity Education was provided for St. Charles School District, Winona State University students, Saint Mary's University, the Senior Friendship Center and several local businesses.

# Cultural Arts & Ancestry

The Cultural Arts & Ancestry project builds bridges between cultures through the creation of traditional art from around the world. Refugees, immigrants and established residents work side-by-side to discover the art forms and history of various cultures and create their own art pieces.

Project activities included five workshops and a series of small-group work sessions for participants to complete their art pieces. Workshops on Hmong Paaj Ntaub, Mexican Crochet and Hmong Knife Making were held in 2013 and Latin, Hmong and Bosnian dance were held in 2014. 70 individuals participated in program activities and the Cultural Arts & Ancestry project concluded with a public Capstone Event on September 30 at Winona State University. 471 people attended the event, which included cultural displays, art created by participants and cultural dance demonstrations.

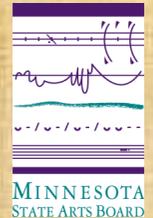
The Cultural Arts & Ancestry project was funded through a grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board.



*Exploring Traditions*



This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.



# Cultural Arts & Ancestry for Youth

The Cultural Arts & Ancestry for Youth project provides a unique arts experience for youth age 10-18. In 2014, 41 youth participated in workshops on a variety of art forms, including visual arts, dance and storytelling.

The project culminated with a Capstone Event at Winona State University on March 20. Over 125 people attended the event, which featured traditional dances, poetry, a dramatic reading and displays of art created by youth.

This project was funded through grants from the Southeastern MN Arts Council and Winona Fine Arts Commission.



*Embracing Artistic Expression*

# *Empowering Youth*

## *Greg's Story*



Greg and his family moved to Altura in 2009 when he was 14 years old. When they arrived, they were not familiar with the area and needed information to begin their new life. Greg's mother heard that Project FINE was a resource that could help them learn about Winona and adjust to life in our community. She reached out to Project FINE for help with finding a job and childcare.

Before long, Greg's mother was working full-time but struggling to make ends meet as a single parent. Greg took it upon himself to help out and began working part-time at a farm when he was in 10th grade. Although it was a great help to his family, he began to lose focus on his education. Before long, his mother noticed his grades were slipping and contacted Project FINE. A staff member told her about the Diversity Youth Quest and College Education Connection programs for youth. Greg began to participate and learned about the struggles of other newcomer youth and the value and benefits of higher education. When he first learned about college, Greg was quick to dismiss the idea because he wasn't a permanent resident.

In 2012, Greg became one of the millions of undocumented youth nationwide who were affected by the DREAM Act, which grants conditional permanent residency to those who came to the United States as children and are actively participating in the military or higher education. When Greg learned of the DREAM Act, he surprised everyone when he called the Project FINE office to learn more.

By the start of his senior year, Greg was a DREAMer and able to pursue his long-term goals. He began to focus on his schoolwork, his grades improved and he applied to Southeast Technical College. During a program session, he proudly shared his acceptance letter and thanked Project FINE for not giving up on him. Greg's hard work and determination earned him a College Education Connection Scholarship in 2014. In the Fall, he began studying auto mechanics at Southeast Technical and has done very well in his coursework.

Greg's success story is one of the hundreds of examples of how Project FINE's Empowering Youth programs inspire and support young people as they create the future of our community, state, nation and world.

# *Girls Reaching Above and Beyond*

The Girls Reaching Above and Beyond (GRAB) program encourages girls age 10-18 to discover their identity and strengths and create a roadmap to pursue their dreams. During 2014, 35 girls participated in program activities, which focus on gender issues, culture, careers and leadership. Girls also volunteered in the community and attended summer mini-camps focused on financial literacy.

The GRAB program is funded by the Women's Foundation of Minnesota.

*Empowering Young Women*



# *Diversity Youth Quest*

The Diversity Youth Quest program is designed to improve the mental health and ease the social adjustment of youth from refugee and immigrant families. In 2014, 38 youth participated in program activities, including educational sessions, volunteer opportunities and teambuilding activities.

*Promoting a Healthy Tomorrow*

# *College Education Connection*

College Education Connection assists youth from immigrant and refugee families as they prepare to pursue higher education. The program serves students from the Winona, St. Charles and Lewiston-Altura school districts.

*Preparing for the Future*

In 2014, Project FINE awarded scholarships to four graduating seniors to support their post-secondary education.

# *Colorful Growers*

Colorful Growers provides youth with a unique agricultural and entrepreneurial experience. During 2014, 19 youth and 11 parents participated in agricultural education, planted their own garden plot and sold their produce at the St. Charles Farmer's Market. Through these activities, youth gained skills and confidence that will benefit them in the future.

*Growing Young Entrepreneurs*

This program was funded through grant support from the AgStar Fund for Rural America and the Toro Foundation.



# Community Involvement & Events

## Small Business Seminar

On January 22, Project FINE hosted a small business seminar in St. Charles in collaboration with Winona County and the Southern MN Initiative Foundation. Twenty-three local entrepreneurs attended the session, which included presentations by the Winona Farmer's Market coordinator and the Winona State University Marketing Department.



## Frozen River Film Festival

On January 25, Project FINE staff hosted a table at the Frozen River Film Festival. They spoke with festival attendees about the organization and mission.



## St. Charles Family Fun Day

Project FINE hosted a booth at the St. Charles Early Childhood Initiative's Family Fun day on February 9. Staff shared information about Project FINE and had a flag-making activity for children.

## Border to Border Broadband Conference

On February 5, Fatima presented at the Blandin Foundation's Border to Border Broadband: A Call to Action Conference in St. Paul. She shared best practices from Project FINE's technology education programs and highlighted the importance of digital literacy for newcomers.

## Winona Radio Better Living Show

Project FINE hosted a booth at the Better Living Show at the Winona Senior High School on February 22 and 23. Many attendees stopped by the booth to learn about Project FINE and view the One Community Many Stories display.

## Lunchtime Learning

On April 22, Fatima participated in a panel presentation for a United Way Lunchtime Learning session on Grassroots Marketing. Over 20 nonprofit leaders and staff attended the training, which focused on marketing with a limited budget and small staff.

## Gladiolus Days Parade

On August 24, Project FINE participated in the Gladiolus Days Parade in St. Charles. Staff and several youth program participants walked in the parade with staff to raise awareness of the organization.



# Community Involvement & Events

## Citizenship Day

Project FINE's Second Annual Citizenship Day celebration was held on September 17, honoring those who have chosen to become naturalized citizens. Over 50 people attended the event, including several new citizens and elected officials.



## Winona Hims

Project FINE was selected as one of the recipients of the proceeds from the Winona Hims Fall Concert. Project FINE Board Members, staff and interns served as ushers for the three concerts, which were held on September 19 and 20. The concerts were a great success and raised \$14,200 which will be used to provide Citizenship Classes.



## Gifts for Winona

During November, Project FINE participated in the Gifts for Winona program organized by Saint Mary's University. Project FINE Staff and Interpreters helped many families complete the program application to receive gifts for their children.

## Winona Education Association

On November 18, Project FINE was honored with a Community Partner award from the Winona Education Association. Board members and staff attended the awards reception at Visions Event Center.



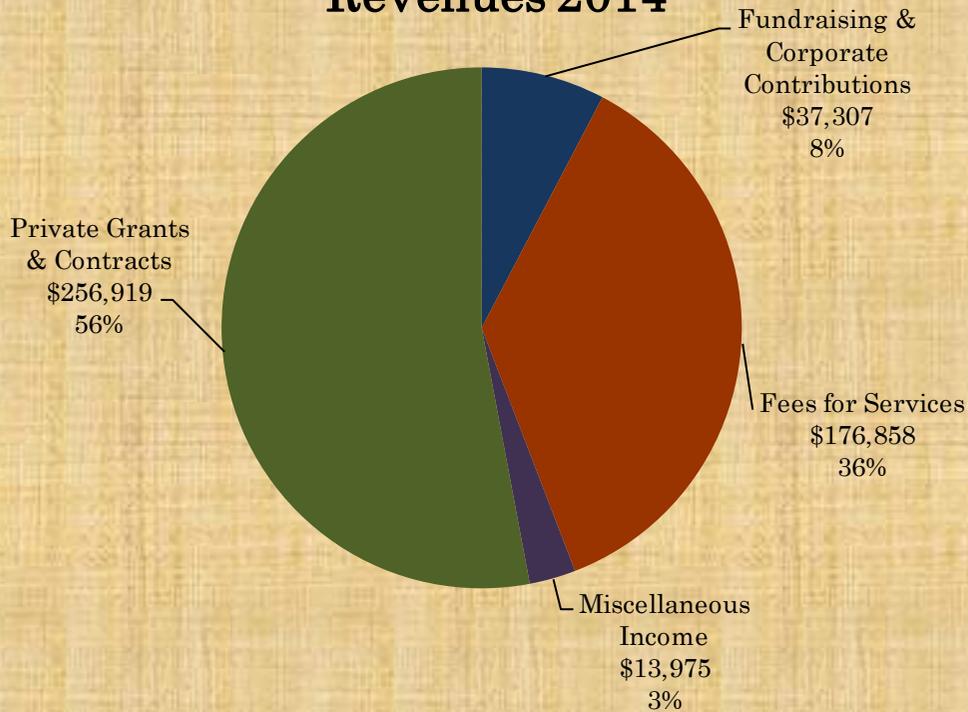
## Project FINE serves on several local Boards and Committees, including:

MN State Colleges and Universities Community Action Diversity Council  
MN State College-Southeast Technical Foundation Board  
Winona County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council  
Southern MN Initiative Foundation Local Foods Group  
Winona Public School Diversity Advisory Committee

Whitewater Country Coalition  
Cotter School Board of Directors  
Winona Human Rights Commission  
St. Charles Early Childhood Initiative  
U of MN Extension Community Advisory Committee

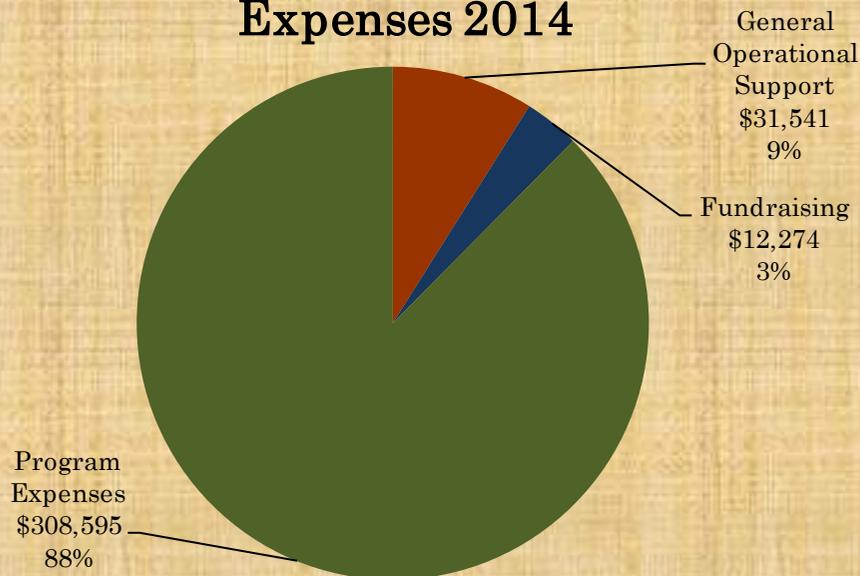
# 2014 Financial Summary

## Revenues 2014



Total Revenues 2014	\$485,059
Total Expenses 2014	\$352,410
Board Designated Funds for Grant Cash Match	\$8,465
Board Designated Funds for Continuation of Navigating Community Systems Programs	\$40,000
Board Designated Funds for Continuation of Building Communities Programs	\$40,000
Board Designated Funds for Continuation of Empowering Youth Programs	\$40,000
Board Designated Funds for Future Operational Expenses	\$4,184

## Expenses 2014



**“A visit from Fatima Said is an invaluable experience for my students. She connects so well and the power of her story brings history and the immigrant experience alive in a way that a textbook simply cannot match. I count her visits as among the most memorable classroom experiences.”**

**-Debra Cumberland, PhD, Winona State University Professor**

# Community Partnerships

We are so grateful to the many community partners who partner with Project FINE to provide quality programs and services to newcomers and established residents throughout our region. Thank you for your collaboration in 2014.

- AgStar Fund for Rural America
- Blandin Foundation
- Blue Cross and Blue Shield of MN
- Bush Foundation
- Center for Prevention
- Charities Review Council
- City of Saint Charles
- City of Winona
- Corporation for National & Community Service
- Cotter Schools
- Diocese of Winona
- Dr. Chris Carroll - Pediatric Dental
- Family and Children's Center
- Family-Based Services of Winona
- Gundersen Lutheran Medical Center
- Hiawatha Broadband Communications
- Hiawatha Valley Mental Health
- Home and Community Options
- Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota
- International Quality Home Care
- Knitcraft-St. Croix Foundation
- Lewiston Clinic
- Lewiston School District # 857
- Live Well Winona
- MAP for Nonprofits
- Mardag Foundation
- Mayo Clinic
- Merchants Bank
- Midwest Dental Clinic
- Minnesota Council of Nonprofits
- Minnesota Department of Corrections
- Minnesota State Bar Foundation
- Minnesota State Arts Board
- MN State College Southeast Technical
- MN State Colleges and Universities
- MN Third Judicial District
- Olmsted Medical Center
- Options Plus Home Care
- Rollingstone Cenex
- St. Charles Public Schools
- Saint Mary's University of Minnesota
- Sauer Memorial Home
- SEMCAC
- Severson Oil Company
- Sheltering Arms Foundation
- Southern MN Initiative Foundation
- Southern MN Regional Legal Services
- Southeast MN Rural Education & Resource Center
- Southeastern MN Arts Council
- Toro Foundation
- Three Rivers Community Action
- UCare of Minnesota
- United Way
- University of Minnesota Extension
- Wabasha County
- Welcoming America
- Winona Chamber of Commerce
- Winona Community Foundation
- Winona County
- Winona County Historical Society
- Winona County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
- Winona Early Childhood Initiative
- Winona Fine Arts Commission
- Winona Health
- Winona Hims
- Winona Housing & Redevelopment Authority
- Winona Human Rights Commission
- Winona National Bank
- Winona School District # 861
- Winona State University
- Winona Volunteer Services
- Winona Workforce Center
- Women's Foundation of Minnesota
- Women's Resource Center

## 2014 Partners Award - Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota

Each year, Project FINE designates one or more partners for special recognition through the Partners Award. In 2014, Project FINE is proud to recognize the following exceptional partner:



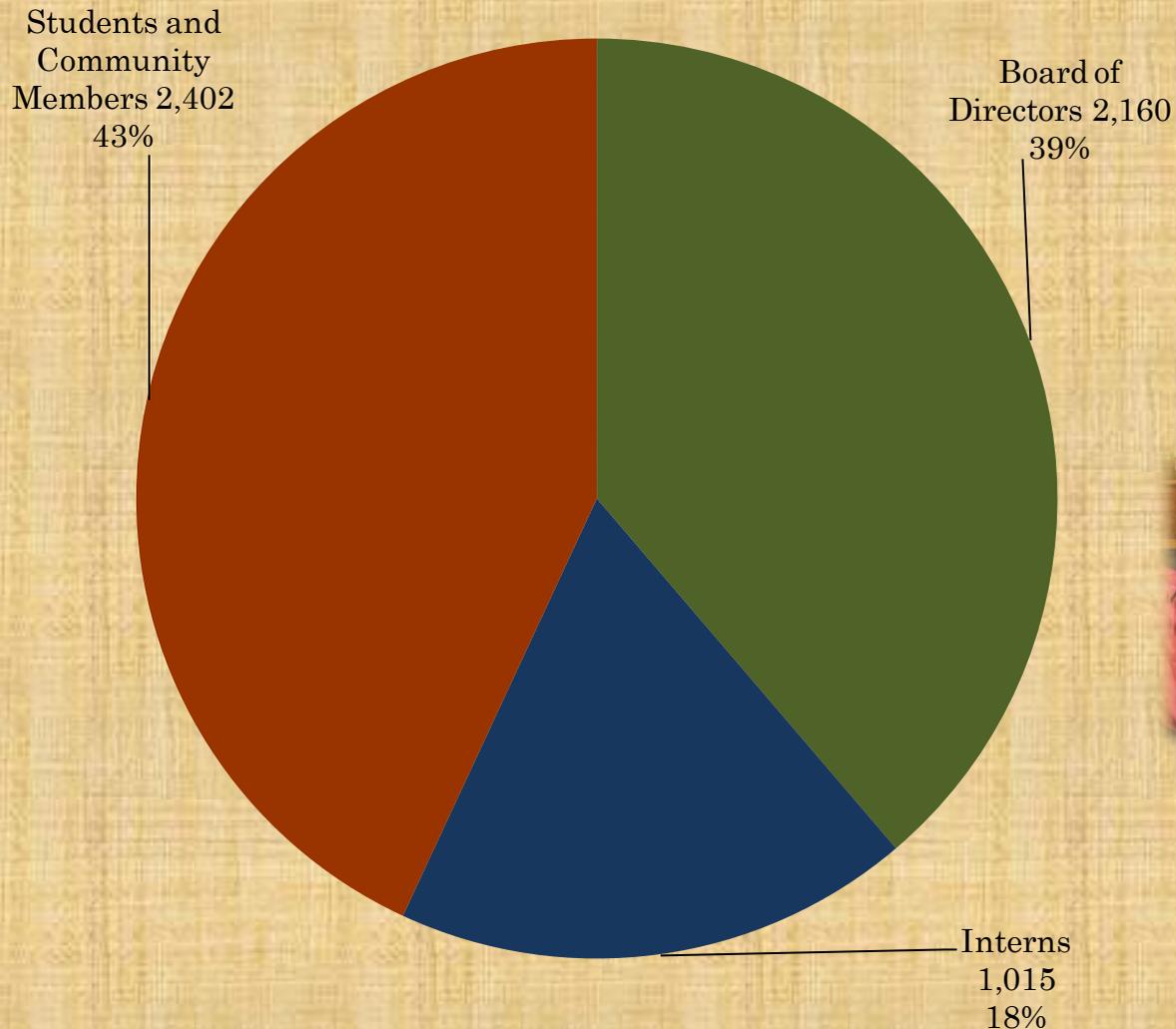
### Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota (ILCM)

The Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota has been an extraordinary partner to Project FINE for the past five years. During 2014, our partnership expanded as we served as a partnering agency for their Unmet Needs grant by providing outreach to undocumented victims of crime or domestic violence in Winona and Fillmore Counties. They also provided legal services to 12 newcomers in the Winona area who are interested in becoming naturalized citizens. Project FINE would like to thank the Immigrant Law Center for their commitment to providing legal services, education and advocacy to refugees and immigrants throughout Minnesota.

# Volunteer Information

# Thank You

## Project FINE Volunteer Hours 2014 (5,577 Total Hours)



We would like to thank the many talented, generous and dedicated individuals who contributed thousands of hours in 2014 in support of Project FINE's programs, events and activities.

Volunteers are vital to our operation and help fulfill our vision of creating a more welcoming and sensitive community.

2014 Project FINE Interns:  
Kathreen Smith, Carla Olivares,  
Grace Hoffman, Andria Swanson,  
Toumong Thao, and Kaonoukatee Vue



# Board Members & Staff

Project FINE's board members are a tremendous asset to the organization, sharing their time and talents to promote and further our mission. Their hard work and dedication is a great benefit to Project FINE and the entire community.



Back Row: Dave Dicke, Dan Matejka, Bernhard Brenner, Tom Severson, Paul Mundt, Mark Roubinek, Brian Voerding  
Front Row: Heather Bach, Nicole Messenger, Kevin Kearney, Fatima Said  
Not pictured: Eduardo Fortini, Bill Spitzer



Back Row: German Victoria, Katie van Eijl, Fatima Said, Arlett Barrera-Martinez  
Front Row: Dolly Yang, Nancy Hang, Maria Rodriguez-Ramirez, Chong Sher Vang

## 2014 Project FINE Board of Directors

Tom Severson, President  
Severson Oil

Heather Bach, Vice President  
Community Member

Bernhard Brenner, Treasurer  
Knitcraft Corporation

Nicole Messenger, Secretary  
Merchants Bank

Dave Dicke  
Hiawatha Broadband  
Communications

Eduardo Fortini  
Community Member

Kevin Kearney  
Winona Police Department

Dan Matejka  
City of Goodview

Paul Mundt  
Southern MN Regional  
Legal Services

Mark Roubinek  
St. Charles Public Schools

Bill Spitzer  
City of St. Charles

Brian Voerding  
Winona Daily News

## Project FINE Staff

Fatima Said, Executive Director

Chong Sher Vang, Program Development Director

Katie van Eijl, Program Manager

German Victoria, Program Coordinator

Maria Rodriguez-Ramirez, Hispanic/Latino Community Liaison

Arlett Barrera-Martinez, Program Coordinator

Nancy Hang, Hmong Community Liaison

Dolly Yang, Hmong Community Liaison

The Board of Directors and Staff of Project FINE would like to thank Dominic LeFebvre and Experience Works for their continued collaboration during 2014 and the many contracted interpreters whose time and talent contribute to the success of our Language Services program.

# Project FINE



*Focus on Integrating Newcomers through Education*

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