



GLOBAL FRIENDS COALITION

ANNUAL REPORT



2018

**Fostering Refugee Integration through work with
New Americans and the Greater Grand Forks
Community**



OUR MISSION

GLOBAL FRIENDS COALITION IS A 501 (C) 3 NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION IN GRAND FORKS, ND WHOSE MISSION IS TO FOSTER REFUGEE (NEW AMERICAN) INTEGRATION THROUGH WORK WITH NEW AMERICANS AND THE GREATER GRAND FORKS COMMUNITY.

Contact us: 701-746-8233 | info@gfcoalition.org | www.gfcoalition.org

Calendar Year 2018 Board of Directors

- Robin David, President
- Brent Braga, Vice President
- Robbin Rendahl, Treasurer
- Faye Pederson, Secretary
- Kit Johnson, Member-at-Large
- Dominique & Max Buchholz, Members-at-Large (shared seat)
- Lisa Gibson, Member-at-Large
- Ione Seidlinger, Member-at-Large
- Jack Wadhawan, Member-at-Large
- Chyna Lynner, Member-at-Large
- Margot McGimpsey, Member-at-Large
- Elias Dean, Member-at-Large
- Rob Treuer, Member-at-Large
- Sarah Jensen, Member-at-Large
- Hajar Idrissi, Member-at-Large
- Ranju Dhungana, Youth Liaison
- Prakash Pathak, Youth Liaison

Our Board of Directors gave over 700 hours of their time in 2018!

Calendar Year 2019 Board of Directors

- Lisa Gibson, President
- Sarah Jensen, Vice President
- Robbin Rendahl, Treasurer
- Faye Pederson, Secretary
- Robin David, Past President
- Dominique & Max Buchholz, Members-at-Large (shared seat)
- Ione Seidlinger, Member-at-Large
- Jack Wadhawan, Member-at-Large
- Chyna Lynner, Member-at-Large
- Elias Dean, Member-at-Large
- Cindy Jensen, Member-at-Large
- Larissa Campbell, Member-at-Large
- Marina Kojic, Member-at-Large
- Matthew Eidson, Member-at-Large
- Ranju Dhungana, Youth Liaison
- Prakash Pathak, Youth Liaison
- Pramita Ghaley, Youth Liaison
- Aisha Hassan, Youth Liaison
- Sundus Hassan, Youth Liaison
- Ifrah Jimaale, Youth Liaison

2018 – 2019 Staff

- Cynthia Shabb, Executive Director
- Kathryn Kester, Program Coordinator (January – June 2018)
- Adam Fortwengler, Program Coordinator (August 2018 – Present)

A Story from the Executive Director:

91% of the refugees we work with have lived in the United States for over a year. This is a testimony to the fact that we serve New Americans for as long as there is a need. Keep in mind that only forty-one refugees were resettled in our community through Lutheran Social Services in 2018. Even with low resettlement numbers, we served over 230 New Americans.

We continue to offer English, citizenship, and sewing classes and we initiated a "Social Hour." Chair exercises, basic English, and conversation rounds out the hour. Our primary goal for Social Hour is to provide an outlet for people who often don't get out much—especially in the winter. We've been pleased with the interest in this endeavor.

This year our volunteers put in 5,678 volunteer hours, a true gift to our community. A strong partnership with the University of North Dakota's Occupational Therapy program and our many community volunteers allows us to go into the homes and schools of New Americans. We work most closely with students at Red River High School, and we offer after-school tutoring to East Grand Forks Senior High School students.

Thanks to our volunteers and supporters, Global Friends has been able to educate, empower, and embrace New Americans in the Greater Grand Forks community.

In service,



Cynthia H. Shabb, Executive Director

Reflections from the Board President:

My favorite moment of 2018 occurred during one of Global Friends Coalition's three weekly English classes. A beginner student with a limited English vocabulary eagerly shouted, "Store!" identifying an image using a word she had learned earlier in class. It was a notable accomplishment and she was proud. We smiled and celebrated together.

Even through seemingly impossible language barriers, Global Friends' teachers, volunteer mentors, students and New Americans find ways to communicate, teach and learn. And everyone plays all these roles. ("Lion" in Somali is libaax (li-BAH), in case you ever need that.) There's striking beauty in bonds formed without the ease of a common language.

In 2018, Global Friends embarked on a complex, intense journey to shape a strategic plan. Together, staff, board members, New Americans and community members identified exactly what Global Friends does and what we endeavor to do in the future. We will help New Americans with job skills, socializing opportunities and mental health needs. We will continue to facilitate engagement and communication among all citizens of Greater Grand Forks, expanding cultural awareness and acceptance. While the number of refugees resettled each year in Grand Forks has radically declined, these needs remain, and even intensify.

In our strategic planning process, we also finalized our vision statement: To ensure Greater Grand Forks is a welcoming, integrated community. To help us with this work, we've expanded to include an advisory council of New Americans, as well as a group of New American youth liaisons. They'll guide and inform our work.

We will continue to evolve with the needs of the New Americans who share our community. And we look forward to new challenges and opportunities to learn.



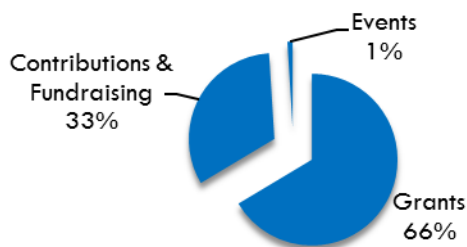
Lisa Gibson, President

2018 Financials

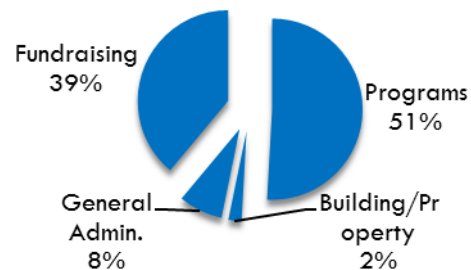
HIGHLIGHTS:

- 219 individuals and 20 organizations donated in 2018
- 66% of revenue comes through grants
- Our endowment through the Community Foundation, established in 2016, is now at \$10,282.76

Revenue



Expenses



TOTAL INCOME: \$138,827.21

TOTAL EXPENSES: \$135,373.99

2018 MAJOR FUNDRAISING EVENTS:

Giving Hearts Day

- Impact Foundation Regional Fundraiser
- 126 donors (27 new)
- \$9,305.00 raised (includes matching gift)



Soup in the Studio

- Featured artist: Debra Sumner
- \$6,015.00 raised
- Music provided by Chris Johnson



Our Major Programs

Family Mentors and Adult Education Program

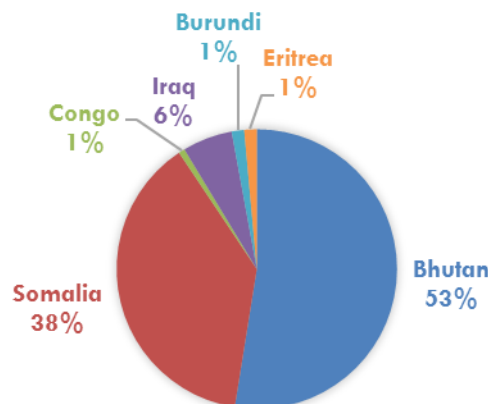
- Served 230 New Americans through our Family Mentors and Adult Education Program
- 85 volunteers dedicated to this program
- 91% of New Americans served have lived in the U.S. longer than 12 months
- Classes included English, Citizenship, Driving, Social Hour, and sewing
- **Volunteers Recognized:** Cory, Angie, Quincie, Lydia and Audrey Floden (*Volunteers of the Year – pictured below, left*); Miranda Hoskings and Mackenzie Funke (*UND OT Students of the Year – pictured below, right*)
- **2019 Goal:** Develop, maintain, and evaluate programs that provide New Americans the skills to better integrate into the Greater Grand Forks Community, while retaining their unique cultural perspectives.

WHAT IS IT?

New Americans are provided cultural knowledge and English language skills in their homes and in classes to create a better life for themselves in Grand Forks.

WHO ARE WE SERVING?

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN



Volunteer mentors & tutors amassed more than 5,679 hours of service in 2018!



Our Major Programs

Resilient Youth Program

WHAT IS IT?

New American youth gain academic, social, and personal competencies to succeed in Grand Forks.

- Supported 140 New American youth through programming and one-on-one mentoring
- 90 mentors assisted with homework, provided academic support, and built English skills and confidence
- Two field trip experiences: RRHS EL senior art project with artist Terri Berg, and a traditional Thanksgiving meal with UND OT volunteers
- Sponsored youth participation in Summer Performing Arts, swimming lessons, and art camp
- **2019 Goal:** Continue to develop and maintain programs to increase the resiliency of New American Youth.



Red River HS Senior Art Project with Artist Terri Berg



Traditional Thanksgiving with Red River HS & UND OT students

Our Major Programs

Community Outreach & Advocacy Program

- Reached more than 4,500 individuals with 37 community presentations and events
- Major events: World Refugee Day & Community Picnic
- 2019 Goal: Develop, maintain, and evaluate programs that increase the quality and quantity of the relationships between New Americans and the Greater Grand Forks Community.

World Refugee Day honors refugees, recalls the plight that brings people to Greater Grand Forks, and celebrates the diversity our new neighbors bring to our community.

This year's attendance at our Community Picnic was an all-time high – over 700 people came out to University Park to come together and celebrate Grand Forks' wonderful diversity.

WHAT IS IT?

New Americans and members of Greater Grand Forks are provided opportunities to learn more about our community and become engaged in meaningful ways.

MAJOR EVENTS:

World Refugee Day



Community Picnic



- 12th annual picnic
- 700+ attendees
- Co-hosted with the Germans from Russia Community

Thank you, Donors.

Neighbors (\$0-49)

Sonia Alemagno	Miranda Confer	Impact Foundation
Sunnie Andreu	Christine Dewey	Janice Jelliff
Karen & Rich Axvig	Veronica Dockter	Brent Jiran
Becca Bahnmilller & Wayne Baumbach	Kristijana Dogan	Brenda & Stephen Johnson
Linda Bedard	Jennifer Ekberg	Cris Johnson
Laura Berg	Jay Ekren	G.A. Johnson
Marilyn Berg	Monte Engel	Kathryn Kester
Evan Boucher	Krista Foerster	Amy Kester-Mabon
Dawn Boyd	Adam Fortwengler & Mina Kharel	Susan Kiesow
Kevin Brooks	Ron Franz	Theresa Knox
Elizabeth Brown	Kathy Freeman	Karol Knudson
Michael Brue	Chris Gable & Merie Kirby	Allison Lamb
Lisa Burger	Brad Gibbens	Yvette LaPierre & Steve Finney
Katy Bushaw	Haylee Gibson	Brian Larrabee
Clark Carlson	Heather Goodwater	Kristen Larsen-Schmidt
Pat & Scott Carter	Jim and Theresa Grijalva	Sandra Larson
Warren Christensen	Suzi Grote	Julie Leake
Anne Christopherson	Katie Hastings	Loren & Lynn Liepold
Karen Cisek	Kayla Hochstetler	Brenda Locke
Virginia Clinton & Eric Basile	Emily Holth	Kaia Lunde
Brenda & Ron Cole	Jane & Frank Hutzol	Brenda Mahlen
		John & Cathy Martsof



Richard McGurran	Anneli Ryan	Anthony Steinolfson
Bernadette Meberg	Marsha & James Samson	Kirsten & Bradley Stromsodt
Nell Mertz	Kristine & James Sandbeck	Deborah Swanson
Kristin & Joe Miller	Debra Schlosser	Kathryn Sweney
Denise & Keith Mills	Warren Sei	Mackenzie & Keith Teepen
Bonnie Nelson	Ione Seidlinger	Kari Torkelson
Myrna Olson	Pam Shea	Robin Tracy
Steph Olson	Amy Shirek	Angela Urlacher
Jill Ozaki	Lynnell Simonson Popowski	Brooke VanLooy
Andrea Parks	Don Slabaugh	Joel Walz & Haley Svedjan
Patti & Charles Peppel	SMD Grand Forks LLC	Naomi & Jeff Welsh
Rachael Puttbrese	Molly Soeby	Joyce Wicklund
Amy Riker	Linda & Michael St. Onge	Cathy Williams
Adriana Rodriguez	Karen Staggs	Thomas Yabroff
		Chang Yi & Youna Rhee

Advocates (\$50-99)

Harmon & Julie Abrahamson	Ed & Kelly Christ	Gretchen Graf
Barbara Beach	Judith & David Christy	Julene & Paul Griffin
Joy Becker	Erica Claus-numsali	Vivian Grotte
Stacy Bjorgaard	Darrel Cory	Donna Hastings
Dawn & John Botsford	Kathleen Coudle-King	Carol & Elton Hendrickson
Laurie Burkholder	Cassel Everson	Tori & Mike Johnson
Larissa Campbell	Lisa Gibson	Andre Kehn & Carolyn Ozaki
Kaye Carlson	Debrah Glennen & Don Miller	Marina & Marko Kojic



Karyn & Patrick Krause	Kristine & Grant Paranica	Liz Teed
Jeff and Kristi Larson	Randy & Ann Pederson	Kyle Thorson
Michael Maragos	Karalyn Pitner	Ivona Todorovic
Darren & Victoria Mehs	Carol & Terry Schneweis	Carol Wendel
Anne Mostad-Jensen	Ann Shallman	Sharon & Richard Wilsnack
Gretchen Mullendore	Donald & Roberta Shields	James Ziegler
Edwin & Bette Olson	Lonna & Kevin Skoog	Clair Zirnhelt
Kylie Oversen	St Mark's Women of the ELCA	

Providers (\$100-249)

Rose Brandt	Thomasine Heitkamp & Al Boucher	Monica & Mark Musich
Max & Dominique Buchholz	Candace Hennekens	Sally & Robert Nordlie
Elaine Carlson	Rex Huss	Treasure & Roger Omdahl
Doug & Cindy Carpenter	Patti Jensen	Dean Opp & Mary Haslerud
Sharon Carson	Warren & Cindy Jensen	Faye & Billy Pederson
Charles Christianson	JLG Architects	Betsy Perkins
Nancy Cronquist	Sam Johnson	Cynthia Peterson
Arlene David	Nancy Kesseli	Ann & Michael Porter
Andrine Evers	Mary & Bruce Kester	Robbin Rendahl
Cheryl & Dale Fadley	Kerry & Brooke Lentz	James & Judy Schill
John & Kathy Fick	Karen & Kent Lovelace	Alice Senechal
Melissa Gjellstad	James Manos	Sharon Lutheran Women of the ELCA
Rachel Greenlee	Joel Medd	Terri Staples
Chuck Haga	Judy & Barry Milavetz	The Ember



Erin Theis

Aida and Richard Wakefield

Sonia Zimmerman

Rob & Jody Treuer

Matthew Wallace

Zion UMC

Jenna & Joe Zavoral

Visionaries (\$250-499)

Brent Braga

Kit & Eric Johnson

Katherine Sukalski

Community Foundation

Clara & Donald Jurivich

Marcus & Maura Tanabe

Tom Gibson

Marsha Lange

UND Staff Senate

Sarah & Nick Jensen

Marie Neumann

United Way

Humanitarians (\$500-999)

Crary Homes & Real Estate, Inc.

First Presbyterian Church

Hugo's

Joseph & Kristine Dinsmore

Suzanne & Craig Gandrud

Cathy & David Perry

Fire Hall Theatre

Grand Forks Chorales

Philanthropists (\$1,000+)

Larissa Campbell

Knight Foundation

Cynthia & John Shabb

Robin David & Brian Schill

Carter & Erin Kunz

Hal & Kathleen Gershman

Margot & WG McGimpsey

Thank you, Volunteers.

Hibo Aden	Tiana Brown	Ranju Dhungana
Samantha Albrigtson	Jordan Brownell	Stephany Dimoulas
Sayjen Aldridge	Max Buchholz	Jessica Drady
Jennifer Allen	Dominique Buchholz	Alicia Dreier
Jessica Anderson	Laurel Busch	Stephen Dwumfour
Nichole Arn	Madelin Buscho	Kim Elden
Donnette Arndt	Elaine Carlson	Ole Elden
Teresa Arthur	Sidney Carlson	Kelly Entzel
Rochard Augustin Sr	Breanna Carrol	Dalton Fetsch
Karen Axvig	Ashton Carter	Isabell Fetsch
Emily Bachmeier	Cecelia Castleberry	Patrick Finnegan
Becca Bahnmitter	Norris Chin	Angela Floden
Zsofia Barandi	Jade Clement	Cory Floden
Barbara Beach	Sean Clery	Meagan Flom
Kristina Beiswenger	Maria Cole	Haley Folkens
Louisa Bergman	Margarita Consing	Carly Forbes
Bobbie Bertsch	Albertine Cooper	Adam Fortwengler
Corey Birkholz	Danielle Craig	Alli Fox
Reghan Boldt	Samantha Criswell	Alivia Fraase
Sam Boomgaarden	Jane Croeker	Abbey Freeman
Brittany Borgen	Nancy Cronquist	Nicholas Friesen
Cody Boyle	Robin David	Susan Fristad
Brent Braga	Emily Dawes	Mackenzie Funke
Riley Brainard	Elias Dean	Lindsey Gapp
Kennedy Bresnahan	Casey Debalt	Sydney Gayton
Kylie Browen	Aliza Deming	Daba Gedafa



Lisa Gibson	Cheryl Hunter	Rachel Lantz
Aaron Goodrich	Joshua Hunter	Riley Larsen
Jessica Goodrich	Hajar Idrissi	Sadie Larson
Heather Goodwater	Madeline Iffert	Kristi Larson
Alana Grabarkewitz	Cameron Jacobson	Doris Lebby
Jacob Greenmyer	Marissa Jahnke	Courtney Leben
Cale Gressman	Cindy Jensen	Emma Lee
Jordan Grosz	Nick Jensen	Kathryn Lemar
Richard Grove	Sarah Jensen	Jon Lengowski
Madison Gruber	Kailey Jerome	Larae Letexier
Sadie Gunderson	Brianna Johnson	Sheila Liming
Jessica Guo	Tori Johnson	Joan Lin
Allison Haas	Mike Johnson	Hallie Longtin
David Haeselin	Kit Johnson	Kaia Lunde
Chuck Haga	Clara Jurivich	Chyna Lynner
Brier Hagen	Karissa Kempel	Cody Mach
Casey Halverson	Susan Kesow	Johannes Mahlum
Benjamin Harris	Kathryn Kester	Ashley Malina
Katie Hautman	Mina Kharel	Ellen Manos
Ashley Heinze	Bethany Klemetstrud	Karlie Marler
Pam Hennes	Jordan Knight	Douglas Marshall
Kole Hermanson	Emily Kollodge	Mary Martin
Courtney Heuple	Alexis Kotbra	Jon Mason
Julie Hill	Alek Krumm	Molly Maudal
Bailey Hoffman	Monica Kuehl	Olivia Mayasich
Ambria Hoover	Erin Kunz	Julia Mcbrien
Miranda Hosking	Madison Lamb	Paige McCullough
Arielle Humphrey	Rebecka Landowski	Jade Mcfarren



Margot McGimpsey	Moses Oteh	Samantha Scheel
Luke Mckenzie	Prakash Pathak	Jacinda Schell
Mackenzie Meidinger	Alyica Peacock	Jacob Schettler
Paige Melby	Dawn Pearson	Holly Schulz
Elisabeth Melde	Faye Pederson	Sarah Schwartz
Melissa Mercado	Sydney Person	Chris Seaver
Mckenzie Metzen	Erin Phillips	Ione Seidlinger
Kaly Miasso	Austin Pithey	Jamie Serber
Shaylee Miller	Samantha Plutko	John Shabb
Kristin Miller	Diktsha Pokhrel	Brock Shaide
Summer Miller	Kalindi Rachey	Emily Shawkat
Shelby Moderow	Abbie Radermacher	Isnino Shukri
Asha Mohamoud	Amira Ragab	Alyana Simpron
Natalie Mohring	Marissa Rahlf	Nicole Sinclair
Jordan Mooney	Kelsey Raymond	Nicole Skifstom
Kara Moore	Ali Raza	Jared Skoog
Emmanuel Musa	Robbin Rendahl	Jenna Smith
Madison Naylor	Debbie Rham	Lydia Smith
Jenna Nelson	Nina Richter	Grace Spanos
Madeline Nelson	Madisyn Rick	Haleigh Stenseth
Chelsea Neuman	Maggie Ridley	Katie Thomas
Marie Neumann	Paige Rieger	Angie Thompson
Queen Ngale	Emily Roberts	Daniel Todorovic
Kasey Nieland	Samantha Rongstad	Rob Treuer
Melody Nord	Josh Russell	Rachel Trieff
Shayla O'Leary	Drew Rusten	Alyssa Turner-Strong
Dilli Oli	Warren Sai	Alexis Tyce
Patricia Olsen	Helen Sawaya	Brooke Vanlooy



Jack Wadhawan

Sarah Weigel

Shirley Yang

Tori Waege

Brooke Westrich

Zeineb Yousif

Ryan Walter

Brandon Whipkey

Ashley Ystaas

Paige Warren

Pat Wilber

Mimi Yunker

Shelby Wassink

Photo Credits:

Front Cover: Photo by Erin Phillips / Soulshine Photography (Global Friends' 2018 Community Picnic)

Page 3 (Top): Photo by Lone Seidlinger / Board Member (Red River High School)

Page 3 (Bottom): Photo by Sheila Liming (Global Friends' 2018 Soup in the Studio)

Page 4 (Left): Photo by the Floden Family (Outing with New American family)

Page 4 (Right): Photo by staff (Volunteer match with New American family)

Page 5 (Top): Photo by staff (Senior art project sponsored by Global Friends)

Page 5 (Bottom): Photo by staff (Fall event for Red River English Language Learners)

Page 6 (Top): Photo by Emily Dawes (2018 World Refugee Day)

Page 6 (Bottom): Photo by Erin Phillips / Soulshine Photography (Global Friends' 2018 Community Picnic)

Page 15: Photo by Erin Phillips / Soulshine Photography (Global Friends' 2018 Community Picnic)

Thank you, Grantors.

