

# WOMEN OF THE WORLD

EMPOWERING WOMEN

## Annual Report 2016



### MISSION

Empowering women from all nations to achieve independence, economic success, and a voice in the community

### STRATEGY

A boutique approach to long-term solutions for each client through educational assistance, employment opportunities and English proficiency

[WWW.WOMENOFWORLD.ORG](http://WWW.WOMENOFWORLD.ORG)



In 2016, Women of the World's strategic leadership helped to increase the impact on the well-being of the women we serve. We help our women overcome some of the largest barriers to success through a boutique approach tailored to their specific needs. Through this women-centered effort, our women are able to find and start new jobs, and enroll in higher education while learning to navigate a new system in America. Providing support to these women not only benefits them, but empowers their children and generations to come while building a stronger, more inclusive community.

Although refugee women all share the common hardship of being uprooted from their home and way of life and placed into a refugee camp, their backgrounds, cultures, and languages are all unique. At Women of the World, we cater to these individual differences by taking a customized approach to serving our women. We listen to each of their stories, understand each of their situations, and provide a customized solution based on their unique challenges. Every woman that walks through Women of the World's door is given the time, respect, and individual assistance she deserves. Our women are more than case numbers, they are a part of our community and our family.

Although Women of the World functions across multiple linguistic and cultural groups, our women face common barriers such as the lack of the English fluency, the inability to navigate the American systems, poor job mobility and low wage earnings, discrimination, cultural acclimation and the absence of a social safety net. One primary solution to these issues is improving their English language ability. In 2016, Women of the World piloted an intensive practical English program which confirmed the need for an escalated and practical pathway to daily conversational English. With the Practical English Program, we believe our women will be able to quickly advance their English communication skills needed to function on a daily basis. This will also allow them to advocate for themselves and their families in their new home.

Women of the World is proud to share with you the many milestones of progress our women achieved. While we highlight the many success stories of our work, we anticipate continued growth in the needs of our women as they face a more aggressive political agenda and negative media labels. Women of the World will remain at the front lines, protecting the ideals that have enabled humanity to flourish. Our hearts and minds have always been in the right place, events have called upon our deep resolve to move us into the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Samira Harnish". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized initial 'S'.

Samira Harnish, Founder & Executive Director

27

New Job Starts



15

New U.S. Citizens



12

Enrolled in Higher Education



2

English Classes per Week



60

Women Mentors



5

New Businesses Started



\$42,000 in reduced fees and billing due to housing and medical advocacy



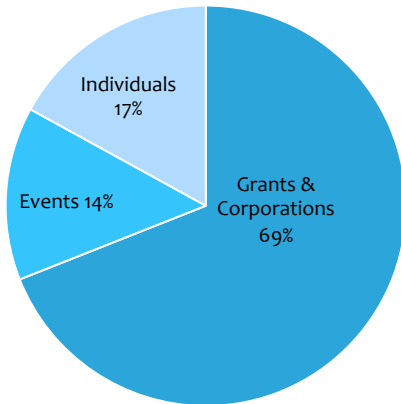
- Over **2,000** hours of volunteer service
- **800** hours of English tutoring
- **171** volunteers



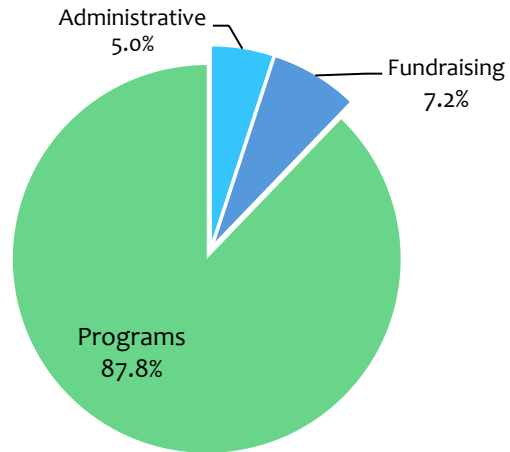
6 Podcasts  
Think globally. Act locally.  
Educate community.



## 2016 INCOME \$107,895



## 2016 EXPENSES \$100,500



### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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**Beverly Cooper**,

Community Activist

**Laura Milliken Gray**, Laura

Milliken Gray, PC

**Mary Dixon**, KUED 7 Public

Television

**Sherrie Martell**, Hale

Center Theatre

**M'Lisa Patterson**, Chart

Bookkeeping



Samira Harnish | Executive Director

"I am driven every day by the courage of our ladies and the improvements they make to our community."

Abby Bossart | Case Manager

"The women that walk through our door, despite all of the hardships and injustices that they have faced, are the most resilient and determined women I have met."



Courtney Bullard | Case Manager

"I envision a community that realizes if we empower refugee women, we are not only helping them and their families, but we are making our society stronger by valuing inclusiveness, diversity and tolerance."



**20+**  
Languages  
Spoken by  
our  
Women

**19**  
Countries  
of Origin

**312**  
Active  
Cases

**127**  
New  
Clients

**3**  
Paid  
Staff



# THANK YOU

We would like to extend our deepest appreciation to the following donors that make our work possible

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We apologize in advance for any names inadvertently left off the list.

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**CYNTHIA MUCCILLO THOMAS RANGE CRM**  
FOR OUR DATA COLLECTION SYSTEM,  
**THE HIGHLAND 26TH WARD**  
FOR REMODELING WOMEN OF THE WORLD'S  
OFFICE SPACE, **and**  
**TO ALL OF OUR COMMITTED VOLUNTEERS**  
THAT TRULY MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF  
OUR WOMEN

**THANK YOU PARTNERS**

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