Thank you to all of our donors. It is your generous contributions that impact our clients lives for the better and allow The Institute to accomplish all of the wonderful events and services we contribute to our community.

December is the month of cherishing family, friends, and all the good we get to celebrate in life. While it is easy to get caught up in the frenzy of holiday shopping, it is important to remember the true holiday spirit is centered around spreading good will!

Below are four stories from our International Education Department showing the impact of your donations!

And click here to donate to our Annual Fund!
284 refugee and immigrant men and women around the Buffalo area attended our health literacy sessions that covered a variety of health issues, and focused on bringing more awareness to the importance of screening and keeping medical appointments. The session also included topics that are considered taboo for this population such as cancer and mental health to encourage clients to talk more and to seek help when necessary.

Your **$30 donation** will allow us to give two families first aid kits during our health literacy classes, so they can have them in their homes to use when needed.

Health literacy ensures that immigrants and refugees can have access to proper health care, communicate better with health care professionals, and know the services provided for them.

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**International Visitors**

We partner with the Department of State to host the International Visitors Leadership Program, a professional exchange program that connects emerging leaders with their counterparts in Buffalo, New York. In 2018, we hosted 92 of visitors from 30 different countries. Our department witnesses firsthand how person-to-person connections create mutual understanding and challenge perspectives among individuals from different countries. We put Buffalo on the map by contributing $25,400 in transportation sales, $41,500 in hotel sales, and thousands of dollars in retail and restaurant business to the region.

Your **$60 donation** will offer a Buffalo public school the opportunity to send in a team of 4 HS students to participate in Academic WorldQuest. This event helps students build their knowledge about global issues through global trivia contest.
A delegation of women from the Palestinian Territories traveled to Buffalo, NY from August 4th-8th to meet with their American counterparts to discuss strategies for directing positive political, social & economic change for women in a democratic society.

Cultural Competency

In 2018, we conducted cultural competency trainings to 2,405 service providers, educators, students, law enforcement, and employers who work with the refugee and immigrant population. One of the employers we worked with was Harmac Medical Products Inc. The trainings helped empower the company’s supervisors to be able to work effectively with the refugee and immigrant employees. It also helped promote sensitivity and inclusion in the work place which lead to more productivity and better employee relationships.

Your $75 donation will allow us to provide transportation for seven refugee women to their mammogram appointments.

Our cultural competency training establishes cultural awareness and helps employers work better with immigrant and refugee populations.
With the highest turnout to date, we hosted over 650 students from 32 schools and represented over 50 countries. They researched and debated critical topics including: Political Stabilization in Syria, Paris Agreement and Climate Control, and Sanctions on North Korea. In order to be effective ambassadors, students must research their country’s positions on global issues through the lens of its foreign policy makers and use tools of persuasion to reach strategic outcomes. This program acts as an avenue for students to become interested in and pursue careers in the fields of international affairs and human rights.

Your $300 donation will sponsor a team of 14 HS students from a Buffalo public school to participate in Model UN conference and pay for their lunch.
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