

IIDA International

INSTITUTE OF THE BAY AREA

www.iibayarea.org

Last Year's Achievements

(Tennifer Beskett President, 2009-2010

Kudos

- For the launch (with all of its challenges) of electronic, paperless recordkeeping with Abacus immigration software in the Redwood City, Oakland, and San Francisco offices.
- For the move to a new space in Oakland from which to provide the West, South and East Bay with additional services, a unique niche in the field of services for immigrant crime victims.
- For a successful Quiet Hero event honoring our own Wells Whitney, far surpassing past events for outstanding fundraising (and having a heck of a good party).
- For the sad, but honorable, phasing out of Youth-Cares; it never lost its excellent implementation of needed services.
- For winning long-shot proposals to fund citizenship programs in the South Bay and in San Francisco, eliminating the new year's initial budget deficit.
- For smartly negotiating and renewing a generous and equitable health insurance plan in the face of legislated changes, rate hikes, and service cuts.
- For bringing on two new excellent board members, Steve Herman and Sacha Steenhoek.

Inspiration

- For evaluating the service needs and exploring new opportunities in immigrant neighborhoods in east Contra Costa and southern Alameda Counties.
- For a dynamic Management Team retreat to set the course for programs and services for the year.
- For client success stories in Oakland told on TV which greatly expand reach and efforts to help victims of crimes.

Leadership

- For a well-organized, implemented, and seemingly painless office move in Oakland with minimal interruption to client services.
- For the management and implementation of a move of our Headquarters in San Francisco to less costly space in Suite 301, same address.
- For diligently and patiently learning to adopt extensive new electronic record processes.
- For the creation of a succession plan for recruiting a new Executive Director when Margi Dunlap retires at the end of 2011.
- For consolidating and unifying agency-wide fee goals, and exceeding them.
- For continuing to recruit superior staff for new and open positions.

657 Mission Street, Suite 301 San Francisco, CA 94105 T: 415 538-8100 F: 415 538-8111 2600 Middlefield Road Redwood City, CA 94063

T: 650 780-7530 F: 650 556-1645 405 14th Street, Suite 500 Oakland, CA 94612

T: 510 451-2846 F: 510 465-3392 IIBA Annual Report 2010

On the IIBA Path





















Finding Freedom from Fear

Sepastian Zavala

Maria del Carmen only reported two instances of abuse from her partner to the police, even though she and her sons were repeatedly physically abused over many years. When she could no longer tolerate the fear, Maria found the help she needed by visiting the International Institute of the Bay Area's Crime Victim Clinic. She found IIBA after watching a segment on the Spanish news that offered IIBA's services to immigrant crime victims.

When Maria was pregnant, her partner would hit her in the stomach, telling her he did not want the baby to be born. The baby was born two months premature due to the abuse she suffered during her pregnancy. It came to the point when her husband could not stand the baby's crying, he threw the baby's bottle at her, narrowly missing her head. After he threatened to kill her and her children, Maria was determined to seek help.

Maria came to IIBA and was guided through the process of applying for a U visa. It was granted, and Maria is currently waiting for her adjustment of status application to be complete so she can become a legal permanent resident. With a stronger network of community outreach between local organizations and the International Institute of the Bay Area, more victims of this kind of violence will be able to find resources to improve their lives. Women who are being abused and who are fearful for themselves and their children will no longer need to wait to receive the help they need, because they will have the option of turning to the International Institute of the Bay Area for assistance.

FINANCIAL STATUS	FY09/10 Audited
INCOME	
City, State & Other Government Contracts	748,639
Other Revenue (Grants, Fees, Donations)	818,117
Total Income	1,566,756
EXPENSES Staff	1 222 001
Occupancy Costs	1,323,081 136,987
Operating Expenses	119,856
Total Expenses	1,579,924
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	(13,168)

The Long Path to Being American

I lost my mom this year. She was 84, and if I ever for a moment doubt that there has been progress in our understanding of the racial and cultural differences that lead some folks to fear and malign immigrants who are different from them, I think of my mother.

She was raised in a New England suburb. When she was a child, her mother wouldn't allow her to bring anyone home to play if that child was Catholic, Jewish, or "colored."

When Mom was nineteen, she married my father, who was raised in the West, and they came across the country on a troop train in 1945. They settled in Compton, where I was born in 1946. We had an African American gardener, and my mother said I told him, when I first learned to talk, that my back yard sunbaths were "so one day I would be as tan as he was."

We moved to San Diego when I was three, lived close to what was then a very tiny San Diego State College. There was a family of Mexicans across the street, a family of Catholics two doors down, and a Jewish family next door on the other side. Rose Kaplan was generous with Kool-Aid, which we all liked, though all that sugar horrified my mother. My father played his viola with colleagues named Mertzbacher and Rofleisch. My mother was proud that she could talk about religion with Harriet Reuter two doors down, but she was unhappy with the Mexicans, who would sing and party on the weekends.

Let's fast-forward fifty years. My mother had a Mexican son-in-law, an African American son-in-law, and grandchildren who lived in Japan and London. One of her sons had married into a big Croatian family. Mom proudly cooked Mexican food, and could wish her friends Happy New Year in Vietnamese.

What changed? Simple: familiarity.
As our country goes on and on about immigration reform, I can't help but notice what the demographics prove: the people most opposed to any kind of reform of our immigration laws are from places with new immigrant populations. Are they fearful that their familiar way of life will



BOARD LIST 2010

Jennifer Beckett President Technology and International Development

Sean McCormick Vice President Insurance

Wells Whitney Treasurer Entrepreneur

Kazuko Tsuchiya Secretary Real Estate

Steve Herman

Accounting

Bernardo Merino

Immigration Law

Salvador Mejia Community Organizing, Public Safety

Anne Peskoe

Law

Sacha Steenhoek

Immigration Law

Margi Dunlap

Executive Director

UDA I	
IIBA Immigration Program Stats FY09-10	Total
Office Visits	7,673
Attendees at Workshops & Training	1,560
Naturalizations	215
Visa Petitions	201
Consular Processing	162
Work Authorization	872
VAWA/U Visa	424
Adjustment of Status	295
Replacement/Renewal of Green Card	192
Temporary Protective Status	15

One Family's

Miguel is a bright, hard-working 19-year old college student, studying at UC Davis to get his undergraduate degree in Environmental Science. His mom, Maria, brought him to the United States from rural Mexico when he was eight years old, after his father was killed in a tragic accident. With no way to support her young son in their impoverished Mexican village, and desperate for a way to survive her recent tragedy, Maria packed up their scarce belongings and joined her sister in Northern California.

Maria and Miguel settled in Redwood City, and Miguel enrolled in third grade at Roosevelt elementary school. A quick learner, Miguel rapidly began speaking English, and by the sixth grade had risen to the top of his class. Maria eked out a living by cleaning houses and selling hand-crafted jewelry at local fairs. As several years passed and Maria recovered from the tragic loss of her husband, she fell in love and married Rigoberto, a friend of her sister's husband. Rigoberto adopted Miguel as his son, and later the couple had two more children. David and Mariana.

Margi Dunlap



be changed, that they'll have to learn another language, that they won't be able to compete? Have they felt threatened

by immigrants being more frugal, by their relying more completely on their extended families for support? None of the facts support these fears, immigrants usually speak English fluently by the second generation, and their work boosts the economy instead of slowing it down.

Back in 1924, when the integration of the large wave of immigrants that followed World War I was moving more slowly than humanly possible, our country's most reactionary and race-based immigration laws were passed, and they weren't repealed until 1965. And the wave

of immigration to the US that followed is just now winding down.

Unfortunately, we seem to be gearing up for another round of hateful, exclusionary policies. While California, with one-fourth of our population being foreign-born, broke from most of the rest of the country in the last election, we see more anti-immigrant, race-baiting individuals than we have seen in Congress since the 1920's.

We've learned a few things at IIBA, after almost a century in the immigrant-inclusion business. It takes a family a generation to speak English at home. Kids learn it first, and invariably move forward with loyalty and respect for their new country. Sadly, with the failure of the DREAM Act, even the most outstanding and talented young people, who were brought here by their parents when they were very young, have been deprived of any hope or opportunity

to contribute to the only country they have ever known. And inexplicably, DREAM failed without the votes of many who had previously supported it, as they capitulated to anti-immigrant forces.

Shrill differences abound. We have spent, in the last ten years, nine times more money than ever before on "securing the border" from human beings, while we inconsistently open it up for every marketable product. Things can move, but people can't.

Our agricultural policies have bankrupted countless small Mexican farms, as we grow and sell corn at higher profit margins than are imaginable in Mexico. We give refugee status to Chinese people who have been terrorized by China's "One Child" policy, and then we do what we can to assure they are not employable when their refugee benefits run out. It's a chaos of conflicting messages.



Citizenship Story Sheryl Muñoz Bergman

Despite her happiness with her husband and children, Maria remained concerned about her immigration status. In desperation 11 years ago, she had crossed the border into the US without a visa, knowing no other way to provide for her son. Maria never told Miguel about their precarious immigration situation, because he was very young and she did not want him to worry about it. Maria's sister, a US citizen, had applied for a visa for Maria, but the wait list for Maria to legalize her status was 15 years.

Maria's husband Rigoberto was a legal permanent resident, though, and he went to a local "notario" or immigration consultant to ask about applying for green cards for his wife and adopted son. Unfortunately, the consultant, not knowing the law, told Rigoberto there was nothing he could do for Maria or Miguel.

Meanwhile, Miguel remained unaware of his immigration status until his senior year in high school, when he began to apply for college. Miguel was a studious

straight-A student, and looked forward to acceptance at a top university with scholarship opportunities. He was devastated to learn that even though he had grown up in California, studied hard, and played by the rules, he did not qualify for federal financial aid or student loans due to his immigration status.

Rigoberto was inspired by Miguel's determination to go to college. He renewed his efforts to learn about legal options for Miguel. This time, Rigoberto came to the International Institute of the Bay Area's Redwood City office. He discovered that if he became a US citizen and applied for a visa petition for Miguel before his son turned 21, then Miguel could get his green card very quickly. He learned that he could also petition for his wife Maria, and she could get her green card too! The petition that her sister submitted for her many years ago protected Maria from spending 10 years in Mexico, separated from her family, as dictated by current punitive immigration laws.

IIBA's Accredited Representative, Becky Bogyo, quickly began to work with Rigoberto on his naturalization application. At the same time, Rigoberto enrolled in IIBA's Citizenship Preparation classes. Although he spoke English fairly well, Rigoberto had never learned to write well in English, and he also needed to study US history and government in order to pass his citizenship interview.

Rigoberto was a model student. Every week, he studied hard and did his homework. Surprised that someone who worked 50-60 hours each week to support his family consistently dedicated so much effort to study civics questions, IIBA's Citizenship Instructor, Joe, asked Rigoberto what motivated him to excel in class. Rigoberto explained that he did not have the opportunity to graduate from high school because he had to work from an early age, so now he insists that all his children study hard and do their homework so that they can become educated and go to college.

"Now I have to be a good role model

I think about my mother often these days. I live in an Asian neighborhood, surrounded by the best produce markets and restaurants in San Francisco. On holidays, the staff of the International Institute of the Bay Area has wonderful pot-luck feasts, including curry from Burma, rice dishes from Central Asia, black beans from Nicaragua, nopalitos from Costa Rica, flan from Mexico. We party and we sing.

I can only hope, as my tenure comes to a close, that the parts of the country who don't know yet how good it can be when we are all together will discover this before we have to endure another decade or so of turning our proudest assets – the people who want to work, build, and value this country – into enemies.



for my children, and complete my homework, too, so that I can pass my citizenship interview," Rigoberto told Joe. And Rigoberto did pass his interview test, answering every question correctly! As soon as he became a US citizen, IIBA's Accredited Representative assisted him with the immigration applications for Miguel and Maria.

Just last week Rigoberto called with the good news. Maria and Miguel both received their green cards! Miguel has begun to apply for scholarships and student loans, so that his parents won't have to choose between helping with his college tuition or buying new shoes and school clothes for his little brother and sister. Maria has applied for her driver's license, and she has an interview for a position as a substitute teacher's aide for children with special needs. In five more years, Miguel will be eligible to apply for US citizenship. Without a doubt, our community will benefit from the talents and contributions of this intelligent, hardworking young man.

Finding the Courage to Ask for Help

Dannhae Herrera Wilson

Thirty-year-old Ana is a proud mother of two daughters and a successful small business owner, after a struggle many of us can only imagine.

Ana was born in Mexico, and her mother passed away when she was little. She grew up in a small village and was raised by her father, whom she loves dearly. Ten years ago, Ana fell in love with Eduardo. He was very nice and charming at the beginning. When he showed signs of jealousy and control, Ana thought that it was because he loved her very much. After their first child was born, Eduardo started to talk about moving to the United States. Eduardo told her that the process of immigrating was long and complicated and he would rather get Ana and their daughter smuggled to the US. It didn't sound right to Ana, but Eduardo insisted and said that she had to do it if she loved him.

Ana tried to cross the border once, but was stopped by the border patrol and sent back to Mexico. She crossed the border again several days later to re-unite with her husband, who was waiting for her on the other side. Ana was full of hope and was looking forward to her future life in the United States.

Soon Ana gave birth to their second child. That was Anna's only bright memory of that time, because Eduardo was turning into a monster. He didn't allow Ana to talk to anyone and became very jealous and possessive of her. He didn't allow her to associate with any friends or family members. When they were around other people, Eduardo's behavior scared strangers, friends and family members, everyone. When Ana's relatives came to visit her, he would demand that they leave the house, and he would shout obscenities at them. After a while Ana's friends and relatives wouldn't visit, for fear that Eduardo would harm them.

It got worse. If Ana refused to do what he wanted or when she tried to leave him, he would threaten to kill her and the children. Eduardo drank too much and hit Ana and her children when he was drunk. Ana was scared to speak up and to ask for help, because she thought that her husband would kill her. Ana and her children couldn't sleep at nights, fearing for their lives. Her daughters' grades went down drastically and her teachers were concerned with lack of motivation and concentration.

Finally, after a severe beating, Ana decided to seek help. She went to nearby health center, and the social worker called the police. Ana reported the abuse to the police and her husband was arrested and convicted of domestic violence. She cooperated with the investigation, and was referred to the International Institute of the Bay Area to seek immigration counseling.

IIBA immigration caseworker, Dannhae Herrera Wilson, helped Ana to prepare and apply for the U visa that gave Ana and her daughters the chance to reside and work legally in the United States. They are still recovering from the emotional trauma from the abuses and threats of Eduardo, but the girls and Ana are full of high hopes for the future.

SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS

Alameda County District Attorney

Alameda County Family **Justice Center**

Alameda County Social Services Agency

American Immigration Lawyers' Association Atkinson Foundation

Balboa High School

Bay Area Gardeners' Foundation Bay Area Legal Aid

California Bar Association California Department of Education

City of Hayward City of Oakland City of Redwood City

City of San Leandro Coast Counties Property Management

County of Alameda Fair Oaks Community Center

Family Violence Law Center Firedoll Foundation Galileo Academy of Science

and Technology Garden for the Environment

George Washington High School **Grove Foundation** Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP

Holland & Knight LLP Immigrant Legal Resource

International Institute of

International Institute of International Institute of

International Institute of

International Studies

Academy IOBS Now

Law Office of Robert Lewis National Immigrant Family

Violence Initiative National Immigration Project of the National Lawyers

Nationalities Service Center, Philadelphia

Newcomer High School Oakland City Attorney's Office

Oakland Police Department Redwood General Tire Service Company Richmond Village Beacon

Center San Francisco Department of Aging and Adult Services San Francisco Department of

Public Health San Francisco Foundation San Francisco General

Hospital San Francisco Human

Service Network San Francisco Human Services Agency San Mateo Credit Union San Mateo County Works Side by Side Studios Sidley & Austin LLP Sigona's Farmers Market Silicon Valley Community

Foundation

State of California Department of Education

TechSoup Global Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Redwood City United States Department of Homeland Security United States Department of Justice

US Committee for Refugees and Immigrants

Van Löben Sels/RembeRock Foundation Washington High School

Wells Fargo Bank Y&H Soda Foundation

YWCA of the Mid-Peninsula Donor Advised Fund of the Women's Foundation of California

Zellerbach Family Foundation

FRIENDS

Wade Acton Bonnie & Tony Addario lanet Adelman Alicia Aguirre Jeffrey Aldrich Barbara Antonucci Bob Archibald & Mary Ellen Dr. & Mrs. Stefan Arnon Yvonne Baker Jennifer Bard Maria Barrales Myrna Barrera lose Becerra Jennifer Beckett Ronald & Nancy Blackman Judith Bloomberg & Michael Barnett Joanne Bodin Helen Boikan Laurie Bonilla, Attorney at Law

Suzi Bourquiqnan Steve & Karen Boyarnick Marion Brackett

Jo Ellen Brainin-Rodriguez

Mara Brazer Tanya Border & Theodore

Laura & David Brown

Jenny M. Butler J. Buurman & C. Ertel Elizabeth Calfee

Ianel & Scott Callon Reinaldo Tovias Camal Paolo Campos

Capital Guardian Trust Luis Carrillo **Daniel Carrion**

Jim Chappell lennifer Chen Claudine Cheng Jan Chernoff & Isabel Wade

Teri Chin & Salvador Mejia Kay Young Choi

Julie Christensen & Greg Eric Cohen

Judge & Mrs. John S. Cooper Janice Cooper

Margaret Corrigan & Larry Vanessa Aching Davenport

Lynne Deegan-McGraw **Ewald Detiens** Ban Dol

Donahue Family Foundation Dolores & John Downing Jean Driscoll & Peter

Pam Duffy Sharon Dulberg Kit Durgin & Elaine McKinley

Gracelyn Durst Dean Echenberg, M.D. ludi Elman

Patricia Erwin Frank & Dorothy Farner Bonnie Fisher & Boris Dramov

Paul Fogel & Ventura Chalom

Patricia Franks Rod Freebairn-Smith William P. Fuller IV Elmer Gallegos

John & Paula Gambs S. Garibotto Dipti Ghosh Sue & Keith Gilbert

Carol Goldberg Richard & Patricia Golomb Christina Gonzaga

Joaquina Gracias Susanna & Joe Grannis Donald & Judy Grav

Lucas Guttentag & Deborah Maria de Guzman

lim & Chervl Haber Maud Hallin

Anne Halsted & Wells Whitney Iulie Hanamura Peter & Louise Hassan

Stacia Eyerly Hatfield Greg Hecht Billie lean Herman

Charles Herman Steve Herman Linda Higueras Irene Hilton

Ephraim Hirsch Carla Silver Hoffman Law Office of Barbara Horn

Pamela Hunter & Carl Duomani Yin Yan Leung & Peter

Henry & M. L. Jacobsen Marvin & Barbara Kasoff Kazan Foundation

John & Christina Keker Martha Killebrew Katherine Koelsch & John

Alan & Pat Kramer Stephanie & Morris Krantz

Karl Krooth Gyongy Laky & Tom Layton Rick & Nicole Laubscher Mary Patricia Lavin

Abigail L'Esperance Rae Levine Philippe & Linnaea Knisely

Thelma Lilienthal Nora Lindahl Irene Lindbeck Tibbits Thomas Lockard & Alix Marduel

Eric & Karen Lonergan Richard Lonergan Alan K. Luu

King & Anson Ly Elaine Malone Johanna Mandelbaum loe Margevicius Edward & Wildes McCormick

Sean McCormick

Ruthanne & Donald McCunn Jeffrey McVehil Ioan Meisel

Francisco Mejia Pamela Merchant & Kirby Sack

Bernardo Merino Michael Meyers & Judith Brown

Lucile & Raymond Miles Jeanne Milligan & Peter Dewees

Jean Mitchell Elaine & Ken Moody James R. Moore

Maridel Moulton Michael Mueller & Christine

Karen Musalo & Richard Boswell

Lance Nagel Francis Nestor Silen Nhok Elena Olzark Mark Ong

Park & Taylor, Attorneys David Pasternak

John C. & Cathy Patterson Gari Patton Ricardo Perine Anne Peskoe

Tora Poeter Lauren A. Post Susan Pownall Nora Privitera

Elsbeth Protzen lanet Raiche Nelly Reyes-Rosenberg

Francois & Sachie Richardson Madeline Ritchie Marde Ross

Ruth Rubio Jose Sanchez Raghvendra Savoor Sarah Schulman

Marianne Selph SF Chapter of NAIW Rocio & Carl Smith

Regina Sneed Rolph & Gunvor Sommerhaug

Carolyn Sonfield Lynda Spence & Robert Mittelstadt

RoseAnne Steenhoek Sacha Steenhoek Eugeny Tarasov Cesar Ternieden Vickie & Jack Tomlinson Janet Tompkins Trust Lewis Minh Tran & Lucy

Lewis Tran Reiko True Kazuko Tsuchiya lose Umali Donald Ungar

Van Der Hout, Brigagliano, & Nightingale Sheridan & Betsey Warrick

John, Jenny, Chase & Alle Benjamin Wildes & Holly

Bob Lee & Jane M. Winslow Stephen Wong Peggy & Lee Zeigler Toni Fuller Zuniga

VOLUNTEERS

Jesus Alcala Carolyn Alcott Emily Aldrich Jorge Aleman Lidia Alvarez Elijah Angote Khalid Afsar Erik Ashkenaz Negin Avaregan Reina Barragan Alexa Benedetti Sarah Berry Stenhanie Blount Karli Bobus Peggy Bristol-Wright Laura Wolff Brown Martina Bunk Nicole Campbell Tia Canlas Isela Castaneda

Jarrie Chang Aygul Charles Renate Clive Rodrigo Cortes Garcia Kameron Cox Kevin Crahtree Rebecca Delatorre

Amalia Greenberg Delgado Monica Devens Kate Didech Roy Dimaculangen

Lining Du Kit Durgin Katie Dwight Allison Eis Erin Elskes

Nancy Fellom Kimberly Ferguson Erik Fernandez Paul Fernandez

Kathyrn Fernandez Barbara Ferro Luke Fischer Vincent Fisher Perla Flores

Andrey Gabets Nicole Gamble Amelia George

Julie Gilgoff Karen Gitlin Maria Leticia Gomez Rosa Gomez

Ana Gonzales Lily Gregerson Michael Grim Lauren Groth

Hilda Gutierrez Sasha Hammad Ayesha Hardway Julia Heming Katie Henderson

Marina Hernandez Jose Hernandez Melanie Hibbs Jennifer Hitchcock Tammi Hodgsdon

Daniel Hodgsdon Jacqueline Hong Ana Hurtado Sarah Jebrock Joni Johnson

Mary Beth Kaufman Erich Keefe Patricia Keiser leff Klein

Kevin Lane Helen Lawrence

Minh Le Anna Lijphart lennifer Lin Erin Liotta lennie Liu Lori Livingston Gloria Lo Helen Lopez Marisol Maciel Vera Madriz Joe Margevicius Adam Mariano Julia Marquez Sydney Matteson Alma Mendez Claudia Mercado Bernardo Merino Monica Miklas Jaime Mira Shachana Moore Sreela Mukherii

Veronica Montelongo Hudah Mukiibi Elena Munoz Chelsea Haley Nelson

Laura Neri Minh Chau Nguyen Iessica Oliva

Malgorzata Olszowka Juan Ortiz Alfredo Oxlev Alfredo Pacheco David Pasternak

Gari Patton Raquel Payes Marisol Perez Barbara Plantiko Jimmy Quintana

Crystal Ramirez Fricka Ramirez Abigail Ramsden Genaro Rios

Lauren Rodriguez Jose Roias Adreyna Roland Lauren Salas Aurora Salas

Laura Leon Sanchez Anna Sanders Laraine Schaefer Bettina Schlegel

Sarah Sepasi Daniel Shanfield Fatimah Simmons Mary Skramstad Vladimir Sobolev

Ben Spohn Kylie Stana Libby Strichartz Preston Swapp Scott Swartz Andrew Taylor

Heather Thurgood **Jennifer Tobar** Sandra Torres

Cezar Torrez Christina Varner Amita Vasudeva Gabriela Velazquez Laura Walpert Richard Winchell

Heather Wolf Ena Yasuhara Krista Yee Jamie Young

Chandrika Zager Olena Zmiychuk