

Immigration Realities for a 21st Century World



IIBA

INTERNATIONAL
INSTITUTE OF
THE BAY AREA

www.iibayarea.org

IMMIGRATION REFORM MUST CREATE A REALISTIC AND ENDURING SOLUTION THAT WILL:



Promote immigrant integration

I am doing my best to learn English. The classes are very crowded, and I'm over forty years old. Sometimes I feel very lonely in that crowded classroom full of younger people.



Meet the needs of employers in a global economy

I couldn't run this hotel, couldn't host these big conventions, without the immigrants who do so much of the work. I need a legal way to recruit people for those jobs.



Focus border security on weapons and drug smuggling, human trafficking, and terrorism.

My fourteen-year-old son was staying with my Mom in Mexico. When she died, he tried to join us here. They found his body in the desert.



Protect families

If my mother could come sooner, she could care for the kids so both my wife and I could work.



Guarantee fundamental rights for all workers

My boss doesn't pay me sometimes, and I'm afraid if I protest, he'll fire me. I need the job. But I don't think he'll be fair to anyone as long as someone like me is afraid to ask for my rights.



Repair long-term disparities with fast and fair adjustments for long-time residents

My younger brothers and sisters were born here, they're citizens. But my parents brought me when I was a baby, and I can't even get a work permit to help my family.

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**IIBA Annual
Report 2009**

Recession Priorities

MARGI DUNLAP

Executive Director



This has been a year of exquisite hopes and complicated political realities. Just about every institution we work with on a regular basis struggles through these difficult times. Foundations witnessed large portions of their wealth disappear, government entities saw their bottom lines crying out for new revenue, and unemployed young people and volunteers wanting to spend a few years doing real, tangible good for their country flocked to the IIBA. Our volunteer ranks swelled with bright law graduates who can't find jobs, and with newcomers to the work world who want to be around people who can help them learn what this country is all about.

We feel very lucky though. Our reserve is secure and well-managed by Stone and Youngberg, and we came out of the last fiscal year in the black. Our successful merger presents new opportunities and challenges as we negotiate for new office space and develop additional programs that help immigrant victims of crime and violence. More than 7,000 people came through the Institute's doors this year seeking help. Our statistics show that more people than ever need help with lost documents, long waiting times, and government requests for informa-

tion that are difficult to understand.

It is a frustrating time because without long-needed immigration reform there is not too much the Institute can do to help the six million or so who came to California to work and live law-abiding lives. Our clients aspire to work hard to establish safe homes with mortgages that will not deceive them and to create loving environments where their children can thrive without the pain of poverty, discrimination, and hate.

We see brilliant college graduates, trained in the fields our economy needs, immigrants brought here too young to know about border regulations. They eloquently tell us how they are not eligible to work, and they are vulnerable to deportation because of something they could not control. These bright stars are dehumanized

in the xenophobic media as "illegal aliens." How much longer are we going to deprive them of their right to contribute to our economy?

We talk every day to people so desperate for legal status that they pin slender hopes on unscrupulous opportunists who dishonestly promise a false solution and run off with the fam-

ily's savings. People submit to indignities daily, they've heard about their neighbor who drove his car without a license, got arrested for a broken tail light, and deported. They live in fear of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) raids that knock on the door because someone who used to live there has a deportation order.

At IIBA, we live every day in a world of immigrants. Without immigration reform too much of what we have been taught to believe about America becomes shallow rhetoric. I memorized Emma Lazarus's poem on the Statue of Liberty in the 7th grade. It ends with the phrase:

*Send these, the homeless,
tempest-tossed to me,
I lift my lamp beside
the golden door!*

The language might be a bit archaic, even demeaning, when we consider the global conditions that have created the "tempest," but I fear we will forget the incredible resilience and resourcefulness of people who immigrate. We put out that lamp and let the golden door slam shut at our peril.



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Community Organizing,
Public Safety

Anne Peskoe

Law

Sacha Steenhoek

Immigration Law

Margi Dunlap

Executive Director

Immigration Stats

	Oakland	Redwood City	San Francisco	Total
Office Visits	3,004	3,313	1,098	7,415
Attendees at Workshops & Trainings	800	1,525	163	2,488
Naturalization	68	212	73	353
Visa Petitions	18	136	35	189
Consular Processing	11	88	58	157
Affidavits of Support	50		112	162
Work Authorization	341	39	65	445
FOIA/FBI Requests	10	51	4	65
Declarations, Letters, Translations	1,025	396	170	1,591
VAWA/ U Visa	289	55		344
Waivers	417	42		459
Deport Cases	10			10
Adjustment of Status	32	65	48	145
Removal of Conditional Status	8	15	19	42
Replacement/Renewal of Green Card	5	88	11	104
Temporary Protective Status	5	103	13	121



Our

SHERYL MUÑOZ BERGMAN
Director, San Mateo County Programs

The cornerstone of IIBA's Mission is to provide legal immigration services to limited English proficient, low-income families throughout the Bay Area, who lack access to other resources. We seek to maintain baseline legal immigration services to vulnerable families, while at the same time expanding our outreach and public education efforts as we prepare for necessary immigration reform. By providing newcomer families with legal services for immigration and citizenship, and with accurate information that they must have to make informed decisions regarding their future, we support these families in their quest for self-sufficiency.

Board Business

JENNIFER BECKETT
President

This year our Board skills were enhanced by the addition of three new directors. At the annual meeting in March Steve Herman and Sacha Steenhoek joined, and in September Jesus Castrence came on the Board.

Sacha Steenhoek, a former employee of the Institute (when it was IISF) practices Immigration and Employment Law at Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP, Steve Herman is controller at The Asia Foundation (headquarters in San Francisco with 16 field offices throughout Asia), and Jesus

Castrence coaches Wells Fargo Bank branch managers to help them increase sales of their financial products and services.

Despite these harrowing times of economic downturn and foundation funding reductions, IIBA's budget is in reasonable shape. Individual budget items are near their projections, fee income exceeds projections, and overall we're holding up well. The downside of this year has

been the loss of the City of San Francisco's Safety Network program, and the need for additional YouthCares funding, but we are hopeful that the inherent strength of YouthCares will attract funders.

Lately I've revisited the progress toward the five-year goals set in February, 2008, and the progress toward those goals is positive. This says volumes about the skill, dedication and tenacity of IIBA staff members and the need for the Institute's programs and services in the communities we serve. I extend my thanks and congratulations to a great team!

Board members left to right:
Anne Peskoe, Jennifer Beckett, Margi Dunlap, Kazuko Tsuchiya, Sean McCormick, Bernardo Merino, Sacha Steenhoek
Not present: Jesus Castrence, Steve Herman, Salvador Mejia, Wells Whitney



Clients Wait for Reform



Immigration legal services at IIBA begin with an initial one-to-one consultation where newcomers receive comprehensive answers to

their case-specific questions regarding immigration and citizenship. For those who live in mixed status households, where someone in the family is a US Citizen, someone may be a green card holder, and someone may be undocumented, we will assess family member eligibility for legal permanent resident status and a green card. For those clients who indicate that they have been victims of an abusive relationship or a violent crime, IIBA staff will assess their eligibility for either VAWA or a

U visa. These are unique immigration benefits that protect immigrant crime victims.

IIBA partners with other community organizations in mutual and complementary referrals so that clients are able to access the holistic support they need.

Some who seek our services are not eligible for immigration relief under current laws. Many of these families live in fear of the immigration police, who have been conducting broad community sweeps that round up and deport people, leaving US Citizen children here without their parents. Some parents are afraid to take their children to school or to

go grocery shopping. When people are ineligible for relief, our staff provides them with information about their rights and responsibilities, as well as accurate, realistic information regarding their specific situation and how they might be able to preserve their eligibility for future immigration reform. Their alternative is to go to “notarios” or immigration consultants who are often untrained and sometimes unscrupulous, and who make their money by offering inaccurate information that could result in deportation or prevent people from applying later for legitimate programs.

During our community education presentations, IIBA provides updated information to community members regarding pending immigration legislation. IIBA’s workshops describe how pending legisla-

tion might affect immigrants, what steps the legislation must go through to become law, and how people can become more civically engaged. Eligible green card holders are encouraged to apply for US Citizenship, and those who are US Citizens are encouraged to register to vote. We offer citizenship preparation classes that enable permanent residents to study English and US history in order to become US Citizens.

Healthy inclusive communities require the active participation of all members. Newcomers often need information and assistance to find the ways they can participate, so that our democratic processes function well.



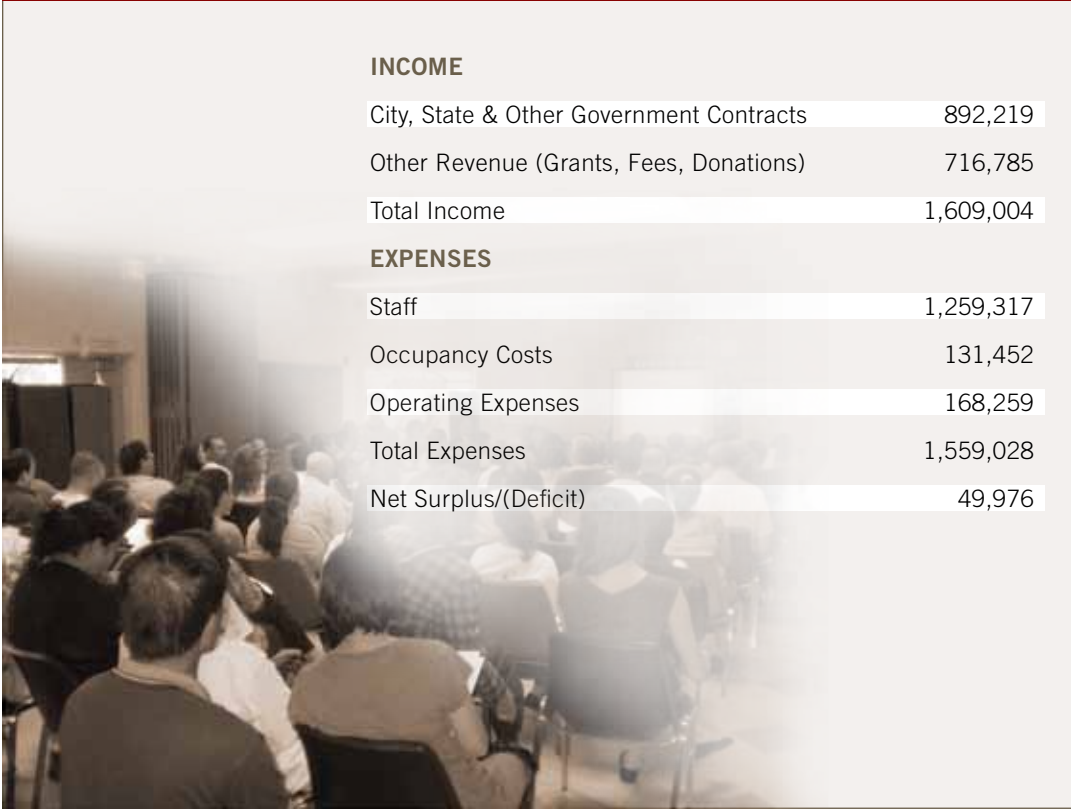
Annual Report Financials

INCOME

City, State & Other Government Contracts	892,219
Other Revenue (Grants, Fees, Donations)	716,785
Total Income	1,609,004

EXPENSES

Staff	1,259,317
Occupancy Costs	131,452
Operating Expenses	168,259
Total Expenses	1,559,028
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	49,976



IIBA's YouthCares Program Succeeds Despite Daunting Financial Challenges

MEITAL AMITAI

YouthCares Program Coordinator

This year, YouthCares hired 82 high-school aged youth for meaningful community service employment, trained and provided volunteer opportunities for 40 more, and positively affected the lives of over 320 youth and seniors in San Francisco. Our "Class of 2009" included participants from 17 different countries, speaking over 23 different languages. We receive close to five applicants for every available slot in the program.

For high school youth in San Francisco, finding a job is a nearly impossible feat, especially in this recession. Students are considered too young to hire, and face a stereotype of being irresponsible and unreliable as well. With no way to help their low income families, and fewer opportunities for meaningful after-school activities, some youth find themselves in less desirable places: the streets. The City's choice to target limited resources to youth already at serious risk leaves youth who remain in school and out of trouble, despite their poverty and language



needs, to face their difficulties with added resolve, and that's what YouthCares works to give them.

Before joining the YouthCares family earlier this year, I was a Community Organizer in the South of Market district of San Francisco, and saw all too often the results of marginalized immigrant youth having no after-school options. I'm honored to be part of the solution from my new position at YouthCares. YouthCares is more than a place to go after school, it's a place to thrive. Students are paid for the time they spend providing community service to seniors and monolingual newcomers. They get a taste of independence and pride when they can buy a new shirt without



having to bother their struggling parents for money. And YouthCares participants are trained for successful futures with workshops in Financial Literacy, Resume and Cover Letter Writing, Choosing a College and a Major, Writing a Personal Statement, Public Speaking, and more.

YouthCares also stresses community development as our hired youth go on to become Peer Tutors at Newcomer High School in our Partners in Learning Program. There, tutors work with newly arrived immigrant high school students, and tutor them in English while learning to create and facilitate lesson plans that teach the youth new vocabulary and American culture, while mentoring and developing important friendships. Our intergenerational program works with immigrant seniors, manages a food bank every Thursday, teaches ESL and art classes, and offers companionship.

Unfortunately, despite our successes, the YouthCares program is at risk. Like so many, our program has been hit hard this year by the economic downturn. Our staff of three has been reduced to one Program Coordinator with minimal

time to seek added funds while single-handedly running a thriving program. Foundations that have provided substantial support for youth development in the past have changed their priorities to address critical needs emerging from the bad economy, and YouthCares' immigrant youth, who have so much to offer to our community's future, are close to falling off the radar.

Still, despite these disappointments, YouthCares has had a very successful year, and we're determined not to let our youth suffer these impacts too harshly before we see things turn around for them. Our youth walk away from this program more equipped to take on the world, to be articulate about their skills and assets, and to move forward in their lives with a strong sense of community engagement.



THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS

Afterschool for All Technical Assistance Collaborative
Alameda County District Attorney
Alameda County Family Justice Center
Alameda County Medical Center
Alameda County Social Services Agency
American Immigration Lawyers' Association
Atkinson Foundation
Avon Foundation
Balboa High School
Bay Area Gardeners' Foundation
Bay Area Legal Aid
California Bar Association
Children's Hospital of Oakland
City of Oakland
City of Redwood City
City of San Leandro
Coast Counties Property Management
Community Network for Youth Development
Community Youth Center
Compton Foundation
County of Alameda
ExCEL Afterschool Program
Fair Oaks Community Center
Family Violence Law Center
Firedoll Foundation
Galileo Academy of Science and Technology
Garden for the Environment
George Washington High School
GGG Foundation
Grove Foundation
Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP
Holland & Knight LLP
Immigrant Legal Resource Center
Institute on Aging
International Institute of Boston
International Institute of Kansas City
International Institute of New Jersey
International Institute of St. Louis
International Studies Academy
Jewish Vocational Services
Kaiser-Permanente Foundation
Kimball Foundation
Law Office of Robert Lewis
Lincoln High School
Mayor's Neighborhood Crime Prevention Program
Mission High School
National Immigrant Family Violence Initiative
National Immigration Project of the National Lawyers Guild
Nationalities Service Center, Philadelphia
Newcomer High School
Oakland City Attorney's Office
Oakland Police Department
Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church
Phillip and Sala Burton Academic High School
Redeemer Lutheran Church
Redwood General Tire Service Company
Richmond Neighborhood Center
Richmond Village Beacon Center
Safety Network Partnership
San Francisco Department of Aging and Adult Services

San Francisco Department of Children, Youth and their Families
San Francisco Department of Public Health
San Francisco Foundation
San Francisco General Hospital
San Francisco Human Service Network
San Francisco Human Services Agency
San Francisco Youth Employment Coalition
San Mateo Credit Union
Side by Side Studios
Sidley & Austin LLP
Sigona's Farmers Market
Silicon Valley Community Foundation
State of California Department of Community Services and Development
State of California Department of Education
TechSoup Global
Tenderloin Community Benefit District
TODCO, Tenants and Owners Development Corporation
UCSF
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Redwood City
US Committee for Refugees and Immigrants
Van Löben Sels/RembeRock Foundation
Washington High School
Washington High School College and Career Center
Wells Fargo Bank
Y&H Soda Foundation
YMCA of San Francisco
Young Workers United
YWCA of the Mid-Peninsula Donor Advised Fund of the Women's Foundation of California
Zellerbach Family Foundation

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Dr. Scott McKinzie, Dentist
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