ANNUAL REPORT
2020
Dear Friends of Spring Institute,

On behalf of our staff and Board of Directors, we are pleased to share this report on the impact of our programs and services in 2020 along with a snapshot of our financial position for the year.

It goes without saying that 2020 was full of (often unpleasant) surprises, inexorable heartbreak, and many personal and professional challenges for the immigrant and refugee community and their neighbors and service providers. Yet, through it all, we were struck again and again by the incredible strength, resilience, and generosity within our welcoming community. We hope that this report sheds light on the positive opportunities, partnerships, and triumphs fostered in the face of the Covid-19 pandemic as Spring Institute directly served 1,000+ immigrants and refugees and supported the welcoming network in innumerable ways.

Some highlights:

- 2020 saw Spring Institute’s Adult Education program expand its reach through creative remote learning opportunities that supported nearly 500 students from Fort Collins to Colorado Springs in logging 1500+ hours of online/distance learning.
- Tireless resource and healthcare navigators through Project SHINE rose to the occasion of providing culturally sensitive, linguistically accessible services to hundreds of non-English, non-Spanish speaking (NENS) Covid-19 patients and their families.
- Our Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY) Program also launched and, when the time came when in-person visits were not advisable, made adjustments to continue serving families remotely. Our unique and innovative version of this national model focuses on engaging Dual Language Learner (DLL) families by recruiting and training multilingual home visitors from within the immigrant and refugee community, teaching parents the skills to prepare their preschool-aged children for school success.
- The Interpreter Network by Spring Institute helped facilitate pandemic response and recovery through over 100 Covid-19 public information translation projects and by training several dozen medical interpreters to enhance language access and fluent communication in our healthcare system.
- Our Advocacy Team worked hard to ensure that Colorado’s adult and early learners alike have more options to access the educational opportunities they deserve and that the talents and hard work of internationally-trained medical graduates (IMGs), including those we serve through Colorado Welcome Back (CWB), are appropriately recognized and utilized.

It was a pleasure celebrating some of these achievements and the collaborative partnerships that make all our work possible during our first-ever virtual Spring Intercultural Champion Awards, which took place in October 2020. We’re happy to say that the ceremony went off without a hitch and netted an organizational fundraising record.

Having overcome so much together, we’re more thankful than ever for the immigrants and refugees who add vibrancy and economic vitality to Colorado and the many staff, volunteers, partners, and friends of Spring Institute who help make this one of the nation’s warmest welcoming communities. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Paula Schriefer
President & CEO

Margaret Kirkpatrick
Board Chair
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PROGRAM IMPACT IN 2020

Adult Education

By continuously adapting through challenging times and collaborating with 14 incredible community partners including public schools, libraries, local businesses, and other nonprofits, Spring Institute’s Adult Education program engaged nearly 500 adult learners in 2020.

Retention averaged an impressive 70% over ESL, Workplace English, and Paraprofessional Pathways classes.

Students logged nearly 1500 hours of online/distance learning.

Through innovative remote learning opportunities, we reached new adult learners beyond the Denver Metro Area from Fort Collins to Colorado Springs.

Colorado Welcome Back (CWB)

With CWB’s individualized training and supportive resources, dozens of internationally trained medical professionals got on track with careers in Colorado’s healthcare workforce in 2020, attaining an average salary of $20.57/hour.

$12,000 in scholarships were awarded to immigrant & refugee health professionals getting licensed in the U.S. medical field.

20 participants enrolled in training programs to become physicians, medical interpreters, registered nurses, dentists, pharmacists, & more.

7 participants successfully obtained healthcare licenses or certifications to practice in Colorado.
In 2020, Project SHINE expanded the scope and breadth of its resource navigation services in response to the Covid-19 crisis while continuing to promote vital health literacy among immigrant and refugee families in Denver & Aurora.

Served 200+ immigrant and refugee older adults.

Delivered 2,472 food boxes to families impacted by Covid-19.

Provided culturally sensitive and linguistically accessible resource navigation/referrals to 400+ Covid-19 patients. Including their families, these services supported 1200+ people.

Spring Institute’s community-based learning program for immigrant and refugee children (ages 0-4) and their caregivers provided invaluable, pandemic-safe opportunities for social and emotional development and family bonding.

Engaged 150+ children & their parents/guardians.

100% of participants reported improving their healthy eating, exercise, and hygiene practices.

95% of parents reported exercising with their children outside of class & gaining knowledge to help their families adopt healthier lifestyles.
PROGRAM IMPACT IN 2020

In 2020, Spring Institute launched our innovative Home Instruction For Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY) Program. We implemented this national model with a special focus on recruiting and training multilingual home visitors from within the immigrant and refugee community to deliver evidence-based, culturally competent, and linguistically accessible educational enrichment and school readiness services in each family’s native language.

Hired a full-time program coordinator and recruited home visitors fluent in English, Burmese, Somali, & Swahili.

Enrolled 23 immigrant and refugee families with 44 children ages 2-5.

Provided 500+ virtual or in-person home visits.

Youth Programming

With creative online options and outdoor activities adapted for pandemic safety, Spring Institute provided opportunities for immigrant and refugee youth to engage in physical activities promoting fitness, fellowship, exploration, empowerment, & fun!

Engaged 100+ youth and 30 parents/guardians.

Introduced youth to a range of activities & new sports such as yoga, HIIT classes, Girls on the Run, hiking, karate, rock climbing, ice skating, volleyball, basketball, & more.

18 youth completed a 5K race with 100% of runners reporting a sense of pride & achievement.
The Interpreter Network by Spring Institute creates job opportunities for immigrants and refugees with language skills, offers professional development for interpreters and multilingual service providers, and enhances our welcoming community with interpretation and translation services in 100+ languages.

Delivered interpretation and translation services to 100+ organizations, including 122 Covid-19 public information translation projects in 23 languages.

Provided 12,500+ interpretation appointments & translation of documents totaling 380,000+ words.

Trained 28 participants as medical interpreters through the Bridging the Gap program.

Advocacy & Outreach

In its first full year in action, Spring Institute's Advocacy Team was active at the Capitol and beyond while engaging in policy advocacy and raising awareness on issues such as adult education, early childhood education, career pathways for internationally trained medical graduates (IMGs), renter's protections, and immigrant rights.

Secured bipartisan sponsorship and convened a supportive coalition of 15 organizations to enact legislation (SB20-009) improving adult education access in Colorado.

Championed enactment of HB20-1053 to expand CO's ECE workforce & Executive Order D 2020-38 to include IMGs as temporary healthcare licensees in response to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Released or endorsed 11 public comments, media advisories, and open letters on our advocacy priorities & engaged 700+ supporters per month with 11 newsletters.
Adult Learners Persevering Through The Pandemic

We couldn’t be prouder of the flexibility and dedication shown by all of Spring Institute's program participants, students, volunteers, instructors, and staff, particularly in the face of the pandemic. We’ve learned so much from them and continue to find inspiration in their stories!

A few of our amazing adult learners shown below shared reflections on the value of adult education and what motivates them. We’re so glad to support them as they pursue their goals and dreams! You can hear more from them on a short video on our YouTube channel and read profiles on additional participants on our website: springinstitute.org/faces-of-spring.

Asma, Workplace ESL Student, DIA Workforce Center

“I came [to the U.S.] and I need to know the language people are speaking. I love to help people and I’m very happy to talk with anybody, to help anybody. That is why I need the customer service class.”

Asma immigrated to the U.S. from Sudan.

Seiry, ESL Student & Mom

“The most important [reason to learn English] is for my children because they learn English in the schools and they need help with their homework. So that’s why, and that’s the first reason.”

Seiry immigrated to the U.S. from Mexico.

Cristal, ESL Student

“Adult education is important to me because...it’s opened doors for people and I think you will be thankful in the future if you are educated.”

Cristal immigrated to the U.S. from Mexico.

Thank you for supporting our mission to empower people and organizations to succeed across languages and cultures.

Donate at ColoradoGives.org/SpringInstitute

Join us on on social media: @SpringInstitute
FINANCIAL REPORT

TOTAL REVENUES
$1,901,339

In-Kind Contributions
$28,528

Program Income
$809,707

Grants & Contributions
$1,063,104

The Interpreter Network
$736,875

Fundraising
$52,424

General & Admin
$323,503

Integration Services
$608,137

Total Expenses
$1,969,694

Adult Education
$248,755

Current Assets
$926,457

Property & Equipment
$24,266

Liabilities
$293,554
MAJOR DONORS

Anschutz Family Foundation
Buell Foundation
Caring for Colorado
Chevron
Colorado COVID Relief Fund
Colorado Dept. of Human Services, Office of Early Childhood
Colorado Dept. of Human Services, Refugee Services Program
Colorado Dept. of Public Health & Environment
Colorado Health Foundation
Denver Active 20-30 Foundation
Denver Nonprofit COVID Relief
Gates Family Foundation
Laura Jane Musser Fund
Lutheran Family Services
Migration Policy Institute
Piton Foundation
Rose Community Foundation
Sam S. Bloom Foundation
Subaru Foundation of America
Tony Grampsas Youth Services (TGYS) Program
Trailhead Institute - CO Blueprint to End Hunger
Tri-County Health Department
University of Colorado School of Medicine
Women’s Foundation of Colorado
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Melanie Collier  
HIPPY Coordinator

Claire Bagazonzya  
Interpretation & Training Coordinator II

Gillian Armstrong  
Lead Instructor

Zachary Odum  
Youth Program Coordinator

Prabha Devidasi  
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