

**Asian Community
& Cultural Center**

ANNUAL REPORT 2024

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

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Dear Friends,

In 2024, the Asian Community & Cultural Center celebrated 32 years of service to Lincoln's newest neighbors, providing essential support to embrace and empower immigrants and refugees on a path to success.

Thanks to the generosity of partners like you, we were able to serve 1,745 clients in 2024. Our dedicated staff and volunteers provided over 48,000 hours of vital support to immigrants and refugees who call Lincoln home. We know that time spent builds trust, knowledge, and belonging for newcomers.

Our clients come from across the globe, representing 42 different countries last year. Our newest neighbors bring a wealth of talent, entrepreneurial drive, and cultural richness to Lincoln. Thank you for your partnership in this welcoming work!

With gratitude,



Sheila Dorsey Vinton
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/CEO



Mission

The Asian Community & Cultural Center supports and empowers all refugees and immigrants through programs and services, and advances the sharing of Asian cultures and other cultural heritages of our clients with the community at large.

WHO WE ARE

STAFF

Executive Director/CEO

Sheila Dorsey Vinton

Alina Pestushko

Almas Khan

Dewan Rashid

Donna Reed

Hsa Eh K'lu Soe

Hser Moo Paw

Jenn Worley

Jenny Phoon Chan-Ng

Josie Shea

Joy Oyebefun

Jueyezi (Rebecca)

Reinhardt

Kaspar Haake

Khamisa Abdalla

Lanetta Edison-Soe

Linh Bui

Lisa Guill

Lwe Say

Marwa Parwani

Meherafroz Ghani

Meena Shams

Mushtaq Aldhafer

Natalie Wiebelhaus

Nlco Le

Nilofar Saidi

Nyabuoy Chan

Ommohal Koko

Roel Navarrete

Sabrina Salrin

Sadaqat Abdulrahimzai

Samantha PlentyChief

Christiansen

Samia Ahmed Abdel

Mawla

Thu Le

Thuy Ho

Xinxin Li

Yullia Rabets

Momin Sharif

National Able Staff: Kim Nguyen

37 STAFF MEMBERS

**159 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE
WITH THE ASIAN CENTER**

22 LANGUAGES SPOKEN

16 ETHNICITIES REPRESENTED

118 VOLUNTEERS



INSPIRE AWARDS: EXCELLENCE IN NONPROFIT WINNER

The Asian Center's Deputy Director and Financial Director, Duy Linh Bui, received the 2024 Inspire Award for Excellence in Nonprofit. We are so proud!

Linh has been part of the Asian Center team for 17 years. Her dedication and passion to serve immigrants and refugees in Lincoln is truly inspiring to us all!



HIGHLIGHTS



**1,745 total clients served,
representing 42 ethnicities**

722 new clients

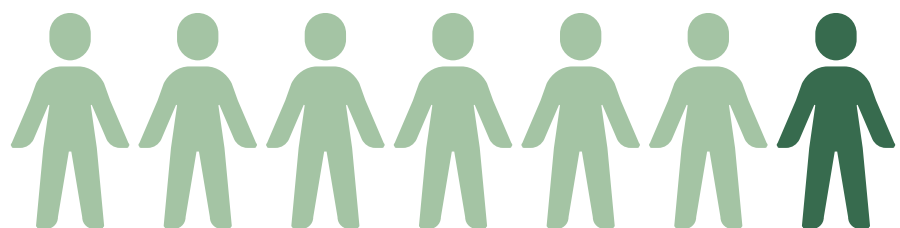
**Over 48,000 hours spent
supporting, teaching,
and empowering
New Americans**

**6,300+ Lincolniters attended
cultural events**



AREAS OF FOCUS

Youth **Citizenship Classes** **Health**
Mental Health **Essential Resources**
Cultural Events **Women** **Elders**



SAMIA'S JOURNEY: STRENGTH, SERVICE, AND SUCCESS



Samia and her husband arrived in Lincoln in 2000 as refugees from Egypt. Adjusting to life in Lincoln was a challenge. While Samia spoke English very well, the American dialect and accent differed from her British English education. More than that, she had to navigate an entirely new culture with a young baby in tow.

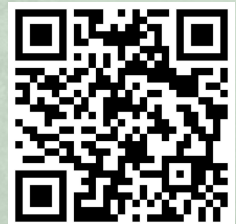
In 2010, everything changed when her husband decided to leave the U.S. and return to Sudan, leaving Samia alone to raise their two young daughters. She was suddenly a single mother and sole provider for her family.

“It was very hard, and a very big responsibility,” says Samia.

She worked three jobs to make ends meet, juggling schedules to ensure she could be available when her daughters needed her.

In 2016, when the Asian Center needed a Middle Eastern advocate, our staff suggested approaching Samia for this role. It was a perfect fit! Samia embraced her new position, leaning into the skills and connections she had already cultivated to help new arrivals navigate cultural differences, find work, understand the housing rental process and medical systems, and much more.

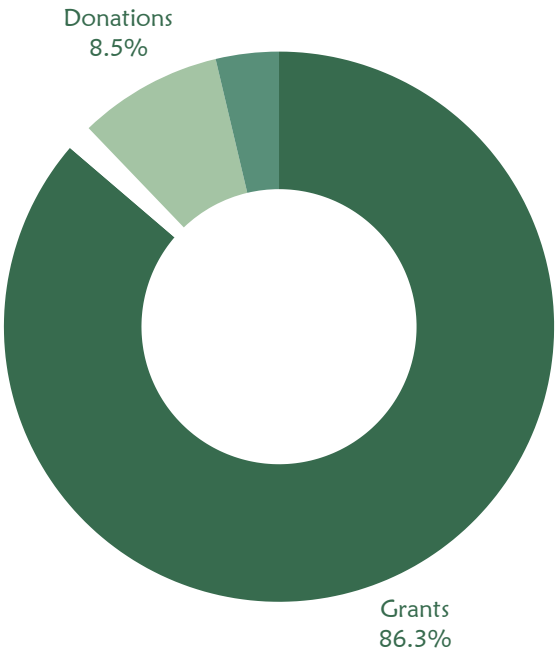
“I know how hard it is to adjust to a new culture where everything is different. For so many people, the language barrier makes that adjustment even harder. I love that I can use my skills and knowledge to help newcomers understand how things work in Lincoln, to make connections and begin to feel at home here,” says Samia.



For the full story visit lincolnasiancenter.org/stories/samia



FINANCIALS

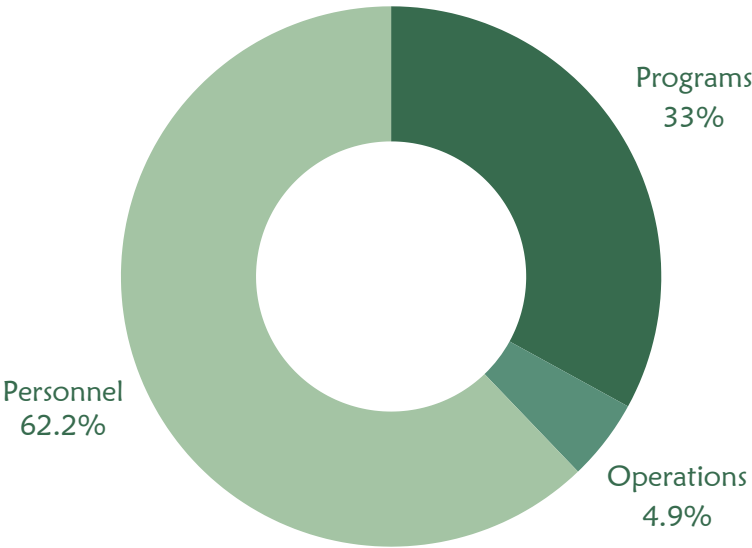


TOTAL INCOME
\$1,928,857.70

Grants: \$1,663,866.47
Donations: \$163,261.91
Fees for services: \$30,330
Other income: \$71,399.32

TOTAL EXPENSES
\$2,093,597.75

Personnel: \$1,301,306.06
Programs: \$690,523.63
Operations: \$101,768.06



*Some grant funds received in 2023 were spent in the 2024 budget cycle, which is reflected above.



2024 PARTNERS

Huge thanks to the 100+ funders and partners who supported the Asian Center's work in 2024!

FUNDERS

Acklie Foundation | City of Lincoln/Aging Partners | Community Health Endowment | Cooper Foundation | Department of Health & Human Services | Department of Justice: Office for Victims of Crime | Lincoln/Lancaster County Health Department | Humanities Nebraska | Lancaster County Human Services | Lancaster County Joint Budget Committee | Legal Aid of Nebraska | Lincoln Arts Council | Lincoln Community Foundation | Nebraska Academy of Sciences | Nebraska Arts Council | Nebraska Crime Commission | Nebraska Wesleyan University | Partnership for Healthy Lincoln | Region V Systems | Sherwood Foundation | United States Citizenship & Immigration Services | United Way | Urban Institute | Voices of Hope | Woods Charitable Fund | Abel Foundation/ NEBCO | Lozier Foundation | Health Partner Initiative | Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment | Nebraska Department of Education | Mentor Nebraska | Nebraska Civic Engagement Table | Friendship Home | Echo Collective | Viking Foundation | World Education Services

ORGANIZATIONS

City of Lincoln/Aging Partners | American Civil Liberties Union | BikeLNK | Bluestem Health | Boys and Girls Club | BraveBe | Bryan Health | CareerLadder | Catholic Social Services | CEDARS Youth Services | Center for Legal Immigration Assistance | Center for People | CenterPointe | Center for Immigrant & Refugee Advancement | City of Crete | Civic Nebraska | Community Health Endowment | Cultural Centers of Lincoln Collaborative | Department of Health & Human Service | Dialysis Center of Lincoln | ECHO Collective | Educare | El Centro de las Américas | Family Service Lincoln | Food Bank for the Heartland | Friendship Home | Good Neighbor Community Center | Healthy Partner Initiative | Indian Center, Inc. | International Quilt Museum | Juvenile Justice Institute | League of Women Voters | Legal Aid of Nebraska | Lincoln City Libraries | Lincoln Commission on Human Rights | Lincoln Hygiene Network | Lincoln International Football Club | Lincoln Lancaster County Health Department | Lincoln Literacy | Lincoln Public Schools | Lutheran Family Services | LUX Center for the Arts | Malone Center | Mentor Nebraska | Milkworks | MyCity Academy | Nebraska Appleseed | Nebraska Children & Families Foundation | Nebraska Civic Engagement Table | Nebraska Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence | NeighborWorks Lincoln | New Americans Task Force | Ponca Tribe of Nebraska | Salvation Army | Southeast Community College: Adult Education | University of Nebraska Lincoln: Diversity and Inclusion; Global Integrative Studies; Modern Languages & Literatures; Nebraska Extension | Voices of Hope | Wellbeing Initiative | World Education Services | YWCA

2024 DONORS

Kind Neighbor Society

The Kind Neighbor Society was founded in 2021. Kind Neighbor supporters enable the ACCC to strategically meet emerging needs and expand our capacity.

Thank you to our 2024 Kind Neighbor Society donors for your generous support!

231 Kind Neighbor Society Donors in 2024

Compassionate Neighbors \$3000+

Duncan Aviation Family Trust | Connie & Todd Duncan* | LLCHD Tobacco Free Lancaster County | Abel Foundation/ NEBCO | Duncan Aviation | Raybould Family Foundation | Jennifer & Brian Cintani* | Bryan Medical Center* | Lincoln Community Foundation | Union Bank & Trust* | Heartland Optical | Nelnet | Black Hills Energy | Cycle Works Bicycles | Eagle Printing & Sign | Marilyn Cintani* | First Interstate Bank

Gracious Neighbors \$1000-\$2999

ALLO Fiber* | Samuel Thomsen | Amy Williams | SCC Access, Equity and Diversity | Angie Muhleisen* | Yvonne N Norton-Leung & Kam Ching Leung* | UnitedHealthcare SVS INC | Lincoln Electric System* | Dai Shizuka & Alice Kang* | ISoft Data Systems* | Jim Stuart III | Montooth-Meiklejohn Family* | Claire H Baker* | Abendmusik | Partners for Insightful Evaluation | Sinclair Hille Architects | Bruce & Elizabeth Bavitz* | Eastridge Presbyterian Church | Anonymous | Liz Lange Impact Partners LLC | Ameritas* | Sampson Construction | Pinnacle Bank | Kissel, Kohout ES Associates | Bluestem Health | Drone Amplified | Candace & Noah Eno

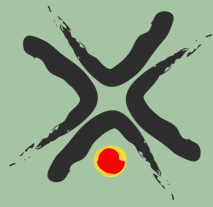
Caring Neighbors \$500-\$999

INSPRO/Marsh & McLennan Agency LLC* | Mapes Industries | Target Circle | Cait Naberhaus & Cody Pfeiffer* | Kathleen Wingard | Kayla Abel | Nebraska Wesleyan University-International Relations Organization | Panda Express | Marti & Ron Lee* | Rosemary & Fred Ohles* | Eleanor Creative | Don't Panic Labs | Lisa & Russ Guill* | Riggs & Associates, CPA's P.C.* | Bennie R Shobe, Jr. & Kate Heltzel* | Assurity Life Foundation* | Thomas Dummermuth | Michael Wunder* | Arpi Siyahian* | Jason Muhleisen | Curtis E. Maynard | Lincoln Industries* | Primrose School of Lincoln at Wilderness Hills | Holly & Tonn Ostergard* | John Robbins | Commonsprout Health - CHI Health Systems Foundation | Claude & Karen Berreckman*

Kind Neighbors \$100-\$499

Lois Baldwin* | Atlas Lincoln* | Glenn's Carstar | Jessica Howland | Kelen Bloom Family* | Rita Thompson* | Narin T. Ehrisman | Lincoln King Kong LLC | Delta Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc. | Deb Higuchi & Tad Fraizer* | Denise Wiemer* | Tracy Bohaboj | Barbara & Charles A Francis* | The Mullin and Robinson Rutz Family* | Todd Karges | Jim & Georgianne Mastera* | Matt V Hansen* | Ingrid Kirst* | Linda K Guill | Mary Pedersen* | April Kirkendall | Dmitri Lombard* | April Rimpley & Jon Cannon | Whitney Fritzinger | Jennifer Keshwani | Zelle LLC | Ryan Wieber & Molly Wieber | Nathan Lake | Stephanie Kersten-Rivera & Roy Rivera* | Firespring | Dustin Oltman* | Deborah Arends | Arthur & Chris Zygielbaum* | Ingrid Kirst Consulting* | Slim Chickens | Bryan Seck & Janell Walther | Leirion Gaylor Baird & Scott Baird* | Dialysis Center of Lincoln | Misty & John Watkins | AshLea Allberry | Jane Raybould* | Jason Varga | Gary E Riggs* | Adelle Burk | Leah Droge | Rachel Hayes | Patricia Fobben | Katie Garcia | Joshua & Lindsey Hruby | John & Jana Hughes | Frances C O'Leary | David Spinar | D'Arcy & Jim Blosser | Monica Usasz | Reagan & Max Rodenburg | Allison Goering | Nan & Lew Kaye-Skinner* | Jeffrey Korbelik & Rebecca E. Carr | Natalie Wiebelhaus | Kevin Draftz | Janet C. Chung* | Catherine Ward | Vine Congregational Church | Michelle Dorsey | Jason Dorsey | Nizar Rasha | Kurt Elder | Jen Risk | Alynn Sampson | Steve Colonna | Amy Swoboda | Mark & Kylie Hatten | Kain Na Tayo LLC | Susan Ugai* | Scott Bulfinch | Hannah & Ryan Norman | Andrea Riley* | Marissa Kemp | Maureen Brase-Houchin | Anna Bromberg | Jason Otto | Marcee Metzger* | Stefanie Geist | Tom Randa | Brittany & Josh Planos | Kirsten Anderson | Ly Tran | Heather Hallen-Adams | Thuy Ho | Rachel Singsank | Ramesh Laungani | Emily Willett | Kristen Windle | Katie & Jeff Bradshaw | Tran Teri* | Linda J Brown | Margaret Olson | Conna Wiese | Dan Foy | Jessie Andazola | Chi Bui | Christina Smith-Murphy | Kelli Neiman | Kelly & Tyrell Ross | Megan Bollish | Sandi & Tim Karstens | Tanessa Kubat | Seth & Becky Perrett | Art Wilson | Katie Mlady | Molly & Gordon Coke | Jennifer Coon | Kristin Goldsberry | Jennifer Hagen & Brian Wilson* | Chris Niemann | Amanda Schaefer | Heidi O'Connor | Liz McCue | Nicholas Mizeur | Kelsey Thiem | Marjorie Bruck | Thomas Green | Beth Niehaus & Jeff Price* | Samantha Bergman | Joel Ruiz | Mary Hoppe* | Shaina Allison | State Farm | Susan Wortmann* | Tish Dyer | WanderWell Travelers | Donna & Dan Marvin | Susan Bockrath | John & Christa Yoakum | Sarah Howell | Gerise Herndon* | JoAnne H Hranac* | Liz Lange | Paula Christensen | Jeanne Baer | Kevin Wailes | Art Thompson* | Al Frank | Pat Kurtenbach | Halley Kruse* | Alynn S Sampson | Eric Savaiano | Laurel Erickson | Kathleen Johnson | Jolene Braymen* | Marco Barker | Debra Larson | Christopher M. Tran | Zuo Xinying | Ann Seacrest | Olivia Thiel | Cornhusker Bank* | Kate Martz | Megan Bates | Kelsey Buckley | Natalie Roberts-Day

**indicates founding member of Kind Neighbor Society*



ASIAN COMMUNITY & CULTURAL CENTER

Supporting and empowering all immigrants and
refugees. Celebrating Lincoln's rich cultural diversity.



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newcomers
in Lincoln?



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