

# THIS IS AMERICANA

## 2022 ANNUAL REPORT 2023





# MISSION STATEMENT

Americana Community Center's mission is to provide holistic services to Louisville's refugee, immigrant and underserved population to build strong and healthy families, create a safe and supportive community and help every individual realize their potential.



## TABLE OF CONTENT

- 3** Executive Director's Note
- 4** Programs and Partners
- 5** Programs at a Glance
- 9** Financial Report
- 10** Our Supporters & Staff

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Paul Bagley

Sowmya  
Telaprolu

Hillary Bonistelli

Alenjandro Pousa

J. Barry Barker

Gul Marshall

Allison Ibrahim

Ann Triplett

David Vawter

Shawn Adams

Ricky George Jr.

Steve Woodworth

Tom Bohnert

Sara Ruiz Esparza  
Morales

Margaret Mwale

Katie Carter

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S NOTE

As we stand on the threshold of another year at Americana, I have reflected a great deal on the aspects of human dignity that have guided our work this year. Vulnerability, cultural Humility, and openness to collaboration are essential in ensuring that we continue to serve our community with unwavering dedication.

A willingness to be vulnerable is the only true pathway of authentic connection. It is a wellspring of strength, not weakness; It is the bridge that allows us to understand one another, and to break down the barriers that often divide us. At Americana, we recognize that every individual deserves to be seen, heard, and cherished. Our willingness to listen and share from an open heart is a basic requirement we must provide to participants we serve.

Our journey at Americana is an ongoing exploration of cultural humility in which the first step is commitment to vulnerability. It involves acknowledging that our understanding of the world is always evolving. It is a further commitment to learning, respecting, and celebrating the rich tapestry of backgrounds and experiences within our community. Cultural humility reminds us to approach each interaction with openness and a thirst for knowledge. Through humility we build bridges that span cultures and foster connections that transcend boundaries.

The true strength of Americana lies in our collective efforts. Collaboration is at the core of our impact. Whether we join forces with other organizations, engage our participants in decision-making, or unite with our dedicated volunteers and supporters; our openness to collaboration amplifies our success. It underscores our shared commitment to the well-being of our community, a force without limits.

As we enter this new phase of growth, we will carry these aspects of Human Dignity—vulnerability, cultural humility, and openness to collaboration—with us. These values continue to be a compass, guiding our work, our interactions, and our unwavering commitment to creating a deeper union of humanity in the world we share.

I invite you to join us in the year ahead, to lean into our potential together, and to support one another as we progress. Your support will enable us to create a space where all individuals are cherished, understood, and empowered to grow.

**Thank you** for being part of our journey and for your belief in the transformative power of community.

# PROGRAMS

## Adult Services

Adult Mentoring Program  
Case Management  
Citizenship Class\*  
Community Engagements (U.S. Social Systems, Financial Literacy, Health, Education & Advocacy)  
Community Garden  
Digital Literacy  
English as a Second Language Class\*  
Family Coaching  
Fiberworks  
GED Class\*  
Kitchen Incubator  
Program Tax Assistance - VITA\*

## Family Education Program

Parent and Child Together Time\*  
Parenting Class\*

## Health/Wellness Programs

Health Equity and Access Events  
Mental Health Counseling/ Trauma Based Care\*

## Youth Program

After School Program\*  
Summer Program\*

## Community Building

Community Gatherings  
Creative Arts and Cultural Performances  
Cultural Celebrations  
Recreation Center (Soccer, Basketball, Volleyball, Playground)  
Trauma Resilient Communities Training  
Community Diaper Bank

# PARTNERS

## Program Partners

Common Earth Gardens  
Dare to Care Kids  
Jefferson County Public Schools  
Kentucky Refugee Ministries  
Kentucky State University Louisville  
Louisville Ballet  
Louisville Academy of Music  
Louisville Grows  
UofL Kent School of Social Work  
Spalding Collective Care Clinic  
Saint Bernadette Diaper Bank  
Evolve 502

## On-Site Partners

Family Health Centers - Americana  
JCPS Adult Basic Education  
Survivors of Torture Recovery Center  
Adelante Hispanic Achievers  
Karen Community of Louisville  
Haitian Community (KAKY)

## Community Partners

Louisville Academy of Music  
Louisville Visual Arts  
Mindfulness Mentors  
Passionist Earth & Spirit Center  
Peace Catalyst International Speed Art Museum  
Sunergos Coffee  
The Rosewater Bookstore  
Urban Agriculture Coalition



# YOUTH PROGRAM

The After School Program provides a safe, welcoming, and encouraging environment for school aged youth, and supports their success in school through homework help and tutoring, English as a second language instruction, college and career readiness programs, academic enrichment, creative arts programming, counseling, environmental education, physical recreation, and social emotional wellness programming as well as a hot meal from Dare to Care Kids' Café. Our youth programming focuses on holistic development, allowing youth to thrive in all aspects of life. The Summer Youth Program is a 7-week program offered Monday-Thursday from 8:30 - 5:00pm during June and July for K-12 youth. This program offers interactive, engaging activities to prevent summer learning loss, improve language acquisition for ELL youth, and develop personal interests. The program focuses on six core areas: STEM, Creative Arts, Physical Education, Environmental Education, Literacy & Social Emotional Wellness. Programming also includes English as a Second Language class, field trips, swimming lessons, three hot meals a day, and recreational activities.

George's journey has been tumultuous, marked by frequent fights and struggles with anger management both in and outside of school. Despite his challenging behavior and resistance to cooperation, Americana recognized his potential and engaged in one-on-one conversations to address his behavior. They referred him to a mentorship program and therapy resources, resulting in significant improvements over time. George displayed maturity by controlling his anger and actively listening to teachers. His parents have expressed gratitude for his noticeable transformation, thanks to the collaborative efforts of the youth program coordinator, family coach, and therapy sessions.

**3.2** is the cumulative GPA from Americana's Youth Program students

**267** youth members served Americana



## COMMUNITY GARDEN

The youth involved in the after school and summer programs have harvested strawberries, radishes, beans, and lettuce this Spring/Summer. Peppers, kale, cabbage, tomatoes, okra, and squash will be ready to harvest soon!



# FAMILY EDUCATION & COACHING

The Family Education Program supports immigrant and refugee parents in acquiring the tools necessary to promote their children's academic success, while increasing their own English language proficiency and meeting personal health, education, and goals. This is accomplished by incorporating English language instruction with family coaching and workshops to increase understanding of U.S. social systems (health care, school enrollment, etc.), healthy choices, and personal responsibility with the goal of helping families successfully integrate into their new surroundings. Parents and their children participate in activities together, promoting parents in their role as a child's first teacher and improving collaboration as a family unit. While caregivers attend the adult education courses, children participate in developmentally appropriate activities, such as learning social or academic skills to increase school preparedness. These components comprise the holistic Family Education model of learning.

**67** families enrolled in the Family Education Program

**54** individual enrollments in Family Coaching

**39** goals completed (Family Coaching)

**85** goals in progress (Family Coaching)



This family (mom and her three daughters) has been enrolled in our Family Education Program for many years, since her oldest daughter (now in 8th grade) was in elementary school. Mom began studying ESL to help her be more involved in her daughters' education. She has advanced several levels in the years she has been studying English. This family has had one of the most consistent attendance records out of all of the families who have enrolled over the years, and it shows in the amount of progress they have made. Her daughters have matured and learned so much. When they first began attending the program her youngest daughter had a hard time adjusting to being in a classroom, and now she comes in everyday with a smile ready to have fun with her teachers and other friends in the program. Due to a new work schedule, mom had to request to be moved to online classes and her daughters were transferred and enrolled in our Youth Program. This new transition was a better fit for the family as the girls got older and the mom is better able to focus on her studies now that she has been switched to online ESL classes. Since her daughters were already familiar with our center, it was easier for them to adjust to a new program and schedule. Her oldest daughter was able to focus more on extracurricular activities for her school so overall this change has been positive for the family. Since we were able to build a lasting relationship with this family over the years, we are still able to check-in with them and they know they can reach out to us for any help they may need. We are very proud to have this family graduate from the Family Ed program!

# ADULT BASIC EDUCATION

**49** immigrants/refugees enrolled in GED

**1875** new ESL enrollments

**134** countries of origin represented

**31%** ESL students gained a level



We hosted our second End of Year Celebration at Americana for students to recognize GED graduates and MSG achievers.

## Countries served:

Afghanistan	Kosovo
Albania	Liberia
Algeria	Mali
Argentina	Mauritania
Bolivia	Mexico
Brazil	Moldova
Burundi	Morocco
Cameroon	Myanmar / Burma
Chile	Nepal
China	Nicaragua
Colombia	Palestine
Costa Rica	Pakistan
Cuba	Panama
Dominican Republic	Paraguay
DRC	Peru
Ecuador	Portugal
Egypt	Puerto Rico
El Salvador	Russia
Eritrea	Rwanda
Ethiopia	Saudi Arabia
France	Senegal
Gambia	Somalia
Greece	South Korea
Guatemala	Spain
Guinea	Sudan
Haiti	Syria
Honduras	Taiwan
India	Tanzania
Iran	Thailand
Iraq	Togo
Italy	Tunisia
Ivory	Turkey
Japan	Uganda
Jordan	Venezuela
Kenya	Vietnam

# WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT & HEALTH INITIATIVES

We shared her story a while ago, here is an update for an elderly participant who is an expert in tailoring and alterations. In the past Fiberworks developed a relationship with her when she tailored Islamic clothing for women from home, earning some money before her trip to Iraq. Recently, she informed us that her sewing machine was not working and she looked really sad. Fiberworks donated an old sewing machine to her. She glowed with happiness. She is a bus rider, so we tied her machine in her rolling bag, which she always carries. I saw her rolling her bag toward the bus stop with a great smile. We hope she will use this machine for a long time; that's how she is able to tackle her loneliness at home. We wish her the best of luck, and Fiberworks will continue to help our beloved participants.



**217**

community engagement attendance  
members

**\$4,992.31**

in Fiberworks sales



# FINANCIAL REPORT

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## Statement of Activities Year End 06/30/2023

### Revenue & Support

Donations	\$	111,431.01
Grants		826,962.47
Fiberworks Sales		4,492.60
Special Events		43,389.90
Other Income		25,189.90

**Total** **1,011,474.88**

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### Expenses

Payroll	\$	758,330.44
Contract Labor		104,744.75
Other Personnel Expense		134,817.74
Other Operating Expense		386,637.34
Occupancy Expense		217,844.32
Travel		1,667.79

**Total** **1,011,474.88**

## Balance Sheet Year End 06/30/2023

### Assets

Checking + Savings	\$	201,153.54
Accounts Receivable		124,404.03
Fixed Assets		1,559,770.23

**Total** **1,885,327.80**

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### Liabilities

Deferred Grant Revenue	\$	-
Other Current Liabilities		30,906.58

**Total** **30,906.58**

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### Equity

Unrestricted (retained earnings)	\$	1,675,272.60
Unrestricted Net Assets		771,716.12
Net Income		(592,567.50)

**Total** **30,906.58**

## Senior Leadership

Emilie Dyer - Executive Director

## Administrative and Social Services

Rehani Fundi - Youth Program Coordinator

Karen Moya - Adult Services Coordinator

Abby Rudolph - Community Garden Coordinator

Jon Sanders - Family & Youth Coach

Tamjeed Zaidi - Fiberworks Coordinator

## Front Desk & Building Maintenance

Frantz Philippe - Front Desk Assistant

Norma Porras - Front Desk and Building Manager

Lusvi Cazun - Custodian

Roberto Guerra - Maintenance & Repair

Sherry Cogburn - Kitchen Manager

## Youth Staff

Ivon Barrios- Youth Staff Member

Nimo Dahir - Youth Staff Member

Washti Min- Youth Staff Member

Lia Win- Youth Staff Member

Bway Wah- Youth Staff Member

## Family Education Staff

Brittney Smith - Family Education Staff

Elian Nindola - Family Education Staff

Iya Hameedawi - Family Education Staff

Janeke Singleton - Family Education Staff

Brenda Tyler - Family Education Staff

Kaylin Roach - Family Education Staff

Breauna Tyler - Family Education Staff

Tha Ku Po - Family Education Staff

## Mental Wellness Practitioners

Adorya Abaly, MA/MS

Athena Amira

Washti Min

## Development & Outreach

Ra Spencer- Marketing and Communications Specialist

Salema Jenkins- Development Coordinator

Anthem  
American Rescuel Plan  
C.E. & S. Foundation  
Center for Health Equity  
Dare to Care  
Dollar General Foundation  
First Financial  
Fund for the Arts  
Genentech  
Gheens Foundation  
Good Samaritan Foundation  
JP Morgan Chase  
Kentucky Civic Engagement  
Kentucky Colonels  
Lettuce Grow  
Louisville Metro Government  
Louisville Metro Public Health and  
Wellness  
Metro United Way  
Mildred V. Horn Foundation  
National Endowment for the Arts  
Office for Safe and Healthy  
Neighborhoods  
Refugee Health Promotion  
Sisters of Charity of Nazareth  
Snowy Owl Foundation  
Team KY Fund  
Toyota Foundation  
UPS Foundation  
VV Cooke  
WHAS Crusade for Children  
William E. Barth Foundation

Aetna  
Anthem  
Augusta Brown Holland Foundation  
Brown-Forman  
Churchill Downs  
Cricket Wireless  
Family Health Centers  
Humana Healthy Horizons  
JCPS Adult Education  
Kosair for Kids  
La Moreña Panaderia  
LLEO  
Louisville Metro Government  
UofL Health - Mary & Elizabeth  
Hospital  
MSD  
Norton Healthcare  
Republic Bank  
Sazerac  
TARC  
University of Louisville Kent School  
of Social Work  
WellCare of Kentucky



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