



PRERNA
Rebuilding Refugee Lives



2016 IMPACT REPORT

OUR MISSION

PRERNA's mission is to help refugees across all ethnicities and faiths become independent with continuum care and services.

- 1 We help refugees navigate and transition to their new lives through scalable, sustainable programs that assist families in the areas of housing, supplies, healthcare, education, employment and cultural assimilation.
- 2 We partner with similar mission-based organizations in support of refugees and recruit volunteers from multi-cultural backgrounds and expertise, uniting them to make a positive impact in our community.
- 3 We create successful programs which other communities can replicate to empower refugees to become productive, contributing members of society.



OUR IMPACT



Served 30 Refugees in 2016

Refugee families came from Afghanistan, Bhutan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Syria.



96% of Donations Spent on Programs

The number of volunteers grew from five to over 60 who collectively accounted for approximately 6,000 volunteer hours.



All Refugee Family Needs Met for Housing, Education and Employment

Refugees received a continuum of services and support from our volunteers and partners.



COMMUNITY PARTNERS



Catholic Charities
of Santa Clara County



SECOND HARVEST FOOD BANK
of SANTA CLARA and SAN MATEO COUNTIES



2016 HIGHLIGHTS



“PRERNA saved us. We can’t imagine life without you. You helped us put an end to our misery.”

~ Poddala Jayantha is a renowned journalist and advocate for media freedom. He fled Sri Lanka with his family as a refugee and resettled in the U.S.

“I have always believed that people want to take care of their own families and would rather be taught “how to fish” than just be “fed fish”.”

~ Meena Sankaran, Founder and Executive Director, PRERNA



PRERNA welcomes a new refugee family to the Bay Area and gives an orientation to get them started in their new home.



Computer and Internet tutoring is offered to help refugee teenagers communicate and connect through technology.



PRERNA partners with the Santa Clara County Refugee and Immigrant Forum to support #WelcomingWeek.

SUPPORT REFUGEES

Refugees do not choose where they are born. They are women, men and children who suffered in conflict-ridden countries and have fled to start new lives. PRERNA provides hope and healing through our services and compassion from our volunteer team as well as strong collaboration with community partners. As a non-profit organization, we depend on donations and grants to continue offering these critical services to help refugees. A \$20,000 grant will provide a family of four with housing and a safe haven for one year, along with support services needed to obtain gainful employment. www.prerna4refugees/donate



OUR FUTURE PLANS



Over the next year, PRERNA plans to serve over 100 refugees with essential program services as well as advance cultural assimilation through mentoring, case management and after-care services. We will continue to forge partnerships with social service agencies, local businesses and community partners to expand PRERNA's outreach. With the support of our dedicated volunteer staff and board of directors, we will not stop until every refugee has the skills and opportunity to obtain the peaceful, safe and joyful life they deserve - as independent, productive members of this country that we all call home.

~ Meena Sankaran, Founder and Executive Director, PRERNA



Support for Success

PRERNA began supporting refugees in 2005 and was established as a non-profit organization in 2015. Through best practices in mentoring and social services adopted over a decade, refugees secure stable housing, learn English and gain valuable skills which help them succeed in their educational and employment goals. By collaborating with government agencies and other nonprofit organizations, we are able to identify the families who are in need of help.

Whether driving a mother and child to the doctor, interpreting at a legal appointment or assisting with funds for a new home, we strive to meet the needs of all the refugee families entrusted in our care.



Keeping Kids Safe

Everyone wins when refugees are helped to assimilate well. Communities gain productive and dedicated citizens, local businesses can tap into a valuable resource of bilingual hard-working employees and the economy is uplifted with increased consumption levels through sales by the new families.

Because refugees are vulnerable, it's especially important to have positive activities for children to help prevent gang recruitment and exposure to drugs. When refugee children are encouraged in their education and engaged in sports, volunteering or other civic activities, the community's crime rate is lowered. We plan to expand our Mentor a Refugee Initiative in the coming year.

CONTACT US



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