"What is Free Trade?" Date Unknown

THE DEFINITION OF FAIR TRADE

Fair trade, defined simply, is when products including food, drink and craft, are sourced through a fair supply chain, where smallscale farmers, producers and artisans are treated with dignity, respect, equality and fairness.

Sourcing these items involves developing trading partnerships to help producers in developing countries achieve better trading conditions. Fair trade is when the price we pay for products such as food, drink, fashion and crafts, gives enough to producers to cover the cost of their products – and to have enough left over to invest in their farms, of businesses. It's not just about survival, it's about improving year on year and building resilience. And on top of that, they receive a "social bonus", that can be invested in healthcare, education – and everything else they think will bring their community the most benefit.



Edna Ruth Byler, 1968



Courtesy of Ten Thousand Villages, Edna Ruth Byler, 1968

Fair Trade Coffee House, 2004

Fair Trade Coffee House



Fair Trade Coffee House is independently owned and serves up *fair trade certified coffee* and espresso along with panini sandwiches, soups and house-made pastries and desserts. Established in 2004, Fair Trade Coffee house is conveniently located at 418 State Street in downtown Madison. Just a couple of blocks down from the Capital Square and Overture Center and only two blocks up from UW-Madison we are at the heart of State Street and cater to a fun-loving, fast-paced, and ever-changing downtown crowd.

Mission

100% of coffee beans, including all espresso is fair trade certified. What does that mean to you? Maybe a little, maybe a lot. For farmers it means a partner in the coffee business that has their back. Will support them when prices are up or prices are down. Brings agricultural expertise to the field when sudden challenges arise, like leaf rust that is currently devastating crops all over Mexico and Central America. We don't just buy our beans, we are a full-on committed partner to our roaster, Equal Exchange, and small farmers to insure that everyone wins in this crazy system called capitalism. And that includes you... who can so effortlessly support small coffee farmers and their families by simply enjoying a delicious cup of coffee or a creamy, caramelly double espresso at Fair Trade Coffee House. Think before you drink!

"Worldly Goods Brings unique, fair trade products to Ames," September 26, 2010 (pg.1)

Iowa State Daily

"Worldly Goods Brings unique, fair trade products to Ames," September 26, 2010

Upon walking into Worldly Goods, 223 Main Street, one is immediately overwhelmed with smells and colors.

The mission of Worldly Goods is to provide "a marketplace for artisans of the world to receive fair income and support for their families. Volunteers operate this not-for-profit organization and share the stories of the artisans."



Worldly Goods offers a variety of products from more than 40 different countries, including coffees, chocolates, clothing and jewelry. It also offers other unique items, such as Kisii stone sculptures from Kenya and recycled paper tableware from Vietnam and the Philippines.

"Every item in this store has a unique human story behind it," said Melanie Christian, manager of the store.

The concept started in the 1980s by merely going abroad, buying some products and bringing them back to the states to be sold. The concept evolved into the fair trade business.

It started as a small room over on Hayward Avenue, moved into the basement of Roy's TV and has been at the Main Street location for the past 10 years.

Today, the store works with more than 45 vendors — including two in the United States — that are fair trade certified.

Christian has only worked for Worldly Goods since June, but has been a dedicated shopper for a long time. She still owns the first item she bought from the business — a silk multi-colored scarf. She has been in favor of the store's mission since she first learned about it.

"I liked the concept," Christian said. "I liked the products. I liked the uniqueness of everything."

The products at the store are made from things that are readily available to those who make them. There is a necklace that is made from coconut and various nuts.

Courtesy of Iowa State Daily, Buhrman, Stefanie, "Worldly Goods brings unique, fair trade products to Ames," Iowa State Daily, 26 September 2010

"Worldly Goods Brings unique, fair trade products to Ames," September 26, 2010 (pg.2)

Iowa State Daily

This jewelry is what is called vegetable ivory, to promote not using the ivory tusks of an elephant.

Greg Bruna, assistant manager of the store, has been at Worldly Goods for five years. With previous involvement in a store with an environmental angle, he felt right at home with Worldly Goods.

"I really am glad I got the chance to be here," Bruna said. "What I love most about being here is being surrounded by the smells, textures and colors, rather than being in a cubicle."

Bruna also likes being able to help customers find exactly what they are looking for, no matter how specific. Being able to close that gap with the particular gift from the particular country is something he cherishes.

Worldly Goods only has four paid employees, while the rest work on a completely volunteer basis.

"The people that come in here really want to be here," Christian said."Everybody works together, and everybody wants to see the store succeed, so it's a very welcoming and warm environment to be in."

One volunteer, 90-year-old Ardis Fincham, has been with the store since it opened. Although she is not as active as she used to be, she is still seeing the benefits from working at the store.

"I feel I gain more than I give," Fincham said. "It's the best thing I've ever done. I've met so many people from so many walks of life."

Working with Third World countries is something that Fincham has described as an eye-opener, but she also has valued her time with her co-workers as well. She looks back fondly on all the get-togethers and potlucks the employees and volunteers have had.

"It really kept us in touch," Fincham said. "It kept us involved, and it really kept us unified."

Fincham, Bruna and Christian all feel that Worldly Goods puts forward a message that they can all believe in and feel good about.

"It's great to be a piece of that change," Bruna said. "It's not a charity, it's a business model."

Worldly Goods has done several events to help promote its mission. The store offers shopping benefit events, fair trade house parties and educational sessions.

In October, Worldly Goods is celebrating Fair Trade Month. Every Thursday night, it will be highlighting a different country and offering a discount on products from those countries. From 5 to 8 p.m., it will be offering foods from those countries.

Courtesy of Iowa State Daily, Buhrman, Stefanie, "Worldly Goods brings unique, fair trade products to Ames," Iowa State Daily, 26 September 2010

"Worldly Goods Brings unique, fair trade products to Ames," September 26, 2010 (pg.3)

Iowa State Daily

This year, the store has decided to focus on countries that have been hit by natural disasters. On Oct. 7, it kicks off the month with Pakistan. Other countries to be showcased include Haiti, India and Chile.

Courtesy of Iowa State Daily, Buhrman, Stefanie, "Worldly Goods brings unique, fair trade products to Ames," Iowa State Daily, 26 September 2010

Herlinda Artola Creates Textile Art in Peru, 2016



Courtesy of Ten Thousand Villages, Valentina, "Craftsmanship. The difference is in the details," 2 September 2016

Excerpt from Constitution of Fair Trade, September 23, 2018

Constitution of Fair Trade at Iowa

24 September 23, 2018

Article I – Purpose:

Fair Trade Campaigns is a powerful grassroots movement mobilizing thousands of conscious consumers and Fair Trade advocates at schools, on campuses and in communities across the United States. We are part of a global effort to normalize Fair Trade as an institutional practice and consumer preference across 24 countries and on six continents. Our mission is to grow a nationwide community of passionate, lifelong Fair Trade advocates. As advocates, their commitment will inspire others to support the Fair Trade movement in its efforts to seek equity in trade and create opportunities for economically and socially marginalized producers. Fair Trade Towns, Colleges, Universities and other communities embed Fair Trade values and purchases into mainstream business and institutional practices.

Article II – Membership:

a) UI Human Rights Clause

In no aspect of its programs shall there be any difference in the treatment of persons on the basis of race, creed, color, religion, national origin, age, sex, pregnancy, disability, genetic information, status as a U.S. veteran, service in the U.S. military, sexual orientation, gender identity, associational preferences, or any other classification which would deprive the person of consideration as an individual. The organization will guarantee that equal opportunity and equal access to membership, programming, facilities, and benefits shall be open to all persons. Eighty percent (80%) of this organization's membership must be composed of UI students.

b) Classes of Membership

- Steering Committee:
 - o Chairperson
 - o Campus Outlet Coordinator

My Fair Trade, September 3, 2019



Courtesy of Globe Gazette, Grouette, Lisa, "Photos: My Fair Trade first look," Globe Gazette, 3 September 2019

"My Oma and Me — Building Bridges with Art," March 12, 2019 (pg.1)

CMCC

Relief, development and peace in the name of Christ

My Oma and me—building bridges with

art

Madeline Kreider Carlson intertwines her journey as MCC staff working with artisans in Haiti with that of her Oma, the late Lois Kreider, who was involved with MCC's early fairtrade project that would become Ten Thousand Villages

March 12, 2019

By Madeline Kreider Carlson

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti—On my first visit to Ramon St. Hilaire's workshop, in a narrow alley in downtown Port-au-Prince, Haiti, I remember it smelled of fragrant, fresh-cut wood. Sawdust sparkled in the tropical air. Outside, stacks of wood from the *obeche* tree cured in the sun, waiting to be shaped into elegant bowls. During this visit, St. Hilaire showed me a newly sanded platter. I took it and turned it over in my hands, feeling something familiar in the smoothness of its form.

I had held a nearly identical platter, mahogany with a time-worn patina, just before departing for my MCC service in Haiti in 2016. My Oma, Lois Kreider, had shown it to me, explaining that my Opa, Robert Kreider, had visited MCC's first projects in Haiti in 1962 and had made a stop in Portau-Prince to visit a cottage industry of woodworkers.

Impressed with the quality of their work, he packed a suitcase of the mahogany pieces to show both my Oma and Edna Ruth Byler. They were involved with a fledgling MCC project that became today's independent

"My Oma and Me — Building Bridges with Art," March 12, 2019 (pg.2)

fair-trade organization, <u>Ten Thousand Villages</u>, which sells crafts from all over the world.

Holding St. Hilaire's platter in my hands, I thought of Oma, who traveled the world working with artisans. Through her work, Oma was a bridge between those artisans and customers in Canada and the U.S. Her legacy is thousands of connections, linking people and cultures through the exchange of handmade goods. This same desire to support these meaningful global connections motivated me to work with artisans in Haiti.



Madeline Kreider Carlson (center) and members of a learning tour composed of Ten Thousand Villages volunteers talk with metal artisan Jonas Soulouque in Noailles, Haiti. *MCC photo/Annalee Giesbrecht*

From Bluffton to around the world

Oma's history with fair trade started when she saw a beautiful piece of Palestinian needlework Edna Ruth Byler had hung on her wash line in Akron, Pennsylvania while Oma and Opa were living there in 1961. As I've heard Oma tell it, she offered to lend a hand—and her entrepreneurial spirit —to Mrs. Byler's initiative: The Overseas Needlepoint and Crafts Project (eventually SELFHELP Crafts and now Ten Thousand Villages).

Oma and Opa moved back to Bluffton, Ohio the next year, where Oma promoted the sale of fair-trade products in churches and the community. By 1970, Oma and the Fellowship Guild of the First Mennonite Church of

"My Oma and Me — Building Bridges with Art," March 12, 2019 (pg.3)

Bluffton began hosting two-day pre-Christmas sales in the church basement.

As the popularity of the sales increased, Oma and the Fellowship Guild began to dream of having a shop selling fair-trade goods year-round. Oma eagerly encouraged the Fellowship Guild to add a thrift shop to the new store after she visited the first MCC Thrift shop in Manitoba.

In 1974, the Bluffton Et Cetera Shop opened as the first store in the U.S. to sell SELFHELP Crafts and secondhand clothing and housewares. The combined store generated revenue for MCC's programs and provided a steady sales outlet for artisans. Oma volunteered to manage the innovative new shop.

That year, Oma and Opa took several months to travel around the world visiting MCC projects. Opa described the trip as taking them "from the border of Somalia to the Kalahari Desert of Botswana to a then-peaceful Kabul in Afghanistan to the slums of Calcutta to tropical villages in Java to the mine-infested paddies of Vietnam."

In each place, Oma met and talked with craftspeople, especially women, making connections that would blossom into long-term trading partnerships with what is now Ten Thousand Villages.



Celia Hilty and Lois Kreider stand behind the counter at SELFHELP Crafts while college students examine the wares. *MCC photo*

Walking in Oma's footsteps

Courtesy of Mennonite Central Committee, Carlson, Madeline Kreider, "My Oma and Me — Building Bridges with Art," 12 March 2019

"My Oma and Me — Building Bridges with Art," March 12, 2019 (pg.4)

Holding St. Hilaire's platter was not the first moment I realized that I was walking in Oma's footsteps. As a child, I loved accompanying Oma and my mother to volunteer at Ten Thousand Villages. I learned about the lives and traditions of artisans as I wandered among Bangladeshi baskets and Indian necklaces.

I followed my passion for handmade traditions and fair trade all the way to Port-au-Prince, Haiti, to serve with MCC partner Comité Artisanal Haïtien (CAH; Haitian Artisan Committee). This Haitian fair-trade organization represents more than 125 artisan workshops and has been a Ten Thousand Villages partner for decades.

Haiti has a rich creative tradition in which the island's artisans make inventive use of materials, transforming cement bags into papier-mâché masks and discarded steel oil barrels into intricate metal art. St. Hilaire's bowls and platters show ingenuity, too, because artisans have replaced the now-scarce mahogany with fast growing obeche trees as a sustainable resource.

Over the course of my time with MCC in Haiti, I often imagined Oma interacting with craftspeople on her trips. As an accomplished craftswoman and curious traveler, she became a bridge, linking these artisan communities for the first time to customers in Canada and the U.S.

At CAH, I used my experience with Canadian and U.S. businesses and consumers to help artisans translate their creativity into designs marketable to a foreign audience. I played many roles: designer, curator, trainer, coach, storyteller.

As a curator, I selected pieces with unique appeal from artisans' galleries, like Jonas Soulouque's cut metal <u>tree of life</u>, which stood out for its intricately hammered, twisted trunk. As a designer, I imagined new ways to adapt specific skills, for example, inviting papier-mâché artists to create Christmas decorations like the <u>dinosaur ornament</u>. And as a trainer, I created workshops where I taught design ideas like seasonal color trends, helping

"My Oma and Me — Building Bridges with Art," March 12, 2019 (pg.5)

artisans create new products in color schemes unfamiliar in Haiti's bright tropical environment.

Over the course of my time with MCC in Haiti, I often imagined Oma interacting with craftspeople on her trips. As an accomplished craftswoman and curious traveler, she became a bridge, linking these artisan communities for the first time to customers in Canada and the U.S.



Jonas Loulouque displays his unique tree of life design. MCC photo/Annalee Giesbrecht

Access to markets

In early January, I led an MCC Haiti learning tour to Cormier, a village a few hours south of Port-au-Prince renowned for its stone carving. There, we met master carver Heston Romulus, who leads a team of four artisans in creating innovative pieces like a <u>leaf-shaped stone incense holder</u> developed for Ten Thousand Villages.

This learning tour group, made up almost entirely of Ten Thousand Villages volunteers, gathered in a circle, admiring the stone pieces that the carvers exhibited on a table, as Romulus talked about his creative process.

"Sometimes, even from far away," he told us, "I can see the piece that lies within the stone."

Fair trade advocates like my Oma and Mrs. Byler understood that craftspeople around the world have no lack of talent. Instead, they suffer from unjust global systems: wealth inequality, lack of access to education

"My Oma and Me — Building Bridges with Art," March 12, 2019 (pg.6)

and infrastructure and unbalanced trade policies. Fair trade recognizes the skill, creativity and resourcefulness of artisans and provides the missing link: access to a market.

For a craftsperson like Romulus, access to a market like Ten Thousand Villages means months of income for him and his team—and even more if the orders continue. Given this, Romulus was delighted to hear from our group that his leaf incense holders had been popular purchases during the holiday season.



Lois Kreider, second from left, visits a SELFHELP Crafts warehouse in 1980 with her children and grandchildren. *MCC photo/Robert Kreider*

Being a bridge

In the years between Oma's travels and my service in Haiti, fair trade has grown and evolved. Locally-run organizations like CAH coordinate their own production and logistics. Opa's suitcase has been replaced by shipping containers.

In Ten Thousand Villages stores, paid staff now work alongside volunteers. Similarly, MCC's approach to relief, development and peacebuilding evolved over time to focus on supporting visionary local partners, valuing community-rooted expertise and wisdom—a philosophy very similar to that of Ten Thousand Villages, which values the beauty of community craft traditions and dignity of craftspeople.

"My Oma and Me — Building Bridges with Art," March 12, 2019 (pg.7)

Yet through these changes, as Oma said in a 2014 speech honoring the Bluffton Et Cetera Shop's 40th anniversary: "There are some things we do not want to see changed: the commitment of so many dedicated persons; the consistent vision of shops to care about local and global communities; the satisfaction of working together with those of other churches; the meaningful program of MCC and the awareness it brings of needs and challenges from around the world."

This is what I learned from Oma: that we each have an opportunity to be a bridge. Oma saw that a handmade platter is not just a beautiful, functional object but is also a source of dignity, a spark of global curiosity and a vessel for human connection.

Madeline Kreider Carlson worked with MCC in Haiti, serving with Comité Artisanal Haïtien from 2016 to early 2019. Lois Kreider passed away on January 31, 2019. She was 94 years old.

Top photo: Lois Kreider works in the weaving studio at the Et Cetera shop in Newton, Kansas. Photo courtesy of Newton Now/Wendy Nugent

Artisan Daniel Doku Makes a Wind Chime from Recycled Glass in Ghana, Date Unknown



Courtesy Ten Thousand Villages, "Daniel Doku," Date Unknown

Open Letter from a Certified Fair Trade Farm in Amado, Arizona, Date Unknown

Dear Fair Trade Community,

Greetings from Wholesum Harvest's tomato farm in Amado, Arizona! We are thrilled to be a part of the Fair Trade family and to share our story with you.

Since becoming Fair Trade Certified, your purchases have helped send us more than \$80,000 in Community Development Funds. As additional funds roll in, we plan to address some of the most pressing challenges in our community. These include transportation, health insurance fees and home insurance – all identified by the workers through a survey.

Right now we are working on the first project selected by our fellow workers, which is to obtain free health coverage for everyone who is part of our Fair Trade community. Wholesum provides us with health insurance, of which we pay a small portion. Even this small amount is too much for many of the workers here, so we've decided to use our extra funds to offset the cost. This will not only give us the benefit of coverage, but of peace of mind as well. No longer will we have to worry about money when one of our children has a fever or a parent can't get out of bed. We can take them to the doctor, secure in the knowledge that our insurance is fully covered.

Being a part of Fair Trade benefits our community, but it also benefits us personally by allowing us to develop our project management skills. We are learning how to manage complex projects and work together for the good of our community. Seeing how the workers at our sister farms in Mexico have used Fair Trade to improve their communities motivates us to give it our all.

We hope that you will continue to choose Fair Trade whenever possible – and not just for us, but for those who will come after us. We want to be the first of many Fair Trade farms in the United States so that farmers and workers everywhere can reap the benefits. You've already empowered us to start realizing our dreams. Your continued support of Fair Trade will help countless others achieve theirs as well.

Sincerely,

"First Fair USA" Fair Trade Committee

Wholesum Harvest

Amado, Arizona, USA

Courtesy of Fair Trade USA, "A letter from a certified Fair Trade farm in Amado Arizona. The letter acknowledges the advantage Fair Trade has had on their farm for their employees, their families, and their community," Wholesum Harvest, Date Unknown

Iowa Farmer Feeds Berkshire Pigs, ca. 1952



Courtesy of Heifer International, ca. 1952

Heifer International Loading Dock, ca. 1952



Operation "Noah's Ark" for Korea, ca. 1952



Courtesy of Heifer International, ca. 1952

"Operation 'Pig Lift' " Newspaper Article, August 1952 (pg.1)



ased from the Whit nt at Fargo last fall, at Corrector. Darlas boy, Donald Gross, ether with their here nning on a bred som

y is the Ralph Dux. ph is over in Korea doing a splendid job Berks during his abave quite a sire in rd Epoch 5th, purelman and the Raider Wolrab boar, is crossdaughters. The Duxry good local demand

at Volin was not at d a good set of sows pigs.

Elk Point purchased om Cliff Smith at the this boar has really oug is planning on in and will be featurle also has a home 1 The Rescuer, that ough if he takes him

first visit to South srtainly favorably ima quality of livestock conditions in general te.

sconsin

I & Son, Burlington good bunch of pigs. in heading their herd. o attended Whitmoretle will recall what ire he is. He is sire all boar Elmer Monr his Honey B. Farm. t Burlington is the ker's Perfection, the the 1951 Wisconsin Barrow and pen of only keeps 6 or 7 a good market for ling time.

, Burlington is raisest groups of pigs he planning on showing te and several county is a coming prospect pig for the fall boar irchased several top e to this boar which ow prospects. rs, Walworth have Climax 2nd heading ed on page 10)

BERKSHIRE NEWS



Upper left) The wide wings of the Northwest Airlines transport plane are as a huge umbrella during a heavy rainstorm while the pigs eff being loaded at Des Moines. The crowd includes photographers, switce it he loading. (Lower left) It was quite a chore to lift the ight, squealing pigs up into the giant airliner. Starting at the left

in the plane is Al Culver, Walter Proske and Cletus Stalzer. In the truck starting at the left is Dennis Stover, Dale Stover, Bob Zeisneiss and Bob Faint. (Center) Dale and Dennis Stover ready to unload their consignment. (Right) Inside the plane, showing how the crates were strapped to the floor to eliminate shifting of weight. Kermit Hougen is shown pushing a stubborn pig toward his crate.

Eugene Fitz, Melbourne; Robert Zeisneis, Colo.; Al Culver, Athens, Ill. and Robert Altman, Pleasant Plains, Ill.

The second flight was made from San Francisco on June 29th, all the pigs numbering 100 (20 boars and 80 gilts) were purebred Berkshires from California breeders. Also included in this shipment were 100 goats.

The following California breeders had pigs in the shipment; D. H. Bybee, Pomona; Arthur Cook, Santa Ana; Vernon Fairchild, Garden Grove; R. E. Goodman, Empire; Virgil Groves, Farmington; G. E. Livingston, Chino; and Mokelumne Farms, Acampo.

Berkshires have been used extensively in Korea for crossing with native Korean stock, and the progeny have proved to be quicker to mature and more economical feeders than the pure native stock, which largely came from Japan. It is proposed, by the importation of purebred Berks of best pedigree into Korea, to restablish a fresh strain on the Republic of Korea breeding farms. The resultant pure-bred pigs will then be distributed within the country to cross with the native swine. It is expected that these shipments should produce approxi-mately 3,000 pigs within 19 months (Continued on page 14)

Lift' **Operation** 'Pig 200 Pigs Flown From Des Moines, 100 From San Francisco By Northwest Airlines - Destination Korea.

in the first airlift of its kind ever attempted, 200 live pigs were flown from Des Moines, Iowa to Korea in a chartered Northwest Airlines fourmgine transport. 159 purebred Berkthires were included in the shipment, with the remaining number Durocs and Hampshires.

Purpose of the 'pig lift' is to supplement Korea's depleted stock in an mort to help that country recover hom the ravages of war. The animals were selected to improve the quality of Korean stock in cross breeding. They will be sent to government breeding farms upon arrival in Korea. The first flight composed entirely # pigs, 159 Berkshires, 20 Hampshires and 20 Durocs left Des Moines, Iowa m June 20th. It took considerable work on the part of everyone conterned to make the necessary arangements, to get the hogs at the light place at the right time and with the proper certificates of vaccination and etc. Then after the breeders had assembled at the airport, the plane was quite late in arriving and lo add to the occasion, it rained Wactically all day.

Howard Johnson, fieldman was on hand to represent the Berkshire News and is to be complimented for workng out details which arose that enibled the entire shipment to go as scheduled. The 'pig lift' received freat publicity, as newsreel men, reporters and TV and radio were on land. You probably read about it in your local newspaper.

The following sent pigs in the first Might; (from Iowa unless otherwise Mated): Walter Proske, Montpelier; W. Orr, West Liberty; Stanley

THE BERKSHIRE NEWS

Swift, Gilman; Kermit Hougen, Radcliffe; Hartman Coffin, Zearing; Cletus Stalzer, Britt; LeRoy Faint, Aplington; Robert Faint, Havelock; Dale & Dennis Stover, Havelock; Don Mar-tin, Dunkerton; Tom Conover, Holstein; Wm. W. Woods, Mechanicsville;



Pictures of the California shipment aren't available at press time, but this group taken at the R. E. Goodman farm at Modesto, Cali-fornia, shows the quality of pigs that were included in the California "pig lift."



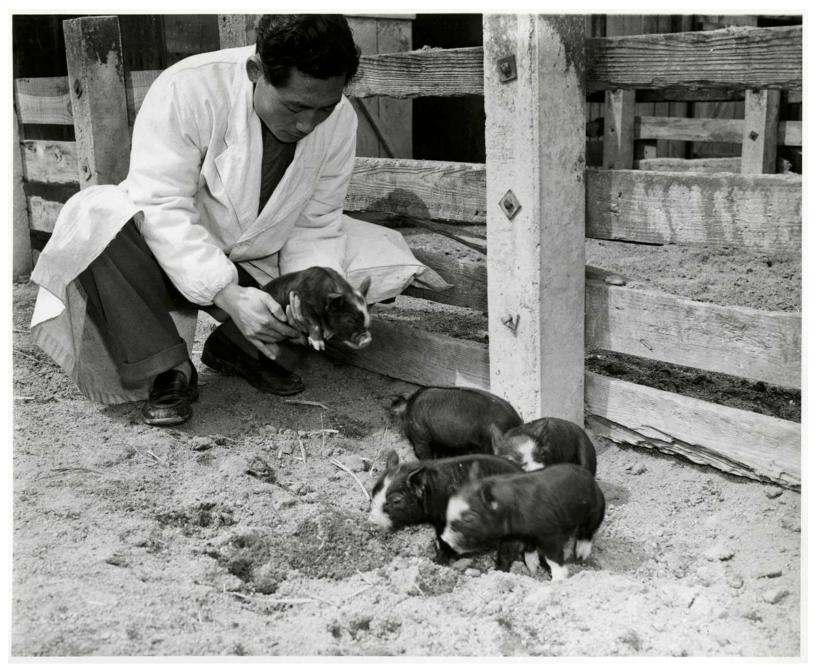
Courtesy of The Berkshire News, "Operation 'Pig Lift'," The Berkshire News, August 1952

"Operation 'Pig Lift' " Newspaper Article, August 1952 (pg.2)



Courtesy of The Berkshire News, "Operation 'Pig Lift'," The Berkshire News, August 1952

Berkshire Piglets in Korea, 1954



Courtesy of Heifer International, 1954

"Iowa Peace Heroes - Helping Victims of War" Excerpt from The Goldfinch, September 1991 (pg.1)

IOWA PEACE HEROES

Helping Victims of War

When World War I began in August of 1914, Herbert Hoover, the only Iowa-born President of the United States, was living in London with his wife, Lou Henry, and two sons, Allan and Herbert, Jr. At age 40, Hoover had worked as a mining engineer in 12 countries, and had become a self-made millionaire. More important, Hoover was known as a man who could solve problems and get things done.

The American ambassador to England asked for Hoover's help when war broke out. Hoover worked to feed and clothe the 120,000 Americans stranded in Europe and even helped them to get back home. After that, Hoover agreed to establish and direct the Commission for the Relief of Belgium (CRB), to help Belgians caught up in the battle. Over the next four years, Hoover and his associates provided \$1 billion in "relief"-five million tons of food and 55 million

pounds of clothing, fabric, buttons, thread and sewing needles—to about 10 million people including three million children and pregnant women in Belgium and Northern France.

The CRB raised and spent \$25 million dollars a month, using 40 ships and 500 canal boats to get large quantities of food to starving people. Hoover himself crossed the North Sea 40 times during the war to persuade both British and German officials to allow the relief for Belgium to continue. By the end of the war, 33 CRB ships had been lost to mines and submarine torpedoes, despite being promised free passage.

When the United States entered the war, President Woodrow Wilson asked Hoover to organize an American campaign to save food to feed both soldiers and starving people. Americans began to proclaim that "Food Will Win the War," and agreed to eat foods as unusual as whale steaks and parsnip cutlets. Children gave up candy, and began chewing sugarless gum. Mondays became "Meatless Mondays," so people didn't eat meat. Wednesdays became "Wheatless Wednesdays," so people didn't eat bread. Making do without one food group or another one day a week was not a great sacrifice, but it made a difference to the war effort.

Courtesy of State Historical Society of Iowa, Smith, Kim Marie, "Iowa Peace Heroes - Helping Victims of War," The Goldfinch, Vol. 13, No. 1, pp. 14-15, September 1991

"Iowa Peace Heroes - Helping Victims of War" Excerpt from The Goldfinch, September 1991 (pg.2)

The war ended in November of 1918, but not Hoover's famine relief work. He continued to feed people in 21 different nations over the next five years. His "European Children's Fund" fed six million children during those years. Hoover even persuaded President Warren Harding to spend \$20 million to feed the Soviet Union, where famine and disease threatened 15 million citizens.

After the war, Hoover was praised for having helped to feed and clothe more than 200 million victims of war and revolution. It was work he would continue many years later.

y

-Kim Marie Smith

Creating Jobs

Harry Lloyd Hopkins was another Iowan who worked to help the poor and to achieve world peace. Hopkins was born in Sioux City, Iowa, in 1890. His family moved frequently until finally settling in Grinnell in 1901.

After his graduation from Grinnell College in 1912, Hopkins moved to New York City. During the 1920s, he worked to help the increasing number of unemployed people in the huge city. When millions of people lost their jobs in the Great Depression (1929-1934), Hopkins helped the governor of New York, Franklin D. Roosevelt, to provide emergency aid for the poor in that state.

Roosevelt was elected U.S. president in 1933, and in 1934, he appointed Harry Hopkins to head the Work Projects Administration (WPA). During the four years Hopkins directed the WPA, the program created jobs for 15 million Americans. Many people who lived through the Depression years still remember Hopkins as a champion of the unemployed.

Hopkins continued to be an important adviser to President Roosevelt, who appointed him secretary of commerce in 1938. During the early 1940s, Hopkins made many trips to Europe to discuss World War II military strategy with America's allies, Britain and the Soviet Union.

As the war came to a close, Hopkins worked hard to convince the leaders of other countries that nations should form a global alliance. In 1945, the United Nations Charter was drafted to help keep the nations of the world at peace. Thanks to people like Harry Hopkins, the UN today acts as a strong influence for peace. —Jean C. Florman

Harry Hopkins

(cont. page 18)

Library/University

15

Courtesy of State Historical Society of Iowa, Smith, Kim Marie, "Iowa Peace Heroes - Helping Victims of War," The Goldfinch, Vol. 13, No. 1, pp. 14-15, September 1991

"Iowa Peace Heroes - Fighting Hunger" Excerpt from The Goldfinch, September 1991

Fighting Hunger

When Dr. Norman Borlaug (BORE-log) helped feed hungry people, he worked for a more peaceful world. Born in 1914, Borlaug was raised on a farm near the small town of Cresco, Iowa. In college, he decided to become an expert in plant diseases. He wanted to improve the lives of poor farmers by making their crops more resistant to diseases.

In 1944, Borlaug went to Mexico. There he found many farm plants and animals suffering from disease and insect damage. Mexican farms provided their people with only a fraction of the food that U.S. farms produced. Most Mexican farms, for example, produced only 11 bushels of wheat per acre compared to 17 bushels of wheat in the U.S.

For 20 years, Borlaug developed a special kind of wheat to increase production on Mexican farms. His goal: "To help put bread in the bellies of hungry Mexicans." By breeding different varieties of wheat, including one from Japan, Borlaug succeeded in developing wheat that could resist rust disease and produce 105 bushels per acre. Borlaug developed his special variety of wheat with the help of scientists from around the world.

In 1970, Dr. Norman Borlaug received the Nobel Peace Prize. People wondered why he received that prize, rather than one of the Nobel science prizes. Through his lifelong fight against world hunger, Borlaug truly worked for peace. —Jean C. Florman

Who was Alfred Nobel?

Alfred Nobel (1833-96) was a Swedish scientist who invented dynamite. He thought that it was such a powerful weapon that no one would ever dare to use it. He became very rich from his invention. When he died, his will donated money from dynamite profits for five annual awards. They would go to the people from any country in the world who contributed the most to chemistry, physics, medicine, literature, and peace.

Dr. Norman Borlaug is Iowa's most recent Nobel Peace Prize winner.

Courtesy of State Historical Society of Iowa, Florman, Jean, "Iowa Peace Heroes - Fighting Hunger," The Goldfinch, Vol. 13, No. 1, pp. 19, September 1991

19

"Iowa's Peace Tradition" Excerpt from The Goldfinch, September 1991 (pg.1)

IOWA'S PEACE TRADITION

TUDENTS AT Carpenter Elementary School in Monticello, Iowa, recently sent a big package to their pen pals in the Soviet Union. They carefully packed tapes of American music, coins, baseball cards, postcards, and drawings. The pictures you see on these pages arrived from

4

Moscow, the USSR November 1814,1990

Dear American Friend

light-blue

pen-friend. ne is Vasiliy (Ba e is Shurnyer (WYMER).

I am 5 feet 2 inches. I am 102 hair is dark. My eyes are

There are 4 members in our family. My Mummy Galina (Ponuna) 15 49. She isa

Physical Training

doe tor. My Doddy Mexander is 49. He is a mil liticiman. My aister Ann (Ana) 1520.

a pupil of the 6th grude I am a good pupil. My favourite subjects un Mathematics History English Labour

I like to assim, play agale, shale, shi i ity

is light-high. My larow

A national newspaper reported that lowa was "perhaps the most antiwar state." Is it true? If so, what does it mean?

their Soviet pen pals. The subject of the drawings? Global peace.

Jennifer Schneiter, 11, wrote to her pen pal, Olya, in Moscow:

'What's it like in the Soviet Union? Do you have seasons like we do? Do you have snow? What kinds of sports do you have? I have so many questions. What kinds of food do you grow in your country?

"I am writing this letter from the computer we got for Christmas. We have many holidays that we celebrate. What holidays do you celebrate in the Soviet Union?

"My favorite subjects are Image of Mickey Mouse © The Walt Disney Company

Courtesy of State Historical Society of Iowa, "Iowa's Peace Tradition," The Goldfinch, Vol. 13, No. 1, pp. 4-8, September 1991

"Iowa's Peace Tradition" Excerpt from The Goldfinch, September 1991 (pg.2)

Art, Science, and Math. My hobbies are reading, drawing, and swimming. My favorite things to eat are ice cream, popcorn, fruit, chips, watermelon, macaroni, and pizza. I hope that we can write to each other all the time even when school is out."

Writing letters to people around the world is just one thing to do to support peace. In this issue of *The Goldfinch*, you'll discover what "peace" really means. You'll meet Iowans who have worked for peace. Games, activities, and stories will suggest how you can live peacefully, too.

During Times of War

During the American Civil War (1861-1865), one million people were killed, wounded, or lost. About 7,500 Iowa men were **drafted** (selected for military service). But not all of them went to war. About 1,200 Iowans paid substitutes to take their places.

Some Iowans were against the war because they thought it wasted lives and money. They supported peaceful solutions to end the conflict. These people were called Peace Democrats. Some people thought the Peace Democrats were traitors. They

Soviet kids sent drawings and letters to their pen pals in Monticello, Iowa. Getting to know other kids from around the world is just one of the many ways Iowa students are working for peace.



Courtesy of State Historical Society of Iowa, "Iowa's Peace Tradition," The Goldfinch, Vol. 13, No. 1, pp. 4-8, September 1991

"Iowa's Peace Tradition" Excerpt from The Goldfinch, September 1991 (pg.3)



What is peace?

It can have many definitions. It is more than the absence of war. It is freedom from confusion, disturbance, and civil unrest. Peace is living without violence. Peace means taking care of ourselves, each other, and our Earth. What does peace mean to you?

There are many lowans who have fought and died in wars. Read more about lowans' contributions to war efforts in these back issues of *The Goldfinch*: "Civil War," "World War I," and "The Homefront: World War II." To order, write *The Goldfinch*, State Historical Society of Iowa, 402 Iowa Avenue, Iowa City, Iowa 52240.

6

IOWA'S PEACE TRADITION

were given the unflattering name of "copperheads." (The name comes from the copperhead snake which has a poisonous bite, meaning that their opinions were sharply critical.) Newspaper editor Dennis Mahoney, of Dubuque, was arrested and put in jail in 1861 for publishing criticisms of the war and of President Abraham Lincoln, He was released after three months in prison only after signing a paper swearing loyalty to the United States.

Another Peace Democrat, George C. Talley, of Keokuk County was a Baptist minister who publicly opposed war. He gave many speeches against the war. During a parade, shouting and gunfire broke out. Talley was shot and killed. Talley was one of many people who died supporting peace.

During World War I (1914-1918), millions of people died in Europe and Asia. Many members of religious groups such as the Mennonites and the Society of Friends (Quakers) opposed the war and were conscientious objectors, or C.O.'s. Some Iowa Mennonites went to prison rather than serve in the war.

By World War II (1939-1945), Civilian Public Service camps were created to house C.O.'s. In Iowa, these camps were located in Crystal Lake, Cherokee, Denison, Ames,

A woman in Iowa City celebrates the return of troops from the Persian Gulf War.



Courtesy of State Historical Society of Iowa, "Iowa's Peace Tradition," The Goldfinch, Vol. 13, No. 1, pp. 4-8, September 1991

"Iowa's Peace Tradition" Excerpt from The Goldfinch, September 1991 (pg.4)

Cresco, and Mt. Pleasant. Some 12,000 men worked in 151 of the camps nationwide. Instead of going to war or prison, C.O.'s could live at one of the camps and help garden, cook, can, raise, harvest, or thresh crops, and build shelters.

As a result of both World War I and World War II, many people around the world suffered from hunger. Many Iowans such as Herbert Hoover and Dr. Norman Borlaug (BORE-log) helped to feed millions of people. Another Iowan, Roswell Garst, used food to make progress toward peace between the United States and the Soviet Union in the late 1950s.

Draft resistance appeared again in the 1960s and early 1970s. Draft card burnings, marches, and nonviolent protests made newspaper headlines. Read more about student protest against the Vietnam War on page 19.

Most Iowans supported the recent Persian Gulf War. Many people rallied behind Iowa troops, even if they were against the war. Some took part in antiwar rallies, letter-writing campaigns, and candlelight

A peacemaker is a person who: has a good attitude understands.

- about things.
- cares about and accepts herself/himself.
- cares about and accepts others.
- is patient.
- talks out troubles and is kind and helpful.
- helps victims of oppression and racial discrimination.
- listens to both sides of a problem and

vigils.

When Iowa troops came home, they were welcomed with yellow ribbons and parades. Read the debate on page 23 to see how some

people feel that you can both love your country and be against war.

remains calm, polite,

helps the starving and the

can compromise and

helps people when they

lives everyday in a

can't help themselves.

work together with others

and friendly.

does not fight.

as a team.

is forgiving.

peaceful way.

poor.

Peace Today

From the conscientious



This winning book jacket was drawn by a Primghar, Iowa. The contest was sponsored by the local peace links organization supporting world

7

"Iowa's Peace Tradition" Excerpt from The Goldfinch, September 1991 (pg.5)

IOWA'S PEACE TRADITION

objectors in the Civil War to the Monticello students today, supporting peace is not always easy. In 1991, for example, a peace pole at a Primghar high school was vandalized. The pole said, "May Peace Prevail on Earth" in English, Spanish, Chinese, and Russian. Some people were against planting the peace pole, because they felt that it objected to their participation in the military. People who supported planting the pole said they did not mean to upset anyone.

"It was simply to remind people that peace cannot be taken for granted," wrote Deborah Fisch in Primghar's *The O'Brien County Bell*, "that it must be worked for, and that all people around the world desire peace. True peace does not simply mean the absence of war. True peace involves justice, freedom, dignity, and the chance to live without prejudice or hunger. Peace is not the absence of one thing, but really the presence of many things."

GEOSPHERE POSTER OFFER

The full GeoSphere world image is available to *Goldfinch* readers as a superb, beautifully printed poster! This poster, printed in full-color, measures 24" by 36" and is reproduced with a high-gloss finish on top quality heavy-weight paper.

Make checks payable to: The GeoSphere Project

Mail to: The GeoSphere Project P.O. Box 1498 Pacific Palisades, CA 90272

Order Form

1-800-845-1522 Please send:		
Quantity Ordered	×	= \$ Total
SHIP TO:		. otul
Name		
Address		
City, State, Zipcode		
Telephone		
Allow 4-6 weeks for d	lelivery.	

8

Courtesy of State Historical Society of Iowa, "Iowa's Peace Tradition," The Goldfinch, Vol. 13, No. 1, pp. 4-8, September 1991

Children Participating in a Migrant Education Program in Mason City, Iowa, ca. 1960



Courtesy of the University of Iowa Libraries, Iowa Women's Archives, "Children participating in migrant education program, Mason City, Iowa, 1960s," Migrant Action Program, Inc., ca. 1960

Vietnamese Refugees Arrive in Iowa, 1975



Courtesy of State Historical Society of Iowa, Iowa City, 1975

Adult ESL Class in Houston, Texas, June 10, 1982



Courtesy of Library of Congress, Proschan, Frank, "Adult ESL (English as a Second Language) class, Khmer Village, Houston, Texas," 10 June 1982

Governor Robert Ray Talks about "Iowans Open Their Hearts" from Iowa PBS, 2007



Courtesy of Iowa PBS, "Iowans Open Their Hearts," A Promise Called Iowa, Iowa PBS, 2007

Governor Robert Ray Talks about "The Right Thing To Do" from Iowa PBS, 2007



Courtesy of Iowa PBS, "The Right Thing To Do," A Promise Called Iowa, Iowa PBS, 2007

"Remarkable Refugee" from Iowa PBS, 2007



Courtesy of Iowa PBS, "Remarkable Refugee," Living in Iowa, Iowa PBS, 2007

Galleria de Paco Restaurant in Waterloo, Iowa, August 17, 2016



Courtesy of Library of Congress, Highsmith, Carol M., "Owner Paco Rosic calls his Galleria de Paco restaurant in Waterloo, Iowa, "the Midwest Surprise," 17 August 2016

"Nearly 1000 Refugees Have Settled in Iowa So Far This Year" from Iowa Public Radio, October 7, 2016



Courtesy of Iowa Public Radio, "Nearly 1000 Refugees Have Settled in Iowa So Far This Year," River to River, Iowa Public Radio, 7 October 2016

"In Iowa, Liberian Couple Reaches Out to Fellow African Refugees" Article, February 2, 2019 (pg.1)

In Iowa, Liberian Couple Reaches Out to Fellow African Refugees



Thirty youngsters are eager to share with the group at Genesis Youth Foundation's nightly gathering in Des Moines, Iowa, Jan. 28, 2019.

DES MOINES, IOWA - Sam and Tricia Gabriel got off work on a dark January evening in Iowa. The temperature outside was -13 degrees Celsius (8 degrees Fahrenheit).

Instead of settling into their cozy suburban townhome with their children, ages 9 and 2, the Gabriels quickly returned to the roads, slick with ice. Tricia drove her car in one direction while Sam drove a 15-passenger van in another, and for the next 1½ hours they picked up 30 children of mostly African refugees from across the Des Moines, Iowa, metropolitan area.

The children, ages 4 to 14, were taken to a local elementary school, where they practiced schoolwork, soccer and dance. Two hours later, Sam and Tricia drove them all back home, returning to their townhome after 10 p.m.

They said they do this every weeknight to help the children adjust to America. They don't consider it heroic. Not compared to what they endured.

"I see myself in them," said Sam, 36.

Childhood in Liberia

As a young boy, he walked all night through the Liberia countryside with his parents, afraid that rebels would kill them. One man was plucked from the crowd and shot before his eyes.

"In Iowa, Liberian Couple Reaches Out to Fellow African Refugees" Article, February 2, 2019 (pg.2)

"It was the first time I saw a dead person," he said. "If they took my father, I would have to pretend not to know him and keep walking."

Meanwhile, Tricia and her family were of a tribe targeted by rebels and fled to a government military base.

Sam and Tricia's lives unknowingly ran a parallel course.

Both had lived in Monrovia, Liberia, as young children while civil war raged. Both ended up in a refugee camp in Ivory Coast before coming to Des Moines. Both attended high schools there, until one day they met by accident in the most American of venues — Walmart.

Tricia said she could tell he was a Liberian, even in the crowded aisles of a huge superstore. They talked, fell in love and married in 2011. They had two children while finishing their education at Mercy College of Health Sciences in Des Moines.

But they say they didn't escape death to settle for the comfort of the American dream. In 2014, the couple launched the Genesis Youth Foundation, a nonprofit that mentors refugee children, who often don't have the money to participate in youth programs.

The Gabriels use donations or their own money for gas to travel, snacks or soccer uniforms for the children. It's a tiring mission the couple performs every day, after Sam finishes his work as an Uber driver and Tricia as a nurse at a local retirement community.

But it fills a vital need, said Nicholas Wuertz, director of refugee services at Lutheran Services in lowa, because "most of the federally funded resources for resettled refugees are for employable adults."

Refugees in Iowa

lowa, a mostly rural Midwestern state, is more than 1,600 kilometers from either of the heavily populated U.S. coasts. With a population of more than 3 million people, it ranks 30th among the 50 U.S. states. The state's economy is rooted in agriculture and manufacturing, but also has diversified to include the insurance and financial industries.

In 2017, there were 18,782 lowans who had been born in Africa, six times the number from 2000, according to the Migration Policy Institute. In fiscal 2018, 99 of the 110 refugee arrivals to lowa were from African countries, according to the U.S. Department of State.

They live amid a recent U.S. political climate of suspicion toward immigrants or refugees and confusion over acclimating to America.

Just as the Gabriels said they once did, the children try to adjust to a new country while their parents work long hours.

"In Iowa, Liberian Couple Reaches Out to Fellow African Refugees" Article, February 2, 2019 (pg.3)

Sam's mom worked as a hotel housekeeper, his father as a janitor. Sam said he tried to fit in, joining the soccer team in school. But his parents didn't have the money for travel or uniforms, or even transportation to practices.

Tricia wore clothes that suited her well in Liberia, but not so much in America. She said she was bullied and mocked in school.

Sam said refugee children feel torn, trying to conform to more American ways at school to avoid being bullied, yet facing pressure at home to carry on their traditions. They are often left feeling they don't belong anywhere, he adds.

Sam wanted to help. At one point in his childhood in Ivory Coast, he said he ran away from his parents and was wandering homeless when a man he encountered helped him by giving him a place to stay and offering encouragement.

"Because of that man, every time I see young boys going through struggles, I know they need someone like me to help them through the struggle," he said.

He started in 2009 with what he knew: soccer. At first, he brought together boys, many of whom couldn't afford to join soccer clubs, for practice. He saw children from several African nations blend over their love of the game. He said he held them accountable for their behavior and for schoolwork, and he saw attitudes change.

Inspired by Sam's passion, Tricia, 29, got involved, becoming the arts director of programming and adding a choir and dance group. Their small grassroots effort grew into a nonprofit in 2014, and in the past few years they have received a grant as well as a van to pick up the kids. 'Hope' the children give back

"My hope is that the children become better individuals in the community and give back after seeing what we do for them," Tricia said.

On this frigid night, the school buzzed with activity. Some children played soccer, others danced. Another group huddled over school lessons, helped by a handful of volunteers. The children were born in several different African countries: Liberia, Uganda, Congo, Tanzania, Burundi, Eritrea and Somalia.

Abu Bakar, who joined the group while he was in high school, said it helped him stay out of trouble and build his communication skills after his parents moved to lowa from Sierra Leone in 2005. Now in his mid-20s, he brings two sons, ages 4 and 5, to play soccer, too.

Other parents say the tutoring helps their children learn subjects they cannot teach them.

Korto Klar, 14, whose parents moved to Iowa from Liberia in 2005, said it helps her to be around other people who make her feel like she belongs.

"In Iowa, Liberian Couple Reaches Out to Fellow African Refugees" Article, February 2, 2019 (pg.4)

The dance she is practicing on this frigid night is one she said she will perform in March, during a fundraiser, where refugee parents using their limited incomes and food stamps plan to cook a meal to share with the capital city's larger community.

Sam said he wants the children to learn from the event: "You can't be a leader until you are a servant."



Tricia Gabriel, background, oversees dance practice at the nightly gathering of Genesis Youth Foundation, which helps children of refugees with evening programs to adjust to life in America, in Des Moines, Iowa, Jan. 28, 2019.

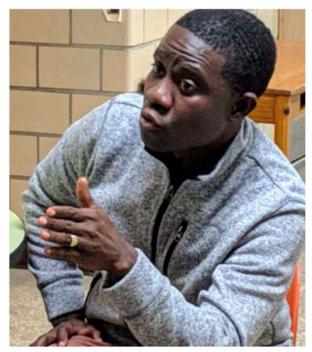


Tricia Gabriel, co-founder of Genesis Youth Foundation, hands out snacks to children in the program, in Des Moines, Iowa, Jan. 28, 2019.

"In Iowa, Liberian Couple Reaches Out to Fellow African Refugees" Article, February 2, 2019 (pg.5)



Abu Bakar of Des Moines brings his own children to Genesis programs after it helped him feel like he belonged and learn to communicate more effectively.



Sam Gabriel founded Genesis Youth Foundation in Des Moines, Iowa, after he was helped as a child from war-torn Liberia. Photo taken Jan. 28, 2019.

"New Iowan: Mihnet" from Iowa PBS, Date Unknown



Courtesy of Iowa PBS, "New Iowan: Mihnet," Our Kids, Iowa PBS, Date Unknown

"Sponsoring a Refugee Family" Pamphlet from Iowa Bureau of Refugee Services, Date Unknown (pg.1)

SPONSORING A REFUGEE FAMILY

Bureau of Refugee Services Iowa Department of Human Services

ANSWERS TO THE MOST COMMON QUESTIONS ABOUT SPONSORSHIP



Photo by UNHCR, A child from Bosnia & Herzegovina.

"Sponsoring a Refugee Family" Pamphlet from Iowa Bureau of Refugee Services, Date Unknown (pg.2)

Iowa's Resettlement Philosophy

The Bureau maintains the philosophy that refugees need to become self-sufficient as quickly as possible. Our focus is on placing refugees into jobs, which promote economic independence, generate tax dollars and help local economies. We discourage the use of welfare-type funds, except in emergency situations.

What Is The Bureau's Mission?

Since 1975, the Bureau of Refugee Services has had a two-fold mission:

**To assist refugees in becoming selfsufficient as quickly as possible, thereby, enabling them to enrich our state through the sharing of their talents, skills, gifts and culture.

** Offering a home and a future for those who have been persecuted through the resettlement of refugees in Iowa.

What Is Sponsorship?

Sponsorship is a **MORAL COMMITMENT, NOTA LEGAL OR FINANCIAL COMMITMENT.** Sponsors provide the support and friendship necessary to ease the transition between cultures. Sponsors are not responsible for any legal or financial obligations. Most of the major responsibilities, such as food, housing, orientation and paperwork occur in the first three months, though ties of friendship may last for years.

What Are The Sponsor's Responsibilities?

Pre-arrival orientation. Meet with Bureau staff to prepare for the family's arrival.

Food, housing, clothing. Arrange for suitable housing. Donations or used merchandise stores can be helpful in finding household goods and clothing. Basic food items help the families get through the first days.

Airport arrival. Meet the family at the airport and help them get settled in their new home. A bilingual case manager from the Bureau will accompany you.

Medical and dental check-ups. Make appointments for check-ups as soon as possible after the family arrives.

Post-arrival orientation. Meet with Bureau staff and your refugee family to go over plans for a successful resettlement.

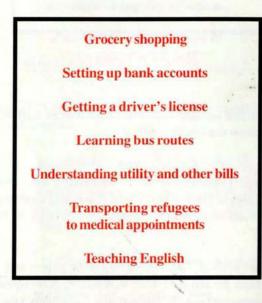
"Sponsoring a Refugee Family" Pamphlet from Iowa Bureau of Refugee Services, Date Unknown (pg.3)

In What Other Ways Can A Sponsor Help?

(90 Day Commitment)

Each sponsorship experience is different and the sponsor must adapt tot he needs of each family. The Bureau assigns a case manager to help the sponsor and refugee family throughout the resettlement period.

Other areas in which the sponsor can help are:



The most important role a sponsor can play is that of a friend and advocate. Loving, non-judgmental support and availability are the most important qualities of a good sponsor.

How Can YOU Be the Key To Freedom?

The key to accomplishing our mission is **YOU**: individuals, churches, service groups, schools, and other organization who are willing to join tin partnership with the Bureau of Refugee Services in the resettlement of refugees by serving as a sponsor.

Refugees can not enter the United States without a sponsor, so **YOU** are literally the key that can unlock the door to freedom, hope, a future and a new life in America.

Who Are Refugees?

A refugee is a person who has fled or is being forced to flee their homeland because of persecution based on their race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion.

Refugees must apply for the U.S. Refugee Resettlement Program and then be interviewed and approved by the Immigration and Naturalization Service before they can be admitted into the United States. Some refugees in Asia, Africa, and the Middle East have lived in camps for years waiting to be resettled.



Photo by UNHCR, Family from Bosnia & Herzegovina in a displacement camp.

"Sponsoring a Refugee Family" Pamphlet from Iowa Bureau of Refugee Services, Date Unknown (pg.4)

Where Are The New Arrivals Coming From?

In recent years, the world has witnessed monumental changes in its global structure. As countries disintegrate and as new governments emerge, the U.S. Refugee Resettlement Program is confronted with new waves of refugees.

In order to address the changing needs of refugees from around the world, the President designates each year the number of refugees who may be admitted into the United States by region and nationality.

At the local level, the Bureau of Refugee Services reviews its resettlement goals annually in order to plan for the arrival of incoming refugees. Refugees represent diverse groups such as Amerasians and former political prisoners from Vietnam, Liberians who have been uprooted by their country's civil war, prodemocracy students and dissidents from Burma, victims of the "ethnic cleansing" in the former Yugoslavia and the Hmong from the highlands of Laos.



Photo by UNHCR, Children from Bosnia & Herzegovina.

How Does The Bureau of Refugee Services Assist Its Sponsors?

The Bureau is a sub-division of the Iowa Department of Human Services and is the state agency responsible for resettling and serving refugees in Iowa.

The Bureau receives funds from the U.S. State Department to assist in refugee resettlement. Out of those funds, sponsors will receive **\$250 per refugee** to cover expenses such as utility and rent deposits, rent, food, and household goods. For example, \$1,000 would be available to assist sponsors with expenses for a four-person family.

All resettlement funds distributed to the sponsor must go to benefit the refugee. Sponsors are responsible for documenting all expenditures.

In addition to the financial assistance, the Bureau will also assign a bilingual case manager to each refugee family. They will be available to work with the sponsor and the family on a continuing basis.

The Bureau is responsible for placing the refugee into employment, obtaining social security numbers, applying for medical coverage and food stamps and school enrollment.

The Bureau will also act as a liaison between families and other community and governmental agencies.

"Sponsoring a Refugee Family" Pamphlet from Iowa Bureau of Refugee Services, Date Unknown (pg.5)

Is Sponsorship Rewarding?

YES!!! Just ask Carol and Sid Dykstra who have sponsored 19 refugees. This is what they had to say about sponsorship. "As community volunteers, we have found sponsorship to be our most rewarding volunteer experience. It is so exciting to work directly with families who have so little as they begin their new lives in a land of freedom and many opportunities".

Where Can I Find Out More About Sponsorship?

For more information, call the Bureau of Refugee Services at the number below and we will gladly arrange a presentation for you or your group to explain the program in detail.

BUREAU OF REFUGEE SERVICES

Iowa Department of Human Services 1200 University Avenue, Suite D Des Moines, Iowa 50314

> (515)283-7999 Iowa toll free (800)362-2780