



CAPI

To guide refugees and immigrants in the journey  
toward self-determination and social equality

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There is a saying that to touch the water of a river, a lake, or a creek is to travel the oceans to be connected to everyone sharing the lands of the earth. How lucky we are, as refugees, fleeing persecution, and immigrants, seeking to realize dreams, coming from 80 different countries, to live in Minnesota, the land of lakes.

Like Germans, Swedes, and Norwegians who came to Minnesota in the 19th century, refugees and immigrants of today vitally contribute to the economic, political, social, and cultural health and vibrancy of our state.



CAPI, founded in 1982, provides health education, job readiness and placements, housing and food assistance, and community engagement, to about 3,000 refugees and immigrants a year.

## VISION

All refugees and immigrants lead successful lives and exercise fully their civic rights and responsibilities.

## MISSION

To guide refugees and immigrant in the journey toward self-determination and social equality.

# STRATEGIC GOALS

To promote social justice and gender equity for refugees and immigrants.

**Our strategies:**

- › Provide basic needs services
- › Promote health equity
- › Integrate gender and cultural concerns
- › Develop the expertise of staff, participants, and partners
- › Energize community relationships
- › Generate civic participation

To sustain financial stability, transparency, and strength.

**Our strategies:**

- › Build partnerships and collaboration
- › Secure multi-year and unrestricted funding
- › Streamline operations
- › Communicate benchmarks, milestones, and financial information

We will use the gender equity framework for social change because we believe that our communal strength comes from the value and the full participation of every member. It will help us to sharpen our analysis and responses to community issues based on the intersections of gender, power, ethnicity, and sexuality.



## OUR APPROACHES

Our programs draw upon the assets and resources of the community. Participants are involved through all stages of our projects. We will work across generations and boundaries, conducting ourselves with every intention for all voices to be heard.

- › Creating community ownership, going beyond staff, board, and funders.
- › Tailoring our projects from the voices of our constituents — refugees and immigrants.
- › Reaching out to the widest circles of alliances to share resources and to build strength.
- › Learning and reflecting to refine strategies.



Minnesota's land of lakes will continue to attract refugees and immigrants. There is an excitement in our profound diversity and strength. You are our allies in the great work ahead of us. We want a socially just world with each of us reaching our fullest potential for the benefit of our community.

*"The world is, I think, in need of being heard. I would not want to live in a world today in which a person or a community, because of color, because of religion, because of ethnic origin, or because of social conditions, would feel totally neglected or abandoned. There must be someone who speaks to and for that group, every group."*  
–Elie Wiesel, "Conversations with Elie Wiesel", 2001



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