

Riverview

INTERNATIONAL CENTER

Amazing Women we meet at the RIC

A 39-sec video from National Women's Day



Mohand's Impressive Career Journey

From oil field engineer to the assembly line to journeyman electrician

When Mohand and his family moved to Columbus from Algeria in 2019, he was grateful to secure a job with Stanley Electric making \$15/hour. But with degrees in biology and engineering, and experience working as a manager at an oil refinery, Mohand sought a new career path. He faithfully learned English, was promoted at Stanley Electric and enrolled in an electrician apprenticeship program. Within nine months, he had passed his journeyman electrician's test with a perfect score! Now, Mohand makes \$59/hour plus overtime—and is on his way to securing a better future for his family. Says Mohand, "The people at the RIC encouraged me to be patient, earn recognized certificates in the U.S. and try to look for new career paths to reach my goals. Now I'm able to open doors for better opportunities for my young children."



Did you know?

In 2019 immigrant residents contributed \$15.4 billion to the metro area's GDP, which is 11.5% of the total, while only making up 8.7% of the population.



New Staff at the RIC

We are so thankful to have Iman, who started last fall, be present to help many more neighbors while alleviating some of the burden felt by Hamida. Wahid started in January and is mitigating constant interruptions of service by the staff through his friendly greeting at the front door. Soon you will meet Angelica as she provides much needed guidance, training and communication with Emelia regarding volunteers.



Iman Shehabi
Community Health Coordinator

Wahidullah Fareedzai
Administrative Assistant

Angelica Aguilar
Volunteer Coordinator Assistant

Iman has a Master's degree in social work from OSU where she specialized in mental health. Some of you may recognize her because she was one of the RIC's first intern's several years ago! Iman's parents are of Palestinian descent and migrated to America before she was born. Iman understands the unique challenges immigrants and the first generation face. Iman helps our neighbors access healthcare by applying for benefits and scheduling medical appointments as well as planning health related program. Soon she will start a women's empowerment group.

Wahidullah Fareedzai came to the US from Nargarhar, Afghanistan in 2021. In Afghanistan, Wahid worked for the Ministry of Urban Development and Infrastructure, a project funded by the World Bank. He has a Bachelor's degree from Nargarhar University and speaks four languages - Pashto, Dari, Urdu, and English! Wahid enjoys spending time with his family and friends, exploring new places, and following the English Premier League. Wahid makes neighbor appointments, passes out donated items, interprets for the staff and answers general questions about life in Columbus.

Angelica received her Master's Degree in Speech-Language Pathology from OSU. She has a diverse background in business, studio arts, healthcare, and community volunteering. She welcomes opportunities to connect with others and share knowledge and life experiences to create positive contributions within our community. Angelica says, "Growing up in a multicultural family in the Columbus area, I feel fortunate to join the familial community on Riverview Drive."

Thank you CAS and Heart to Heart Food Pantry!



Heart to Heart comes to the RIC once a month to bring much needed food and produce to ease the financial burden of increasing food prices.

CAS Young Professional's Group made blankets to give out to our neighbors last week - *when the weather happened to be warm!*

Tania becomes a citizen!

Many of you know Tania, known affectionately as "Tania 2". Tania and her 3 children can often be seen at the RIC volunteering, bringing food to share, introducing new people, even playing games. She has become quite an accomplished seamstress too! Last month, she received her citizenship. Congratulations Tania 2!!!





Our Contact Information

{{Organization Name}}

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