



## LETTER FROM THE FOUNDER



Dear Friends of Hello Neighbor,

2018 was an incredible year of growth for Hello Neighbor. Looking back, it feels like we squeezed every ounce out of the year, leaving no stone unturned. The “official” team grew from one to two. I was proud to make our first full-time hire, Kara Kimicata, as Program Manager. Kara’s partnership and presence has been so incredibly valued - not just by me - but by the families we serve.

When I say “team” it’s hard to quantify. We have incredible interpreters, interns, volunteers and contractors plus all of our mentors and mentees who are the backbone of Hello Neighbor. Our village is strong and growing!

Our biggest accomplishment was becoming our own 501c3 nonprofit in March. We are thankful for our 2017 fiscal sponsor, New Sun Rising, but it was time for this bird to fly away from the nest. Becoming our own nonprofit allowed us to grow our presence and voice in the region.

In 2018, we doubled our impact by launching two new cohorts! Throughout 2017, we saw that not only was our model of intergenerational and intercultural mentorship working, but that there was a growing demand. It was a lot of work to double the amount of matches last year, but we’re so glad we did. Today, we can proudly say we’ve matched 72 families from

11 countries of origin with Pittsburghers to guide and support them as mentors, advocates and ultimately friends. Their time together includes over 4,000 mentoring hours and 500 individual activities. We are on the frontline with the families we serve, helping them break out of their social isolation with the goal of ultimately becoming more comfortable and confident in their new lives in Pittsburgh.

We introduced new programs including our wildly successful “New Neighbor Cookie Table” and our Women’s Health and Nutrition Program. We proudly welcomed new funders, new supporters and new friends all across Pittsburgh and the country. Plus, our feature on The NBC News with Lester Holt highlighted not only Hello Neighbor but also Pittsburgh as a welcoming city!

We welcomed 12 babies last year, all the first “American Citizen” in their families. We saw families buy homes, enroll in classes at CCAC, get their first job, first car, first promotion and all along the way they had their Hello Neighbor Mentor beside them.



I am looking forward to all 2019 has to offer and to the continued support of Pittsburgh. In the current political climate, we are doing all we can to be a bright light and shining example of who Americans can - and should be. I wake up every day inspired by our mentors and mentees giving of themselves to create relationships that will last a lifetime.

There are so many ways to become a part of the Hello Neighbor team. Contact me directly anytime at [sloane@helloneighbor.io](mailto:sloane@helloneighbor.io) to discuss in more detail.

I remain sincerely yours,

Sloane Davidson  
Founder and CEO

## MISSION, VISION, & PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



*"I'll always remember our visit at the Science Center with my mentor. It was my first time ever going to a museum. Now we know all the places and feel more connected to Pittsburgh. It is our place now too."*

- Saraswati, Mentee

### MISSION

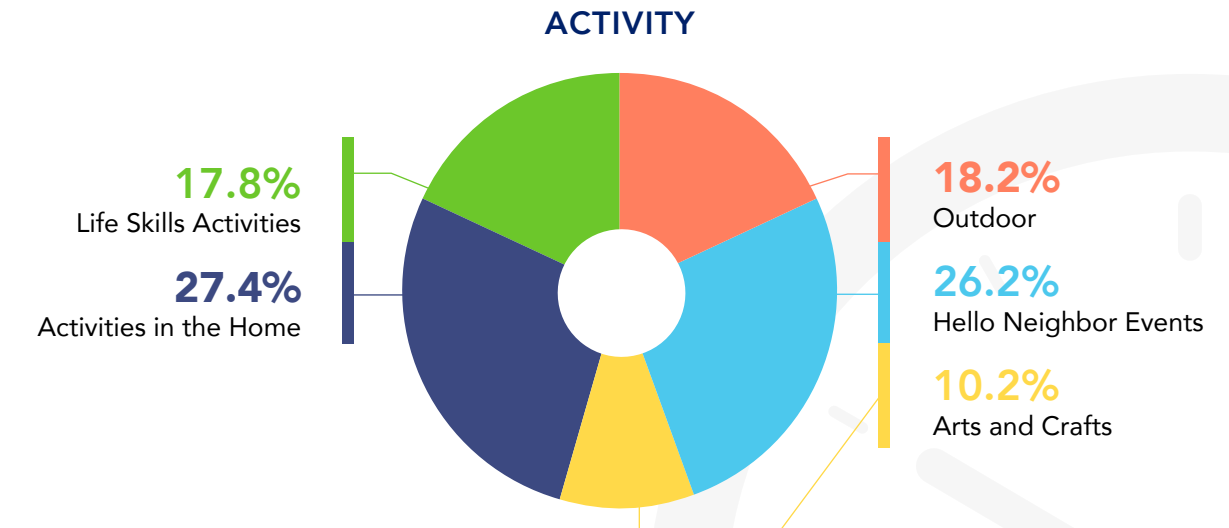
The mission of Hello Neighbor is to improve the lives of refugees and immigrants by matching them with dedicated neighbors to guide and support them in their new lives.

### VISION

The vision of Hello Neighbor is that all refugees and immigrants feel welcome and gain confidence in their new lives in Pittsburgh.

### PROGRAM GOALS

The goal of the Pittsburgh friend, or Mentor, is more than mentorship. Mentors become allies and advocates. This includes going to a museum, library, playground and cooking side by side in each other's homes. Mentors also help break social isolation with practical and important integration activities like navigating American culture, enrolling in ESL or continuing education classes, learning about the education and healthcare systems and supporting daily life-skills like reading mail and understanding forms.





## 2018 AT A GLANCE



**MENTORING** is a relationship that builds over time and every relationship is different. Activities ranged from things like cooking together in each other's homes to life skills including reading mail, writing checks, and scheduling doctor's appointments. Playgrounds and libraries are always a big hit too! Of course there were also opportunities to explore Pittsburgh including outings to Randyland, Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens, Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium, and Ohionpyle.

Hello Neighbor Signature Events are always a lot of fun and well attended. We were excited to provide transportation and show our new neighbors The Children's Museum of Pittsburgh, a return trip to The Andy Warhol Museum and an afternoon on The Gateway Clipper.

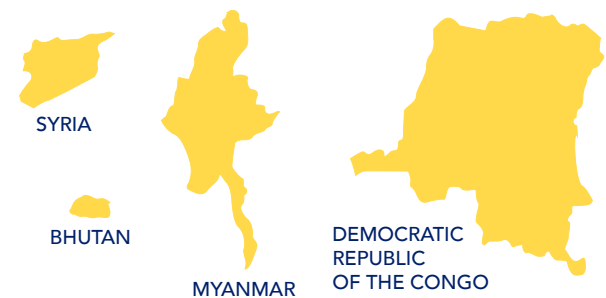


COHORT 2 HIGHLIGHTS:



**99% MENTEE**  
families have children under  
the age of 18 in the home

Refugees represented four countries of origin:



Mentors represented diverse socioeconomic status and professions, ranging from lawyers, architects, professors and biologists to high-school teachers and yoga instructors. Mentors represented 16 different zip codes.



**8** Pittsburgh  
mentee  
neighborhoods:  
**CARNEGIE**  
**CRAFTON**  
**HEIGHTS**  
**BALDWIN**  
**BETHEL PARK**  
**BRENTWOOD**  
**BROOKLINE**  
**BRIGHTON**  
**HEIGHTS**  
**NORTHVIEW**  
**HEIGHTS**

25 NEW MATCHES  
FOR A 4-MONTH  
commitment of  
**10 HOURS**  
PER MONTH.



**100%**  
Mentee  
families live  
on or below  
THE **POVERTY**  
LINE.

**100%**  
OF MENTEES SAID:

...that they would  
sign up for Hello  
Neighbor again.

...they want to  
continue their  
friendship with their  
American friends.

...they better  
understand  
Americans after  
participating  
in the program.

**80%**  
of mentees said  
they felt **MORE**  
**CONFIDENT**  
as residents of  
Pittsburgh.

**64%**  
of mentee youth  
were enrolled in  
**summer enrichment**  
because of  
Hello Neighbor



**93%**  
said their opinion of  
Americans changed  
for the better.

**7%**  
said it stayed the same  
because they already  
liked Americans.

2018 AT A GLANCE

**MENTORS:**  
**100%**  
of mentors liked Hello  
Neighbor's Family  
Based Structure

**78.6%**  
said that their expectations  
were matched or  
exceeded

**92%**  
of mentors said they  
would continue their  
friendship with their  
mentees  
**87%** are continuing  
their relationship

OUTCOMES

"I learned that our  
mentors want to be  
friends with other  
cultures. I did not know  
that. I thought most  
people did not like  
refugees like us. They  
are nice, just like us.  
We are more similar  
than different after this  
experience."

- Hari, Mentee



## ANNUAL HIGHLIGHTS



Kara Kimicata started as Program Manager, our first employee!



Received nonprofit status



**Cohort 2 starts!**



Hello Neighbor families go to The Andy Warhol Museum



We celebrated our first birthday at Threadbare Cider



Featured on The NBC News with Lester Holt



Our 2nd Annual Potluck in the Park included soccer, a chess tournament, haircuts, police and fire for kids to learn about public safety and a lot more!



Sloane named to 40 under 40 by *Pittsburgh Magazine* and "Who's Next in Philanthropy" by *The Incline*

#GIVING TUESDAY

Our first #GivingTuesday campaign was a success. We reach our goal of \$15,000 to unlock a match grant!

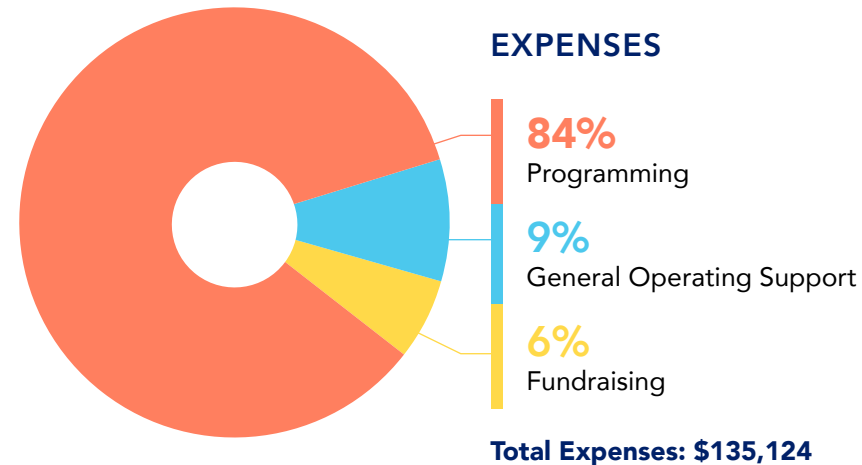


New Neighbor Cookie Table launched! We sold over 3,000 individual pieces of baklava in 72 hours.



**Cohort 3 starts:** We are now supporting 72 families from 11 countries of origin!

## FINANCIALS



*"We used to be scared of prejudice, when we were in our country, but thank God not here. We all believe in one God. I'm Muslim, my American Friend is Jewish, other friends are Christian. If I called my friend with a problem, she would come right away."*

- Motab, Mentee

## THANK YOU

Thank you to generous support from the following Foundations and a special thank you to all of our donors who have helped make this year a success!

THE HEINZ ENDOWMENTS



THE GRABLE FOUNDATION  
dedicated to improving the lives of children



Our partners:



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**STAFF**

Sloane Davidson, Founder and CEO

Kara Kimicata, Program Manager

**INTERPRETERS**

Hiba Wagner, Director of Family Services (Arabic)

Noorhulaq Fazly, Director of Family Services (Dari and Pashto)

All of our interpreters that help bring Hello Neighbor to life!

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Venise St. Pierre and Norman Beck



*"Your program is beautiful. We learned to do things we've never done before. All Americans are not the same, just like we are not all the same. This is something we learned about each other."*

- Iman, Mentee









GET INVOLVED



6425 Living Place, Suite 200, Pittsburgh, PA 15206

(412) 567-3946 | [info@helloneighbor.io](mailto:info@helloneighbor.io)

[helloneighbor.io](http://helloneighbor.io)

*Hello Neighbor is a 501(c)(3) | EIN: 82-3695047*

   @helloneighborhq