



[Congratulations to our IU Groups Scholars!](#) p. 12

[U.S.-Myanmar Engagement Conference: Friday, May 29, 2015](#) p. 3-5

[BACI to Welcome Students from Burma through IUB-State Department Program](#) p. 9; [PhotoVoice Exhibition at Harrison Arts Center](#) p. 7



[School, Ministers, Community leaders' meeting deliberates civic participation](#) p. 12



[Library Card Day](#) p. 11

[St. Francis Soccer Club Program](#) p. 9

### Burmese & Chin Section

## Zatlang Funtomnak Lamhruai Cauk

Community Integration Guidebook

[Chin Holh in a Chauk Cang](#) p. 16

[Rianhmun Lungputning le Na Ngeihvo](#) p. 17

[Rian Phuah Mi i Ngeihvo](#) p. 18

[နိုးနော့လုယံပွဲ ညိုလာခံဖိတ်တ](#) p. 14

[Essay Contest](#) p. 18; [The Annual College & Youth Summit](#) p. 19

### Contact: BACI Center

4925 Shelby Street #200  
Indianapolis, IN 46227  
Tel: 317-731-5537 | [info@baci-indy.org](mailto:info@baci-indy.org)  
[www.baci-indy.org](http://www.baci-indy.org)

### OTHER NEWS

[Chin Version of Community Integration Guidebook released](#) p. 6

[Participate in World Refugee Day 2015!](#) p. 20

[Student Success Story: Biak Sui](#) p. 6

[Soccer Club Kicked Off!](#) p. 9

[The Upward College Summer Program to Begin on June 1st](#) p. 9

[English & Civic Education Classes Expanded](#) p. 10

[Nutrition Classes Conclude](#) p. 10

[BACI Hosted Cultural Competency Training for Teachers](#) p. 10

[BACI Hosts Health Enrollment Session](#) p. 11

[Job Fair and Employment](#) p. 11

[Meeting at IU Bloomington Contemplates Burma's Heritage Language Program](#) p. 12

[Meritor Makes Donation to BACI](#) p. 12

[BACI Concert & Fundraiser Raises \\$5,000!](#) p. 13





Elaisa Vahnne

## MESSAGE FROM Executive Director

We are delighted to be able to publish the Burmese American Community quarterly news for the second quarter of 2015. This issue highlights some of our major activities during the previous three months; including a feature on the first U.S.-Myanmar Engagement Conference, a historic significant event.

There are an estimated 200,000 individuals of Burmese origin currently living in the United States. We are thankful to the American people for welcoming us as we have started our new lives here. Recently, though, it has been an exciting time for us as Burma undergoes an ostensible reform process after decades of isolation. The country has indicated a desire to open up more to the international community. Expatriates and the international community alike now see a window of opportunity to constructively engage, pull together intellectual and other resources, and contribute to the reform process and development of the country. The U.S. – and Indiana in particular – is strongly but uniquely positioned to contribute to these efforts.

The U.S.-Myanmar Engagement Conference on May 29, 2015, brings together government officials, academics, business consultants, civil society leaders, and other stakeholders from both the U.S. and Burma to promote substantive dialogue and examine critical issues and opportunities for the future of Burma. By doing so, we hope that participants will have a greater understanding of the U.S. policy priorities towards Burma, as well as the important assistance the U.S. government has been providing to the Burmese inside the country.

This conference reflects our belief that it is important to engage with the Burmese expatriates as well as the mainstream stakeholders in the U.S. on the current political development in Burma – the country that had been plagued by the longest civil war in the world history, the ongoing ceasefire negotiations as part of the peace process to address political crisis which is deeply rooted in ethnic conflict – particularly the need for constitutional reform and how the 2015 elections may play out.

Recognizing the importance of investing in people and education, and responsible businesses investments in Burma for educated society and economy growth is essential to continued progress and development in the country; we hope that this conference will contribute to the articulation and implementation of the responsible investments which often requires in-depth, substantive, and open discussions.

Our hope is that every participant at this conference will walk away with a deeper understanding of how we can collaboratively work and collectively contribute to Burma's future. Most of all, we hope that the conference's conversations leave the participants feeling edified and also filled with a desire to keep these important conversations going. Finally, we believe that this conference will serve as one of many efforts to help foster local institutional capacity and ultimately promote liberty, sustained peace, and prosperity in Burma in the long-run.

We would like to thank our conference partners – Kelley School of Business Institute of International Business (IIB), the Office of International Development (OID), and Maurer school of Law Center for Constitutional Democracy (CCD) at IU Bloomington – not only for helping make this conference possible, but also for their important work for Burma and its people. We also offer our sincere appreciation to all of our speakers for enlightening us and sharing with us their expansive knowledge. I offer my special appreciation to Ambassador H.E U Kyaw Tin, our keynote speaker, for warmly accepting our invitation to come down to Indianapolis. Last but not least, may I offer my heartfelt thanks to Daw Aung San Suu Kyi for sending a special video keynote for this conference despite her extremely busy schedule. We sincerely hope that the first U.S.-Myanmar Engagement Conference will promote the spirit of constructive engagement and democracy, and help foster a long lasting friendship and partnership among the participants.

# U.S. Myanmar Engagement Conference

Friday, May 29, 2015

9am-5pm

IUPUI Campus Center

Indianapolis, IN

The U.S.-Myanmar Engagement Conference is slated to be an unprecedented event in the heart of Indianapolis. Bringing together government officials, businesses, NGOs and civil society organizations, activists, professionals and academics from both the U.S. and Myanmar, the conference will examine critical issues and opportunities for Burma/Myanmar.

Many in Myanmar and around the world are looking to 2015 as a barometer for the reform process's success thus far. With elections slated for later this year, the country's commitment to democracy, transparency, and human rights will be closely observed by the international community.

A series of panel of experts will bring substantive and in-depth discussions on the U.S. policy priorities towards the Southeast Asian Nation, the growing diplomatic and business relationships between the two countries, and a holistic overview of Myanmar's economic and political outlook, including the ongoing peace process, the political dialogue, and constitutional reform processes, and beyond.

The conference will include a special video address from **Nobel Laureate Daw Aung San Suu Kyi** and dynamic panel discussions comprised of Myanmar experts *(please see next page)*.

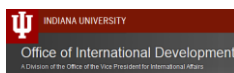
Thank you to our sponsors:



**KELLEY SCHOOL OF BUSINESS**  
INDIANA UNIVERSITY  
Institute for International Business



**CENTER FOR CONSTITUTIONAL DEMOCRACY**  
INDIANA UNIVERSITY  
Maurer School of Law  
Bloomington



## Interactive Panel Discussions Include:

### Doing Business In & With Myanmar

Beginning in mid-2012, the U.S. eased economic sanctions on Myanmar. Since then, a number of U.S. companies have begun conducting business in the country with a belief that such will have long-lasting positive impacts for both U.S. businesses and the Myanmar people. Meanwhile, the legal framework for foreign investment remains difficult to understand and has undergone numerous iterations.

This session will feature government officials, business consultants, and U.S. businesses operating inside Myanmar. Participants will gain a strong understanding of the current investment environment in Myanmar, the specific legal requirements for foreign investment, and how companies and organizations can support Myanmar's economic development.

### The Political & Legal Reform Process: Current Status and Future

Myanmar is currently facing myriad challenges, such as establishing the rule of law, redefining its military role, and advancing ethnic equality and religious tolerance.

This session will feature individuals directly involved in the political and constitutional reform processes, as well as peace negotiations in the country. Participants will gain direct insight into the status of the current reform process and how the process may affect other sectors in 2015 and beyond.

**Keynote Video Adress  
Daw Aung San Suu Kyi**



Aung San Suu Kyi

Aung San Suu Kyi, Burma's pro-democracy leader and Nobel Peace laureate, has come to symbolize the struggle of Burma's people to be free. She has spent more than 15 years in detention, most of it under house arrest. She was released from her current third period of detention on November 13, 2010.

With an amendment to the Myanmar Constitution which was drafted and adopted in 2008, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and her party, the National League for Democracy, were able to participate in the by-elections held in April 2012. Her party's landslide victory in the by-elections secured Myanmar's democratization and her membership in the Parliament.

Aung San Suu Kyi is daughter of Burma's independence hero, General Aung San, who was assassinated when she was only two years old. Aung San Suu Kyi was educated in Burma, India, and the United Kingdom.

Aung San Suu Kyi has won numerous international awards, including the Nobel Peace Prize, the Sakharov Prize from the European Parliament and the United States Presidential Medal of Freedom. She has called on people around the world to join the struggle for freedom in Burma, saying "Please use your liberty to promote ours."

**Keynote Address by H.E. U Kyaw Tin**



H.E. U Kyaw Tin

Ambassador/Permanent Representative of the Republic of Myanmar to the United Nations

U Kyaw Tin is currently the Ambassador/Permanent Representative of Myanmar to the United Nations in New York. He presented his credentials to UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on 9 September 2012. Until his appointment as Permanent Representative to the UN, Mr. Kyaw Tin was Myanmar's Ambassador to Canada from March 2011. Between October 2008 and March 2011, he served as Director-General of the Political Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Yangon and Myanmar SOM Leader for ASEAN, having been Deputy Director-General from 2007 to 2008, and Director of the South and West Asia Division from 2005 to 2006. He was Chargé d'affaires at Myanmar Embassy in Ottawa from February to October 2005.

Mr. Kyaw Tin served as Counsellor at the Permanent Mission in New York from 2003 to 2005 and as Deputy Chief of Mission/Counsellor in Jakarta from 2001 to 2003. He was Deputy Director of the International Organizations and Economic Department between 1999 and 2001, having served as Assistant Director from 1997 to 1999.

Before his appointment as Deputy Assistant Director of International Organizations and Economic Department from 1986 to 1987, Mr. Kyaw Tin was Third Secretary at the New York Permanent Mission from 1984 to 1986, Deputy Assistant Director of the International Organizations Division from 1983 to 1984, and Chancellor in Canberra from 1982 to 1983. Mr. Kyaw holds a Master of Science in mathematics from Yangon University and a post-graduate diploma in environmental management from Dresden University of Technology in Germany.

## Conference Speakers & Panelists Include:



### Dr. Nicholas Farrelly

Dr. Nicholas Farrelly is a Fellow in the College of Asia and the Pacific at the Australian National University (ANU) and Co-Director of the ANU-IU Pan Asia Institute. His academic specialty is the interaction of politics and culture in mainland Southeast Asia. Currently Dr. Farrelly holds an Australian Research Council fellowship for a study of political change in Myanmar focused on Naypyitaw, where he spent much of 2014. He also writes a weekly newspaper column for *The Myanmar Times* and is Managing Partner of the Southeast Asia practice at Glenloch Advisory, a political and economic consultancy.

### Ms. Anne M. Gillman

Ms. Anne M. Gillman is the Burma (Myanmar), Cambodia, Laos, and Thailand Desk Officer in the Office of ASEAN and the Pacific Basin at the U.S. Department of Commerce. Ms. Gillman helps U.S. firms gain improved access to foreign markets, promotes foreign investment in the United States, and works to ensure trading partners comply with trade agreements. She is a Hauser Presidential Management Fellow and has previous experience in Industry and Analysis and Enforcement and Compliance in the Department of Commerce. She has an M.A. in international economics and Southeast Asian studies from the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS).



### Dany Khy

Ms. Dany Khy is the Economic Growth Team Leader in the Asia Bureau at the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). In this capacity, she manages the economic portfolio for the Asia region, which covers over 18 diverse countries. She provides strategic guidance and technical support to senior management and USAID field missions on economic growth initiatives, including trade and investment, private sector engagement, business development, economic governance, and food security. Ms. Khy and her team also lead the Asia Bureau's regional economic integration efforts with a focus on the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and bolstering trade linkages between South and Southeast Asia.



### Aye Sanda Lwin

Ms. Aye Sanda Lwin has been serving as Economic Attaché of Myanmar to the United States since June 2013. Ms. Sanda previously worked with the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA) under Myanmar's Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development. She has also served as an Attachment Officer at the Investment and Services Division of the ASEAN Secretariat Office in Jakarta from 2008 to 2009.



### Jay Martin

Mr. Jay Martin is a Yangon-based consultant who works with the US-ASEAN Business Council and several major multi-national corporations. His specialties include Myanmar market entry, government relations, and licensing/permitting processes.



### David C. Williams

Professor David C. Williams is the John S. Hastings Professor of Law at Indiana University Bloomington's Maurer School of Law, as well as the Executive Director of the Center for Constitutional Democracy. Professor Williams consults with a number of reform movements abroad, including many elements of the Burma democracy movement on the constitutional future of the country. Among many other works, Williams is the co-editor and primary author of *Designing Federalism in Burma* (UNLD Press 2005), which is widely read in the Burma democracy movement. A noted constitutional law scholar, David C. Williams graduated *magna cum laude* from Harvard University.



### Harn Yawnghwe

Harn Yawnghwe is Executive Director of the Euro-Burma Office, which focuses on promoting the development of democracy in Myanmar. After 48 years in exile, he returned to Myanmar in October 2011 to facilitate the peace talks between the government of Myanmar and 16 ethnic armed organizations. He is the former adviser to Myanmar's exiled Prime Minister Dr. Sein Win and the youngest son of Sao Shwe Thaik, the first president of the Republic of the Union of Burma.



## Chin Version of Community Integration Guidebook

INDIANAPOLIS – The Chin [Lai-Hakha] version of the *Community Integration Guidebook* was released today as Chin people around the world celebrate their National Day, commemorating the day that the Chin leaders abandoned traditional feudal culture of ruling and introduced a democratic system of governing in 1948.

The seventy-seven page book has seven sections with contents that include: understanding American culture, property and garden care, how to be a good neighbor, cooking and home safety, fishing safety, online and physical safety, domestic violence, substance abuse, minor laws, the importance of good moral character as a citizen, mental health, personal health/hygiene, and the Bill of Rights. The guide was simultaneously released in Indianapolis, Indiana, and Columbus, Ohio at the Ceremony of the 67<sup>th</sup> Chin National Day. Plans are for the guidebook, the first of its kind, to be translated into Burmese as well as other ethnic languages of Burma and distributed in the United States and in Burma.

“I know successful integration into a new life does not occur overnight. It is a long learning process,” said Gregory Ballard, mayor of Indianapolis written in the foreword.

“The Burmese American Community Institute (BACI) provides educational resources to our newcomers. This Community Integration Guidebook is an invaluable resource that they have developed to help the refugees and immigrants learn about American culture and integrate into their new society. I recommend every newcomer receives a copy,” Mayor Ballard said.

Approximately 140,000 refugees from Burma have been resettled in the United States in recent years through the U.S. Refugee Resettlement program. Indiana hosts one of the largest Burmese refugee communities estimated to be around 18,000, seventy percent of which is of Chin ethnicity.

“As we mark the 67<sup>th</sup> Chin National Day, we celebrate the day that our Chin fathers as a people have achieved a historic significant political victory, and at the same time by participating and celebrating, we are performing an act of reaffirmation and demonstration of our commitment to freedom and equality that is deeply and fundamentally embedded in democratic principles and values,” said Elaisa Vahnje, executive director of the Burmese American Community Institute at a keynote speech during Chin National Day in Columbus, Ohio.

“But in Burma, regrettably, federalist democracy has been obscured and become, and still remains a distant dream. Nevertheless, we must move forward with national unity and a forward-looking culture, continuing to invest in people and education, with a leadership of compassion and trustworthiness,” said Vahnje.

“I hope this Guidebook will help Chins in the United States to be able to deal with hardships we face such as cultural shock, misunderstanding with native citizens around us,” said Dr. Ro Ding, Burmese American Community Institute board Chairman during the release of the book at the Chin celebration in Indianapolis.

Pu Ceu Hlun, a linguist who translated the book commented, “Every Chin would want to read this version as the contents are not only perfectly relevant for their integration with the new environment, but also important and will be helpful with their future.”



This year’s two-day Chin National Day celebration in Indianapolis, where approximately 12,000 Chin reside, was attended by more than 3,000 people who were joined by dignitaries and public officials including U.S. Congressman Andre Carson, Mayor Gregory Ballard, Indiana State Sen. Brent Waltz, Indianapolis City Councilor Jack Sandlin, Perry Township Trustee Susie Day and Perry Township Schools Superintendent Dr. Thomas Little.

*Photo: Dr. Ro Ding, BACI Board Chairman and Anna Zing, BACI UCP Alumnus at the release of the guidebook on Feb. 21<sup>st</sup> at the Chin National Day celebration.*



## PhotoVoice Exhibition Completed at Harrison Arts Center

During the first week of February, BACI celebrated the successful completion of the PhotoVoice project and exhibition at the Harrison Center for Arts.

This project evaluates barriers that affect access to healthcare for the Burmese, specifically adolescents. Through PhotoVoice, one hope is to better understand the perceived barriers to healthcare. Through key informant interviews conducted closely with the community, the findings will be disseminated via educational materials for providers and build further partnerships to improve healthcare access. This exhibition is as part of a collaborative effort to educate the community as well as the health service providers Community Health Access to Child Health (CATCH).

Our collaborative project was made possible through and in partnership with Residents at Riley Hospital: Dr. Megan McHenry, MD; Dr. Avika Dixit, MBBS, MPH; our own Lian Sang, MPH candidate; and BACI Upward College Program Students.



## Student Success Stories: Interview with Biak Sui

*Biak Sui is one of the first students who participated in the Upward College Program, developed by BACI in Fall 2011. The program assists the area students with their college access and future success by conducting leadership and life skills trainings and providing tutoring and mentoring services. Anu Sui graduated from Southport High School in 2012 with honors and is majoring in Accounting & Business with a Rev. Billy Kirk Leadership Award scholarship at Bethel College in Mishawaka, Indiana. Sui will be interning with BACI this summer.*

### **How long have you been in the U.S. and Indianapolis?**

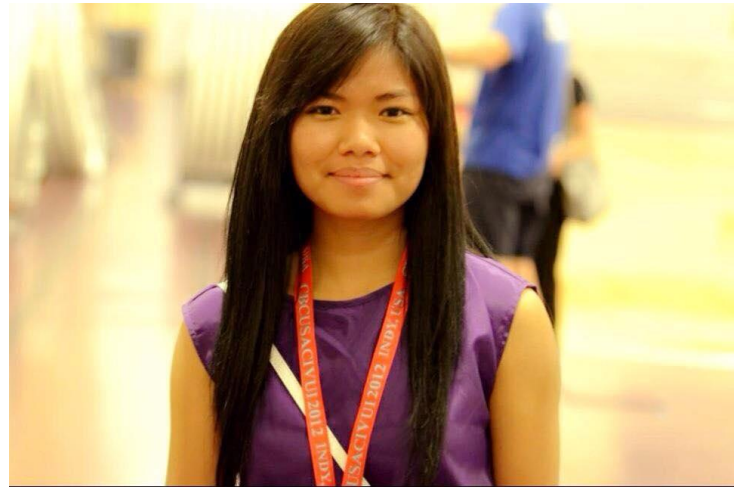
I came to the U.S. on December 14, 2006, and I have lived in Indianapolis ever since.

### **When and why did you get involved with BACI? Which programs did you participate in?**

I got involved with BACI Upward College Program during my junior and senior years in high school because I wanted to go to college like others. I did not know much about college and how to prepare for it. I thought it was a great opportunity to learn about college from them. Besides, it was offered free for all the students.

### **How do you think BACI helped prepare you for college?**

I thought that all the teachers of BACI were very good, which inspired and encouraged me to learn what they had to teach. They help me understand and learn so much about college. They helped me with everything I needed to know for college, such as how to write essays, apply for college, apply for scholarships, apply for FASA, etc. They did not help only to prepare for college, also they were helping me with my high school work. They arranged for me to make student visits to some colleges, which was what I really wanted to do before going to college.



### **How did you overcome challenges in high school?**

God played a huge role and helping me overcome the challenges. Because I did not get the same opportunities as other students who grew up here, I did not have the same standard of education. So, I had to work extra hard to overcome the challenges. Since I was young, I believed that it is important to work hard and that was what I did with the help of BACI.

### **What are you majoring now and what are your education and career goals?**

I am majoring in accounting right now, but I am also interested in Business Administration, so I might major in Business and minor in Accounting. I have not decided what I want to do as my career. I am willing to do any job that God provides. I also want to help people file income tax, which I am learning to do in my accounting classes right now.

### **What advice would you give to current high school students from Burma?**

I want to tell them that nothing is impossible here. Everyone is given the opportunity. It is possible to make your dream come true. However, it is important to work hard. We should know that God gave us good opportunities by bringing us to America. Hard work is a must to get to your goal. God gave us a chance to get a good education. Lastly, I want to tell them to put God before everything. He should be the number one priority in your life. Manage time well and commit to what you are learning.





### **BACI Welcome Group of Students from Burma through State Department Program**

For the second year in a row, BACI welcomed a group of twenty students who participated in the Youth Leadership Program with Burma, a four-week program led by the Office of International Development at Indiana University Bloomington with the support of the U.S. Department of State. On April 18-19, BACI hosted the youth for two days and gave the group a grand tour of downtown Indianapolis. The program is funded by the U.S. Department of State through the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. The visit was designed to enhance leadership skills and position participants to become effective and engaged citizens upon their return to Burma.

### **Soccer Club Kicked Off!**

Our Upward College Program has added a Soccer Club component, Empowering the Youth through Soccer, in partnership with the University of Indianapolis. BACI aims to enrich participants' skills in time management, teamwork, leadership, character building, and physical exercise. The Soccer Club has already had special visitations from the UINDY men's soccer coach, John Higgins, and healthcare providers from St. Francis such and others.

### **Upward College Summer Scholars Program To Begin June 1<sup>st</sup>.**

BACI's hallmark programs, the Upward College Program, released its summer program application on April 1 and the interview process has been completed. The summer program is an intensive two-month program that primes students to pursue post-secondary education by learning about rigorous research methods and undertaking participatory action research. Parents' orientation to take place on May 31<sup>st</sup> at 6PM at BACI.



### **St. Francis Soccer Club Program**

#### **Junior & Senior Travel**

These teams are for the competitive players between the ages of U11-U18. Teams are selected by skill level, age & gender specific groups. Coaching staff will include staff from Indy Eleven (ATRG and Fitness Coach), local Colleges (UIndy and IUPUI) as well as local High Schools (Southport, Perry, Franklin Central, and Roncalli).

#### **Tryout Dates & Times**

Monday June 8<sup>th</sup> & Tuesday June 9<sup>th</sup>

U17 and U18 age groups- 2pm Boys - Field 13 & 14 Girls - Field 15 & 16

U15 and U16 age groups- 4pm Boys - Field 13 & 14 Girls - Field 15 & 16

U13 and U14 age groups- 6pm Boys - Field 13 & 14 Girls - Field 15 & 16

U11 and U12 age groups- 6pm Boys - Field 2 & 4 Girls - Field 6 and 8

**Where:** St. Francis Soccer Fields  
7702 S. Arlington Ave, Indianapolis, IN 46237

**John Higgins- Club Boys' Director of Coaching**  
**Josh Brown- Boys' Senior Team Director of Coaching**  
**Diego Lemus- Boys' Junior Team Director of Coaching**

## Classes & Training



### English & Civic Education Classes to Continue and Expand

BACI is pleased to announce that we have begun offering **English and Citizenship Instruction classes on Monday and Wednesday evenings (5:30-8:30pm)**, starting Monday, April 6. These classes will be offered as an alternative to the current Monday & Wednesday 9am-noon classes in order to accommodate our community members who work earlier in the day.

These classes are made possible through a collaborative partnership with Central Nine Career Center (C9). The curriculum is designed for adult learners desiring to transition to post-secondary education, certification programs such as Medical Assistant, CNA, Construction Certificate, and for Citizenship testing as well.

Orientation is held monthly at BACI Center. Anyone with questions should call Ruth Olson, Intake Coordinator at Central Nine, at [317-882-2088 extension 237](tel:317-882-2088) or BACI Team at [317-731-5537](tel:317-731-5537). Please contact either number to register in advance; seats are limited and admissions process follows first come first served basis.

*Thank you to our 2015 Corporate Sponsor*



### Franciscan St. Francis Health Nutrition Classes Successfully Concluded

Since June 17, 2014, BACI--in partnership with St. Francis--has been providing monthly Nutrition Class for the parents of children from our community who are underweight or overweight. The first round of this project is coming to an end in May 2015. Please contact the BACI office for more information on upcoming classes.



### Cultural Competency Training for Central Nine Teachers

In late March, BACI facilitated a cultural competency training for fifteen teachers from Central Nine Career Center and its partners. Central Nine is an area career/technical school dedicated to the development of the knowledge and skills necessary to prepare students for employment or further study at a post-secondary institution. This competency training helped teachers better understand how to interact with students from Burma. BACI also partners with Central Nine in offering weekly English and Civic Education classes.

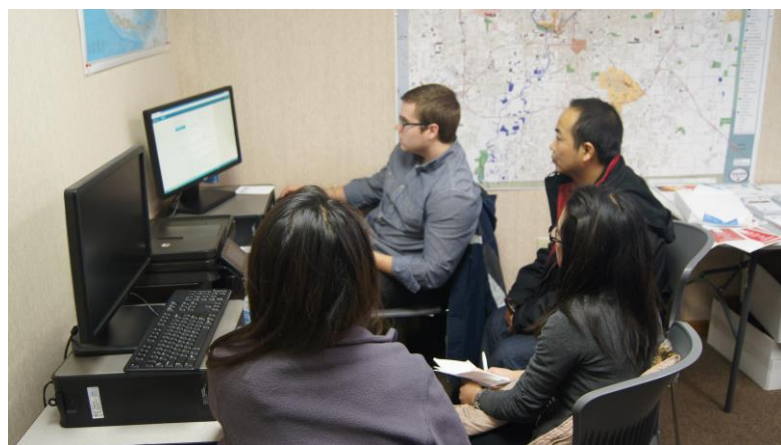
## Employment and Small Business Technical Assistance

BACI has implemented the Employment and MicroEnterprise Development (EMED) Program. This program includes Job Fairs, information sessions, referrals, individual technical assistance on job applications and initiation of small businesses. BACI has successfully developed partnerships with highly rated employers and staffing agencies to assist community members seeking positions. If you need assistance regarding employment matters, contact Lian Sang at [317-731-5537](tel:317-731-5537) or [lsang@baci-indy.org](mailto:lsang@baci-indy.org).



## Upward College Program Guest Lectures

Students participating in the Upward College Program had the chance to meet with Nunmawi Bualteng, a Public Health Nurse at Marion County Health Department. She provided students with information about receiving a Nursing degree and encouraged students to pursue higher education with great dedication. This was just one of the many informative guest lectures from this school year.



## BACI Hosts Health Enrollment Session

BACI successfully conducted a Affordable Care Act (ACA) Health Insurance Enrollment Session on February 7 in collaboration with Chin Community of Indiana (CCI), the Immigrant and Refugee Service Corps (IRSC) AmeriCorps, HealthNet, Windrose Health Network, and SRA International, Inc. Community members received individual assistance on applications for ACA, HIPP, Medicaid, Hoosier Healthwise and/or Health Advantage.



## Library Card Day at Southport Library

In January BACI held a Library Card day at Southport Library. Our volunteers and interpreters helped parents and children fill out forms to obtain library cards. Thank you to Southport Library for your partnership. Happy reading!

## More Collaborative Partnerships

### Meritor Makes Donation to BACI

BACI received a very kind donation from Meritor, an American corporation that manufactures automobile components. BACI was able to visit their site in Plainfield, Indiana, where approximately half of the employees working on the floor are Chin. Executive Director, Elaisa Vahnje, spoke with workers during their lunch breaks to share about BACI's programs and thanked them for their hard work for our children and community. BACI works to connect employees and employers through job fairs, English classes for the workplace, cultural orientation trainings, among other initiatives. Thank you to Meritor for your support!



### Meeting at IU-Bloomington Contemplates Burma's Heritage Language Program

In March BACI had the honor of participating in a meeting at IU-Bloomington regarding the development of a Burma's Heritage Language Program. This program would include the possibility of hiring bi-lingual teachers and providing academic content in native languages to recently arrived high school students from Burma who attend Perry Township Schools. The meeting included multiple IU departments, the Indiana Department of Education, and Perry Township Schools. This is another wonderful example of Indiana working to create a welcoming community for families from Burma.



### Civic and Culture Education

On January 28, a diverse group of leaders in our community come together to hear, to discuss, and to deliberate the challenges faced Perry Township School District in terms of its capacity and recommended solution options - commonly agreeing to address the issues by civic education and voters' participation.



Meeting with Roncalli High School leadership explores how we can collaboratively assist the students from Burma enrolled at the school.



## BACI Fundraiser & Concert Raises \$5,000!

Thank you to all of the students, musicians, singers, and audience members who participated in the BACI Fundraiser for Education in January 2015. The event raised approximately \$5,000 and will go toward BACI's diverse programming in 2015. Rev. Hre Mang, VP of BACI Board of Directors (below, left) received an Outstanding Volunteer Award and students from the Upward College Program Lifeskills Training were recognized (below, right). A special thanks to Perry Meridian High School and the Chin Youth Organization of North America (CYONA-IN) for their great partnership and support.



### Congratulations to our IU Groups Scholars!

BACI is pleased to announce that a number of scholars from our community have been granted admission to Indiana University Bloomington through the Groups Scholars Program. We wish these students the best of luck in Bloomington in the fall! *See cover photo as well as on the right.*



### နီးနှောဖလှယ်ပွဲ ညီလာခံဖိတ်စာ

မေလ၊ ၂၀၁၅

မိတ်ဆွေများ ခင်ဗျား ၊

အထူးလိုက်လံစွာ နှုတ်ခွန်းဆက်သအပ်ပါတယ်ခင်ဗျား။ လူကြီးမင်း၏လုပ်ငန်း၊ ဦးဆောင်မှု၊ ငြိမ်းချမ်းရေးနှင့် အမျိုးသား ပြန်လည်သင့်မြတ်ရေး၊ မြန်မာနိုင်ငံ၏ ဒီမိုကရေစီရေးနှင့် သာယာဝပြောရေးတို့အတွက် အားစိုက်လုပ်ဆောင်နေမှုတို့ကို ကျွန်ုပ်တို့ ရိုးသားစွာ ထောက်ခံပါကြောင်း လေးစားစွာတင်ပြပါရစေ။

မြန်မာ-အမေရိကန် လူမှုအသင်းအဖွဲ့အစည်း (BACI) နှင့် အသင်း၏ တွဲဖက်အဖွဲ့အစည်းများက အမေရိကန် မြန်မာ ဆက်ဆံရေး ညီလာခံတစ်ရပ်ကို ပထမဆုံးအကြိမ်အဖြစ် ၂၀၁၅ခု၊ မေလ ၂၉ ရက်၊ သောကြာနေ့တွင် အမေရိကန်နိုင်ငံ၊ အင်ဒီယားနားပြည်နယ်၊ အင်ဒီယန်နာပိုလစ်တွင် ကျင်းပမည်ဖြစ်ပါသည်။ အဆိုပါ မကြုံစဖူးကျင်းပသော သမိုင်းဝင် ညီလာခံသို့ လူကြီးမင်းကြွရောက်ချီးမြှင့်ပါရန် ကျင်းပမည့်ကျွန်ုပ်တို့ အဖွဲ့အစည်းကိုယ်စား မေတ္တာရပ်ခံလိုပါတယ် ခင်ဗျား။

မြန်မာပြည်နှင့် ကမ္ဘာတစ်ဝှက်က လူများစွာပင် ၂၀၁၅ ခုနှစ်ကို ပြုပြင်ပြောင်းလဲရေးလုပ်ငန်းစဉ်၏ ယခုအထိအောင်မြင်မှု အတွက် တိုင်းတာစရာ ပြဒါးတိုင်တစ်ခုအဖြစ်ရှုမြင်နေကြသည်ကို လူကြီးမင်းအသိပင်ဖြစ်ပါသည်။ ယခုနှစ် အနှောင်းပိုင်းတွင် ရွေးကောက် ပွဲ ကျင်းပလာနိုင်ဖွယ်ရှိရာ၊ မြန်မာနိုင်ငံ၏ ဒီမိုကရေစီရေး၊ ပွင့်လင်းမြင်သာမှု၊ လူ့အခွင့်အရေး စသည်တို့ကို နိုင်ငံတကာ အသိုင်းအဝိုင်းက အနီးကပ်အသေအချာ စောင့်ကြပ်ကြည့်ရှုကြမည်ဖြစ်ပါသည်။

ညီလာခံတွင် အမေရိကန်နှင့် မြန်မာ နှစ်နိုင်ငံလုံးမှ အစိုးရအာဏာပိုင်များ၊ စီးပွားရေးလုပ်ငန်းများ၊ အစိုးရမဟုတ်သော အဖွဲ့ အစည်းများ၊ မြန်မာ့အရေးတက်ကြွသူများ၊ မြန်မာ့ရေးရာကျွမ်းကျင်သူများ၊ ပညာရှင်များကို ဖိတ်ခေါ်ထားရာ ကျွမ်းကျင်သူ ဦးဆောင်အဖွဲ့များ တစ်ခုပြီးတစ်ခုဖွဲ့၍ မြန်မာနိုင်ငံအပေါ်ထားရှိသော အမေရိကန်၏ ဦးစားပေးမှုဝါဒများနှင့်ပတ်သက်ပြီး အရေး ကြီးသည့် နှိုက်နှိုက်ချွတ်ချွတ် ဆွေးနွေးမှုများကို၎င်း၊ နှစ်နိုင်ငံကြားတွင် တိုးမြှင့်လာနေသော သံတမန်ရေးနှင့် စီးပွားရေး ဆက်ဆံမှုများကို၎င်း၊ လက်ရှိဖြစ်ပေါ်နေသော ငြိမ်းချမ်းရေးလုပ်ငန်းစဉ်၊ နိုင်ငံရေးတွေ့ဆုံဆွေးနွေးမှု၊ ဖွဲ့စည်းပုံ အခြေခံဥပဒေပြင်ဆင်ရေး လုပ်ငန်းစဉ်တို့အပါအဝင် မြန်မာနိုင်ငံ၏ စီးပွားရေးနှင့် နိုင်ငံရေး အလုံးစုံရှုမြင် သုံးသပ်ချက် ကို၎င်း ဆွေးနွေးကြမည်ဖြစ်ရာ ပါဝင်ဆွေးနွေးကြမည့်သူများအနေဖြင့် လက်ရှိပြုပြင်ပြောင်းလဲရေး အားထုတ်မှုများ၏ အခြေအနေကိုဖြစ်စေ၊ ဤဖြစ်စဉ်များနှင့် အထွေထွေရွေးကောက်ပွဲတို့က ၂၀၁၅ခုနှစ်နှင့် ၎င်းနှစ်အလွန်တို့တွင် မည်သို့မည်ပုံ ဖြစ်ထွန်းလာနိုင်မည်ကိုဖြစ်စေ တိုက်ရိုက် ကောင်းစွာသိမြင်နားလည်နိုင်မည် ဖြစ်ပါသည်။ သို့ဖြစ်ရကား ဤညီလာခံက အရေးပါသောကိစ္စရပ်များနှင့် အခွင့်အလမ်းများကို စူးစမ်းပါလိမ့်မည်။ ပွင့်လင်းသော၊ လေးနက်သော၊ အများပါဝင်သောတွေ့ဆုံဆွေးနွေးမှုနှင့် မြန်မာပြည်၏ အနာဂတ်ရေးအတွက် စုပေါင်းလှုပ်ရှားမှုများကိုလည်း အားတက်စေပါလိမ့်မည်။

အစီအစဉ်များပြုလုပ်နိုင်ရန်အတွက် ၂၀၁၅ခု၊ မေလ ၂၂ ရက်နေ့အမီ အကြောင်းပြန်ပါရန် လူကြီးမင်းကို မေတ္တာရပ်ခံ အပ်ပါသည်။ ကျေးဇူးတင်ပါသည်။

အထူးလေးစားစွာဖြင့်၊

ပုံ x x x x x x x  
အေလိုက်ဆာ ဟနီး  
အမှုဆောင် ညွှန်ကြားရေးမှူး  
မြန်မာ အမေရိကန် လူမှုအသင်းအဖွဲ့အစည်း

## U.S.-Myanmar Engagement Conference cu Indianapolis ah Tuah Asi lai

Indianapolis khuapi ah May 29, 2015 ah U.S.-Myanmar Engagement Conference (civui) cu tuah a si cang lai. USA le Myanmar ram hnih in cozah riantuantu upa hna, chawlethlainak thiamsang hna, fimthiam hlei hna le zatlang buu hna nih atulio ah US le Kawlram kong he aa pehtlaimi thil biapi phunphun kong ah lungkhat tein cimhruahnak le ceihhmainak an ngeih dingmi civui a si.

Kum 2015 cu Myanmar (Kawlram) mi lawng si loin vawlei pumpi nih Kawlram kongah biapi tuk ah an chiah i tahfung bantu ah an hmanmi caan a si. Ram pumpi thimnak zong a um ding a si hlei ah ram hruaitu hna nih zeitlukin dah zaukphung, nuhrin covo le mipi caah a thlam a langmi/a fiangmi hruaidan (transparency) an hman duh, timi hi vawleipi nih an cuanh cuahmah lio caan a si.

Hi civui ah cawnpiaktu/chimhruahtu thiamsang hna nihhin atulio Kawlram umtuning hi ramkhel lei in siseh, chawlehnak lei in siseh, thuk piin an kherhhlai hlei ah US cozah nih Kawlram pehtlaihna ah a hmanmi policies le Kawlram dirhmun hoih in aa thleng kho zau dingmi thil dangdang hna zong kha fiang tein chimhfiannak an ngeih lai. Civui ah aa telmi nihcun Kawlram chawlethlainak le ramkhel dirhmun kongah a biapi tukmi thil a simi, cozah ralkap le ramthlai karlak kahdaihnak, tuah dingin saduh thahmi ramkhel biaruhnak, phunghrampi remhnak kong tibantuk zong hi thuk piin theihhngalhnak le ceihhmainak caantha an ngei kho lai. Kum 2015 chung ah tuah dingmi ram pumpi thimnak le a dang thil umtuning lawng si loin atulio thlenremhnak hi hmailei ah zeibantuk dirhmun dah a kan phanphi khawh te lai, tibantuk tiang khin tuaktantinak ngeih a si chih lai caah tlohl awk a tha lomi civui pi pakhat a si.

Hi cuvui ah cimhruahnak a ngeitu ding thiamsang hna cu:

-- Noble Daihnak Laksawng a cotu, **Daw Aung San Suu Kyi** sin in muicawl in bia chimnak (Special Video Address).

-- United Nations ah Kawlram aiawhtu palai (Ambassador/permanent Representative of the Republic of Myanmar to the United Nations), **H.E. U Kyaw Tin** (Keynote address).

-- IU Maurer School of Law Center for Constitutional Democracy ah John Hasting Professor of Law a tuan liomi le Harvard ah Constitutional Law a cawngmi upadi thiamsang, **David C. Williams**.

-- Union of Burma President hmasabik Sao Shwe Thaik i a fapa, Euro-Burma Office ah Executive Director a tuan liomi, **Harn Yawng hwe**

-- A cunglei thiamsang hna hlei ah **USAID**, the **U.S. Department of Commerce**, the **Embassy of the Union of the Republic of Myanmar in Washington, D.C**, the **U.S.-ASEAN Business Council** le the **Australian National University** zongin biachimtu dangdang an itel rih lai.

Indiana University Bloomington zong nih Press Release a chuak, hika hin rel khawh asi: <http://go.iu.edu/ziu>

USA ah um mi Kawlram Tlangcungmi le Kawlpawl communities vialte tlingtein tuah ti ding ruahchannak timhtuahnak ngei a si.#

## Chin Holh in Zatlang Funtomnak Lamhruai Cauk USA ah A Chuak

February 21, 2015 – INDIANAPOLIS: Leicung hmun zakip ah Chinmi nih 1948 kum i an hruaitule nih ramuk phung hlawt le zatlang nawngeihnak ukphung an rak thok ni camtuak an Phunpi Ni sunhlawih nak puaipi an rak lawmh cio bang in, Zatlang Funtomnak Lamhruai Cauk cu Hakha Lai Holh in nihin ah zatlang sin zaam a si cang.

Cahmai sawm sarh le pa sarh a um mi mah cauk ah hin cadal dal sarh a um i an chungtel ah: American nunphung theihnak, thilri le dumhau hramhning, inpa ttha si ning, rawl chuan ning, inn zohkhenh ning, nga siau ning, maivan le takpum himbawm nak, inchungtang hraan kong, thil aping i hman kong, kumtlinglo kong, rammi sinak i ziaza tthat kong, le Bill of Rights an um. A cauk hi Indianapolis, Indiana le Columbus, Ohio ah, 67<sup>nak</sup> Chin Phunpi Ni tuah nak ah zatlang sin ah zaam a si. Mah cauk hi amah phun ah a chuak hmasa bik a si i, timh ning ah, Kawlca le Burma ram chung miphun dang holh zong in leh i Unites States ah si seh, Burma ram ah si seh, zaam ding a si.

"Khuasaknak hmun thar he ifonh colh hi zan khat i a cang kho ding mi a si lo ti ka hngalh," tiah Indianapolis khuabawi a si mi Pu Gregory Ballard nih bia hmaihruai ah a chim.

"Burmese American Institute (BACI) le a sin tang pawl nih mi phaan thar pawl siangcacawn nak lei ah a herh mi an kawlzalh. Mah Zatlang Funtomnak Lamhruai Cauk hi a man tah khawh lo mi thil sung an chuah mi a si i, Kawlrammi le Chinmi nih American nunphung an cawn khawh nakhnga le an zatlang sin i an icawhpawl ve khawh nakhnga ca ah a timhtuah mi a si" tiah Mayor Ballard nih cun a ti.

Burma ralzaam 140,000 hrawng hi nai kum tlawmpal chung ah U.S. Refugee Settlement khuakhaannak in United States ah khuasak an tla. Indiana Ramkulh nih Kawlram ralzaam tam bik cu a luh hna i ralzaam milu 18,000 hrawng a laak mi chung ah zakhat i sawm sarh cu Chinmi an si.

"Avoi 67<sup>nak</sup> Chin Phunpi Ni kan phanh ah hin, Chinmi kan pupa nih miphun phun khat sinak in an rak hluchuah mi ramuklei teinak thil pipa le roling kan sunhlawih a si i, mah lio ah, mahti i kan tuah le kan lawmh hin, zauk phung i a kalning le a tthatnak chung ah thukpi in le a hrampi in aa tenh mi zalonnak le itlunak phung ah itel ve kan langhter nak le ikam kan langhter nak zong a si" tiah Salai Elaisa Vahnje, Burmese American Community Institute i executive director a si mi, nih Columbus, Ohio i Chin Phunpi Ni an lawmh an tuah nak i Rovuih biachimtu an thiah nak ah a chim.

Burma ram belte ah, ngaihchiat awk in, mahte cio nawl ngeih nak zauk phung cu phenkhuh in a um i, a cang deng rih lo mi saduhthah ah a cang. Si ko hmanh seh law, miphunpi lungrual le ipakhannak, le hmailei a cuan mi nunphung he hmai ah kan fong lai i, thiamcawnnak le minung ah hram thla in, hawi zawn ruah nak le zumhngiat awk tlak sinak in lam kan ihruai lai," tiah Pu Vahnje nih cun a chim. Chin State khualipi Hakha ah cun Kawlrampi ramhun Pu Thein Sein cu Chin Phunpi Ni sunhlawih nak puai a zawh ve, February 20 ni ah.

"Mah Lamhruai Cauk nih hin United States i a um mi Chinmi hi nunphung kong i ichuahsualnak in si seh, ram chung i a rak um cia mi rammi hna he itheihthiamlonak in si seh a kan kilven lai i zatlang he iziaktlake i khuasak khawh nak ah a kan bawmh hrimhrim lai tiah ka zumh," ti in Burmese American Community Institue i board Chairman a si mi Dr. Ro Ding nih hi Indianapolis khua Chin Phunpi Ni sunhlawihnak i hi cauk a tlaangzaam lio ah a chim.

Hi cauk a let tu linguist Pu Ceu Hlun nih, "Hmunhma thar he an ifuntom ve khawh nakding ca i aa pehtlaih mi lawngte an si hlei ah, an hmailei ca i a biapi mi le san a tlai hrimhrim ding mi zong an si ca ah, hi cauk hi Laimi pohpoh nih rel an duh ko lai" a ti. Chinmi 12,000 tluk um nak khua i ni hnih chung tuah mi Chin Phunpi Ni sunhlawih nak ah minung 3,000 ringlo an chuak i upa zahtlak le zatlang bawi a si mi, U.S. Congressman Andre Carson, Mayor Gregory Ballard, Indiana State Sen. Brent Waltz, Indianapolis City Councilor Jack Sandlin, Perry Township Trustee Susie Day le Perry Township Schools Superintendent Dr. Thomas Little, zong an itel.



## Rianhmun Lungputning le Na Ngeihvo

Rianṭuannak hmun ah rianṭuantu zeitin dah a cawlcangh ti hi a biapi ngaingai, Columbia University Center for Career Education chimning ah. Rianṭuanhawi mizei an sii le upatnak he chawnhbiak hi a bia. Phone chawnh le email tuante i hei leh le upat awk tlak te i hei leh, leklakte i um, le acaan hmaan lengmang tehna hi mi i rak ṭihzah nak a si.

Houston Chronicle chimning ah, mi pa khat a rianhmun i a cawlcangh ning cu a ṭuan mi phun nih a ngeih. Google bantuk rianhmun cu tluangṭlam ngai le zalong ngai in a um. Asinain zung tampi a um nak hrawng rianhmun acheu cu dia diamduam in an um. Khuazei a si hmanh ah thlachiat ruah le nunnem le hawile upat pek cu an biapi dih ko.

Rian ṭuan nak ah ikhukkhaknak a um poh ah cun mah na phaan mi pehtlai minung cu a hmasa bik ah va tong law va chawn hmasa. Buainak cheukhat hi cu itheihthiam lo ruang ah an cang bik i anmah he ichawnh nih buai a rehter ṭheu ko. Mah i ze i hlei a si lo ah cun supervisor va fuuk. Supervisor i a'n bawmh hnu zong i nan buainak ze i hlei a si rih lo ah cun, a sang deuh mi chim hna. Supervisor he nan buai a si ah cun, an boss asilole human resource i aiawhtu pakhatkhat nih a'n bawmh khawh hna lai (Mediation of Workplace Disputes).

### Affirmative Action

Affirmative action timi cu, Cornell University Law School nih hiti hin an fianhter:

Rianpek program hi cozahpi i a cohlan mi le phunglam a pek mi a si a hau. Mah phunglam cu milu tlawm miphun pawl thleidan an ton lo nakding ca i ser mi humzual nak phung an si. A um cia i a dong rih lo mi thleidannak, hlanlio in a rak um i a taang peng mi miduhdanh, hloh nak, le hmailei ah thleidan le duhdanh a um ti lo nakding phung ṭhohdirh nakding ah a si. Mah cu hmun hmun khat chung i a um mi milu tlawm miphun tlawmtam zoh in tuah mi a si. Ruah chih mi cu mici, vun rong, sex, biaknak lei zumhning, le kumkhua.

Atawinak cun affirmation action sullam cu chawtuahnak ze i hmanh nih minung hi an mici, an phun, pa/nu an sinak, le an biaknak zoh in thleidannak a hmanh lai lo. Company pa khat i a laak mi mahka hrawng zatlang mi tlawmtam hoih in rian hmun zong ah an tlawmtam aa buaktlak ve ding a si. Biana ah, mahka hrawng ah minak an tam pah ko ah cun mahka hrawng hrianhmun ah minak an um pah ve awk a si. Ze i mici an si ruang ah, pa/nu an si ruang ah, ze i an biak ruang ah, ti in company nih minung hi rian pek kong ah thleidan lo ding a si.

### Hor Mihengh (Sexual Harassment)

Indiana State Personnel Department chimning ah sexual harassment cu duh na lo i helhnaih, sex tuah sawm, le hmurka in si seh taksa in si seh, hor langhternak thil tuahnawh khi a si. Atang i bantuk hi an si.

-Mah tuahsernak nih cun mi pa khat a rian hmunh le hmunh lo kong ah lai a rel khawh, langhngan zong in, langlo zong in.

-Mah bantuk thil tuah, asilole mah bantuk thil duh lo nih cun minung pa khat rian pek le pek lo ding khong hi lai a rel.

-Mah bantuk tuahsernak nih a herh lo ah minung pa khat rian tei khawh nak hna a hnawh i, mi ralṭit nak le remlo awk hraanhnawh awk a um nak hmun ah a canter.

Phung nih hin idehtuai le laakhruak mi capo hi a thlah lo, nain a tam tuk tik le a luan tik ah cun rianṭuan nak hmun hi remlo awk a si cang i a dongh nak ah cun rian phuah le rengthumh a um tawn hi a si.

### (Equal Employment Opportunity Commission).

Mahti i horlei mi hnorsuang tu hi nu zong a si kho i pa zong a si kho ti le a hengh mi cu nu zong a si kho pa zong a si kho ti zong hi hngalh a biapi.

Mi pa khat cu a supervisor nih si seh, a tuanhawi nih si seh, midang nih si seh, hramhraam in an hengh ah cun mah kong cu a cunglei mi a chimh colh hna ding a si. A heng tu cu supervisor a si ah cun zung lutlai sin ah asilole human resource zung ah chim ding a si. Mahti i mi a heng mi minung i a ton ding cu rianphuah zong, hmuh serh zong a si ko charges.

### Rian Phuah Mi i Ngeihvo

Upadi lei theihphor a um nak website Nolo i a taar ning ah, company atam-u nih rian an phuah mi hna asilole a lay off mi hna hi severance package pek a hau theng lo. Ramkulh acheu ah mah hi tuah a hau, acheu ah cun a hau lo. Severance package ah zei dah aa tel kho ti ah cun, rian dinhter hnu caan zeimaw can chung insurance le hlawh ngeih, ca tha tialpiak, counseling asilole traning bantuk hmailei i rian hmuh than khawh nak khaanpiak, an si.

An iphuah ah cun a dongh nak bik an paycheck cu a hmasa bik hlawh laak ni ah an sin ah kuat a si lai. Rian phuah an si ah cun, an paycheck cu company nih an phuah hna sin in asilole caan khiah mi zeimaw can chung ah pek an si lai. Mah cu mahle ramkulh phung ning cio in a si. Indiana ah cun an paycheck cu a dongh nak hlawh laak ni asilole mah hlan ah pek hrimhrim ding an si ti in Indiana Cozah website ah aa tial.

Rian an iphuah tik ah si seh, an phuah hna tik ah si seh, insurance pehzulh in an company nih an pek khawh men hna. Rianngeitu nih Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA) an zulh a hau. Mah phung i a chim mi cu, rianngeitu nih rianuanmi hi an campany i group insurance coverage hi thla 18 chung an pek hna ding a si (Nolo).

### Rianhmun Umtu Ding Ning le Na Ngeihvo:

--Rianhmun ah isiknak a chuah ah cun nangmah he aa si mi cu fuuk hmasa bik law icaih u.

--Supervisor he icaih hnu zong i buainak a um rih ah cun, a cung deuh minung sin ah kaipi, buai nak aa thianh tiang.

--Rianhmun ah zer kong capo sai hlah, mi leemsoi nak zong chim hlah. Mi i an in leemsoi ah cun cunglei chim colh hna.

#### Essay Contests In Honor of World Refugee Day

We invite all individuals of Burmese origin who are currently living in the US and enrolled in high school or college to submit a 500-1000 word essay on why community service is important to their lives and to the lives of others. The essays should be single-spaced, 12 point font, and in English. Please submit your essay to [essay@baci-indy.org](mailto:essay@baci-indy.org) no later than June 15th. Winners will be notified by June 19<sup>th</sup> and the first place winner will be awarded Samsung Galaxy Note.



**Emily  
Ngunhlele  
SUNG**  
*-The first  
price  
winner of  
essay  
contest in  
2013.*

We invite you to  
**The Annual College & Youth Summit**

Saturday, August 1, 2015

UIndy Hall, University of Indianapolis



Burmese-American high school students from the Upward College Summer Scholars program will present their research findings and policy recommendations as the culmination of an 8-week intensive research methods course. Topics include Secondary Migration, College-Going Rate Among Young Burmese-Americans, and Employment Opportunities & Trends the Burmese-American Community.

TENTATIVE AGENDA

9:00-Noon: Scholars' Presentations

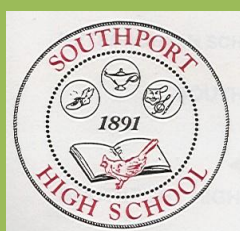
Noon-1:00pm: Main Ceremony—Keynote Address,  
 Recognition of Partners & Volunteers

1:00-2:00pm: Lunch

2:00-4:00pm: Presentations from College Admissions,  
 Scholarship Funds, etc.

4:00-5:00pm: Scholars & Upward College Program Alumni  
 Reunion

*The Burmese American Community Institute's work would not be possible without the generosity and support of*





**Participate in World Refugee Day!  
June 20, 2015**

Join us in celebrating World Refugee Day on June 20! BACI will engage in a day of community service in partnership with Indy Parks and Recreation, Immigrant & Refugee Service Corps, CCI, CYO and others. We'll spend the day at Indy Urban Acres Farm in the form of the "Giving Back to the Community" Project. Music, games, and other fun will be included. All are welcome to participate. Please contact us at [info@baci-indy.org](mailto:info@baci-indy.org) or 317-731-5537.

Like the previous years, in honor of World Refugee Day, BACI is hosting its annual essay contest. This year's theme is **The Importance of Community and Volunteer Service**. See details p.18.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Printing sponsored by Franciscan St. Francis Health. Any opinions expressed are those of the authors and are not necessarily shared by Franciscan St. Francis Health. The content does not constitute medical advice. For medical questions, please call your physician. In an emergency situation, call 911.



The Burmese American Community Institute (BACI) is a non-profit organization founded in 2011 that provides educational and vocational support to the Burmese community in greater Indianapolis. The BACI strives to support community members regionally, nationally, and globally through strategic partnerships and advocacy.

