Community Engagement: Refugee Focused Collaboratives

Carolina Sheinfeld | Refugee Forum of Los Angeles

Tweet us your questions and thoughts during the webinar!
@NPCT_Refugee
COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS:
Refugee Forum of Los Angeles

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Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles (LAFLA)’s Torture Survivors Project

Commemorating UN International Day for Victims of Torture

June 26th
Today’s Discussion - Objectives

- How community partners can utilize their local expertise to raise awareness and decrease stigma of mental health
- Review Community Engagement Strategies used to build and foster community connections
- Share ways in which resettlement agencies can best work with national and local partners to enhance community’s mental health perspective
### MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

- American Red Cross
- Armenian Relief Society
- Catholic Charities of Los Angeles
- Community Enhancement Services
- Department of Public Health – Refugee Health Assessment Program (*)
- Department of Public Social Services (*)
- Glendale Unified School District
- Human Rights Watch
- Interfaith Refugee and Immigration Services
- International Institute of LA
- International Rescue Committee
- Jewish Family Service of Los Angeles
- Jewish Vocational Service
- Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles
- Liberty in North Korea (LiNK)
- Los Angeles Police Department
- Los Angeles Unified School District – SEPA
- Pacific Asian Consortium on Employment
- Pars Equality Center
- Program for Torture Victims
- USC Law International Human Rights Clinic
- World Relief of Garden Grove

### OTHER AGENCIES/PARTNERS

- Refugee Programs Bureau (DSS)
- Los Angeles Mayor’s Office of Immigrant Affairs
- Orange County Department of Social Services
- San Bernardino Department of Social Services
- East African Community of Orange County
- Catholic Charities of San Bernardino
- Human Rights First
- Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking
- Kids in Need of Defense (KIND)
Our Mission

• To promote a **multi-disciplinary response to the needs of refugees** in Southern California, in the United States and throughout the world

• To encourage our members to create **thoughtful and creative community alliances**, from which refugees will accrue benefits, provide education and learning opportunities for members

• To **increase public awareness** of the **refugees and their vitality in the communities** in which they have found homes
Our Purpose

• To provide a regular, reliable, civil and clear means for organizations to exchange information about and advocate for the welfare of refugees in Southern California, in the United States and throughout the world.

• To enhance the welfare and best interests of refugees and to serve the best interests of Southern California (…)
**Our Structure**

- **Membership**
- **Executive Committee** (elected officers):
  - Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer, Secretary and At-Large member
- **Advocacy & Events Committee**
- **Other Committees**
  - Housing working group (new)
  - Outreach & Community Education
  - Reception Agencies

**Convenings**

- In Person Bi-monthly meetings
- Quarterly Consultations
- World Refugee Day
- Special Events

**Projects**

- Collaborations for Welcoming Refugees (2016-2017)
- Survey & Focus Group
- Speaking engagements
- Reactivating Advocacy Comm
Refugees in 2016

#TeamRefugees
Refugees in 2016
Los Angeles & Refugees

WORLD REFUGEE DAY
LOS ANGELES · 2016

Thursday JUNE 23rd
11:00am – 3:00pm
@ Plummer Park
1200 N. Vista St., West Hollywood, CA 90046

FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

INFORMATION FAIR:
Immigration · Family Reunification
Citizenship · Benefits · Employment
and more!

For more information email:
refugeeforumla@gmail.com

Los Angeles WELCOMING WEEK
SALAM NEIGHBOR
DOCUMENTARY SCREENING & PANEL

This Los Angeles Mayor’s Office of Immigrant Affairs is collaborating with the Refugee Forum of Los Angeles to host a free screening of a 2016 documentary film, Salam Neighbor, which highlights the story of four Los Angeles families as they are the first ever admitted to one of the world’s largest refugee camps. This screening will be followed by a panel discussion with Refugee Alliance Los Angeles, America’s Voices West LA, RMI, and New Directions Canada.

Charities: Sahra Davaz, producer, and John Eggle;
International Rescue Committee, Please join us.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2016
6:30PM – 8:45PM
LAPD HEADQUARTERS – BERNARD AUDITORIUM
1300 W. First Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012

RSVP AT HTTP://BIT.LY/0UELCOMINGWEEK
White House
Regional Convening on New Americans
World Refugee Day
UNSG Back to School event
Los Angeles Welcoming Week
Quarterly Community Consultations
Resources & Networks

- Our members: staff and volunteers
- Welcoming America
  - Webinars
  - Toolkits
  - Welcoming Week
  - Collaborations for Welcoming Refugees (2016 - 2017)
- National Capacity Building Project & HealTorture
- Refugee Council USA
- California State Refugee Advisory Council
Thank you!

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