



Date Tuesday, January 15, 2019

Location International Rescue Committee

Time 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Address 5348 University Avenue, #205 San Diego, CA 92115

Minutes

Attendance: Office of Congresswoman Susan Davis, IRC, USIS, County HHSA, ASM Todd Gloria, PCG, EC Collab, Catholic Charities, CSA S.D. County, Office of Rep Juan Vargas, SD DA's Office, AAPCA3, SDC OES, U.S. Census Bureau, Include People, SAY S.D. CCC, COSD HHSA, CAIR S.D., Partnership for the Advancement of New Americans, Public Consulting Group, UPAC, San Diego Welcome Back Center, Jewish Family Service S.D., PANA, MHA, SDYS, ERAE, UHC, Women's Empowerment, Native Interpreting, American Red Cross, Molina Healthcare.

Topic	Time
• Welcome & Introductions: Mohammed Tuama, Chair	10:30
• 2019 Presentations Survey: Meigan Afshan, Vice Chair	
• Membership & Financials: Ross Fackrell, Treasurer	

Task Force Updates: 10:50

Advocacy Task Force: The task force will be creating a user friendly directory of services accessible in multiple languages and would like to put it directly on the refugee website. It will be updated regularly. The task force hopes to identify gaps in services. Will be sending out a questionnaire to the forum in the coming weeks, please look out for that.

Asylee/Asylum Seeker Task Force: The task force will propose January 22nd for exploratory meeting to explore projects for 2019. Please email Rebecca Miranda at Rebecca.miranda@panasd.org for more information and to get more involved.

Domestic Violence Task Force: Deferred

Employment Task Force: Will be deciding on a meeting date in the coming weeks.

Health Task Force: The first priority of the task force will be to increase membership participation. In need of representatives from places such various resettlement agencies, unified school districts, housing commission or HUD, church's, and especially members from the community. With the help of each representative the task force hopes to create an easy to answer health needs assessment survey or pull information from one that already exists and find what the focus will be. Looking to put together a panel about Medicare, Medi-cal and other health insurers and possibly one on public charge and what it means for the community.

World Refugee Day: The World Refugee Day Planning Committee will be meeting Wednesday January 16th. More information will be shared after the next meeting.

Resettlement, County, and State Updates 10:55

- **Reception and Placement: VOLAGs:**
 - Alliance for African Assistance:** Deferred
 - Catholic Charities:** 0 arrivals in December, January had a total of 9
 - International Rescue Committee:** 18 arrivals in December all from the DRC.
 - Jewish Family Services:** 14 new arrivals.
 - State Advisory Committee (Mohammed Tuama and Kathi Anderson):** Deferred.



- **County of San Diego:**
 - Abdi Abdillahi, County Refugee Coordinator
 - In December there were a total of 25 from Afghanistan, 12 from the DRC, 19 from Haiti, 1 from Iran.
 - Christine Murto, Refugee Health Coordinator

- **State Advisory Committee:**
 - Kathi Anderson, Survivors of Torture International
 - Abdi Abdillahi, County Refugee Coordinator
 - Deferred

- **Focus Presentation:** 11:10

Topic: VITA program 2019 Tax Season
Presenter: Adriana Toboada, International Rescue Committee

- **Spotlight Presentation:** 11:30

Topic: 2020 U.S. Census
Presenter: Roberto Garcia U.S. Census Bureau
 - Looking to hire, please visit 2020census.gov/jobs

- **Community Announcements: All**
 - Live well San Diego is putting on a service where people can get free blood pressure screenings at sites across San Diego County and Mexico. It's the 8th annual Love your Heart event please visit loveyourheartsd.org.
 - The American Liver foundation has an initiative to eliminate Hepatitis C (Hep C) in San Diego County. They are looking for stakeholder to participate in the consumer committee and needs 1) those who have been cured of Hep C 2) been cured of hepatitis 3) associated with or work with a community at greater risk of being exposed to Hep C.
 - The IRC is offering free business counseling services please call (619) 440-6208

- **Approval of Nov. 2018 Meeting Minutes:** Motion to Approve minutes by Jackline Mola, Secretary. Ellena and Madelyne Wagner second
- **Adjournment:** Mohammed Tuama, Chair 12:00

Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 19, 2019

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Refugee Forum Officers:

Chair | Mohammed Tuama
Vice Chair | Mejgan Afshan
Treasurer | Ross Fackrell
Secretary | Jackline Mola

Newcomers Support and Development (NSD)
Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR)
International Rescue Committee (IRC)
Mental Health America of San Diego County (MHA)

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