



Date Tuesday, February 19, 2019
Time 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Location International Rescue Committee
Address 5348 University Avenue, #205 San Diego, CA 92115

Minutes

Attendance: CAIR S.D, Mental Health America of San Diego (MHA); Native Interpreting, County of San Diego HHSA/BHS; IRC; USCIS; County HHSA, Grossmont College, Public Consulting Group (PCG), America Academy of Pediatric College; SDYS, Jewish Family Service S.D.(JFS), Partnership for the Advancement of New Americans(PANA); Women's Empowerment; San Diego Youth Services(SDYS) EC Collaborative; MAS PACE; SDCCD;

| Topic | Time |
|--|-------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome & Introductions: Mohammed Tuama, Chair • 2019 Presentations Survey: Meigan Afshan, Vice Chair • Membership & Financials: Ross Fackrell, Treasurer | 10:30 |

Task Force Updates: 10:50

Advocacy Task Force:

The Advocacy task force will be working on updating the task force for anyone who is seeking services in the community. 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 be having their next meeting on 26th of February. Please come and join us
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: The Domestic Task Force met last week and decided to put together packages for those in emergency need.

Employment Task Force: Will be to the deciding on a meeting date in the coming weeks. There is opening for vice chair for this task force, so please feel free to reach out to Dilkhwaz@licensetofreedom.org. We have done crisis intervention, mental health seminars. Next meeting on 25th at 10:30 at IRC El Cajon

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: Monica, Rebecca co-chair...meeting tomorrow for the meeting

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: February- 5 , 8 scheduled arrivals in December, January had a total of 9

International Rescue Committee: 13 arrived, 24 scheduled

Jewish Family Services: 1 Afgan, 2 Iraq, February, 1 Iraqi single 14 new arrivals.

State Advisory Committee (Mohammed Tuama and Kathi Anderson): Deferred.

Treasurer's report:- We have one individual... and 5 organizations

- 2 ways to make your membership dues- check; and regular paypal payment and paypal gives a receipt.
- WRD is coming up fast;

Ross Fackrell, Treasurer:-

Statement from Treasure re: Attorney: Suggestion of Ad- Hoc-By Laws review.

Medjan, we can draft a letter to this officer on behalf of the services so that.

• **County of San Diego:**

- Abdi Abdillahi, County Refugee Coordinator

- o In Jan there were a total of 80 from Afghanistan, 33 from the DRC, 19 from Haiti, 1 from Iran.
- o Year 225- Oct, Nov, Dec, Jan
- o We don't know why the numbers are picking up..We have about 30,000. Maybe we may be expecting around 20,000

- Abdi Abdillahi, I am a member of SAAC. This year SAAC will meet in SD. April 11th 10.00 AM, Details are still being figured out.

• **State Advisory Committee:**

- Kathi Anderson, Survivors of Torture International
- Abdi Abdillahi, County Refugee Coordinator
 - o Deferred

• **Focus Presentation:**

11:10

Topic: Grossmont Community College

Presenter: Dr. Nabil Abu-Ghazaleh - Grossmont Community College president

- 6-800 international students.

• **Spotlight Presentation:**

11:30

Topic: Topic: MAS PACE

Presenter: Ismahan Abdullahi - Deputy Director MAS PACE & Executive Director of SD PACE chapter



- **Community Announcements: All**
 - Refugee Health network will be having a new RFP out for those who are interested in applying
 - 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.
 - Dilkwaz: There is survivors of tourture new booklet in arrabic
 - Medjan:- Community reflections happeing at Mal Comex at Islamic Center of San Digo
 - NSD- New comers in action working with Cityof El Cajon to help newcomers shape the face of /
 -
- **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, March 19, 2019

Join our mailing list at www.sdrefugeeforum.org

Refugee Forum Officers:

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|------------|----------------|---|--------------------------|
| Chair | Mohammed Tuama | Newcomers Support and Development (NSD) | M.Tuama@NewcomerSD.org |
| Vice Chair | Mejgan Afshan | Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) | Mafshan@cair.com |
| Treasurer | Ross Fackrell | International Rescue Committee (IRC) | Ross.fackrell@rescue.org |
| Secretary | Jackline Mola | Mental Health America of San Diego County (MHA) | Jmola@mhasd.org |