



Date Tuesday, May 21, 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: Mental Health America of San Diego (MHA); International Rescue Commission (IRC); Nile Sisters Initiative; Jewish Family Service S.D.(JFS); United Women of East Africa(UWEST); SAY San Diego; San Diego Continuing Education (SDCCED); Somali Family Service of San Diego (SFS); Women's Empowerment; Molina Healthcare; National Conflict Resolution; CASA Cornelia Law Center; Catholica Charities, Diocese of San Diego; County of San Diego HHS; East Region Adult Education; Anne Hoiberg; American Academy of Pediatrics- California Chapter 3; Karen Organization of San Diego; License to Freedom; San Diego Youth Services (SDYS); San Ysidro Heath; Public Consulting Group; Robert Walsh; Office of Representative Juan Vargas; ; Office of Representative Susan Davis; El Cajon Collaborative; Aetna Better Health; UPAC; HEAL MEDICAL; PDF San Diego; CASS; Neighborhood Association;

Topic	Time
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome & Introductions: Ross Fackrell, Treasurer • Membership & Financials Ross Fackrell, Treasurer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ You can pay your membership dues by check or PayPal. PayPal gives a receipt following payment. World Refugee Day is fast approaching and you must pay dues to participate. 	10:35

Task Force Updates: 10:40

Advocacy Task Force:

The Advocacy Task Force has no updates. The Task Force is currently looking for co-chairs and meets at the Partnership for the Advancement of New Americans (PANA) office located at 4089 Fairmount Ave, San Diego, CA 92105. Please email Rebecca Miranda at Rebecca.miranda@panasd.org for more information and to get more involved.

Asylee/Asylum Seeker Task Force:

The next Asylum Seeker Task Force meeting will take place on May 28th, 2019 at 2 pm at PANA located at 4089 Fairmount Ave, San Diego, CA 92105. They are working on planning a Provider Mixer for organizations that work with asylum-seeking populations as a way to connect with one another, share their work and best practices, and discuss challenges. They welcome outside input! Details to follow. Please email Rebecca Miranda at Rebecca.miranda@panasd.org for more information and to get more involved.

Domestic Violence Task Force:

The Domestic Violence Task Force is collaborating with UWEST and the IRC to secure a location where domestic violence (DV), victims can be referred. There will be no meeting in June. The Task Force is still looking for a vice chair, so please reach out to Dilkhwaz@licensetofreedom.org if you are interested.

Employment Task Force:



The Employment Task Force met on April 15th at Grossmont College. They will be holding a networking night on June 8th from 10 am- 12 pm for refugees to learn how to network and seek employment. They are looking for nominations for the Refugee Resiliency Award. Ideal candidates should exhibit resiliency and self-sufficiency. Please email Ilena Gudino at ilenag@jfssd.org for nominations or more information.

Health Task Force:

The Task Force met last Tuesday, May 14th from 1:00-3:00 PM at the Alliance for African Assistance and hosted a presenter from the "All of Us" research program. They emphasize the importance of getting more people involved in precision medicine. Additionally, they are looking to have a booth at the World Refugee Day event. The Task Force plans to have a Medi-Cal/Medicare panel and will discuss this possibility next month or in June.

World Refugee Day:

The committee will be selling t- shirts available for purchase at the next meeting on May 29th at 3:00 PM. The World Refugee Day celebration will be on June 22nd from 11 am- 3 pm at the Copley-Price YMCA. If you have not paid your dues, please pay to enable you to have a table. For more information or interest in helping with volunteers, multi-media, or t-shirts, please email Monica Melgoza at Monica.Melgoza@sdcounty.ca.gov.

Resettlement, County, and State Updates- Please see website for up to date information

10:45

- **Reception and Placement: VOLAGs:**

Alliance for African Assistance: No updates.

Catholic Charities: April featured one Cuban arrival. May included one Iraqi and 8 Cuban arrivals.

International Rescue Committee: April featured 37 arrivals from various countries. May had 21, and none were SIVs. 3 Asylees in March and expecting 20 for April coming from the same countries with the addition of Afghanistan. SIVs are expected to trickle in.

Jewish Family Services: April had 9 cases and they are expecting more on 4/24. 3 from Afghanistan that were SIVs. 5 Congolese, 1 Pakistani. 33 Refugee individuals. Expecting 2 cases in May and 14 individuals from Iraq. May two Afghan, one from Congo. They are expecting a bigger number in June.

County of San Diego:

- Abdi Abdillahi, County Refugee Coordinator

- April 2019 Total: 89. 38 of them are Refugees – See website for more information

- Total for the Year to Date Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 18-19 is: 484

- Christine Murto, Refugee Health Coordinator

- 74 Cases of Refugee Health Assessment Program with 15% from Syria and the rest from Haiti.

State Advisory Committee:

Abdi Abdillahi, County Refugee Coordinator - The next SAC meeting will be in Oakland, CA on June 13th.

- **Focus Presentation:**

10:55

Topic: The State Trafficking and Crime Victims Assistance Program (TCVAP)

Presenter: The State of California Refugee Programs Bureau



- **Community Announcements:** All
 - Jewish Family Services: Breaking Down Barriers program is new to JFS and we are welcoming volunteers.
 - Jackline Mola, Secretary: The program presented today is new and we want to spread it to the community and ensure that U-Visa applicants are receiving support. If you need more training, please reach out to us.
 - National Conflict Resolution: We will hold a free training on June 28th.
 - The Office of Border Health with the County of San Diego will have emergency preparedness training at the IRC.
 - Say San Diego: They are working with Parents Academy on May 31st for new parents, introducing them on how the school system works
 - Nile Sisters: They work with DV clients and speak all languages. Please refer them.
 - Head Start: They are reaching out to inform the community that they enroll children 18 months to 3 years of age.
- **Approval of April 16th 2019 Meeting Minutes:** Motion to approve the minutes by Jackline Mola, Secretary. Motion seconded by Silvia of JFS.
- **Adjournment:** Mohammed Tuama, Chair 11:30

Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 18, 2019

Join our mailing list at www.sdrefugeeforum.org

Refugee Forum Officers:

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