



Date Tuesday, June 16, 2020
Time 10:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Location Zoom Videoconference
Address N/A

Minutes

Attendance: CCrisp, Lucy Jasso, Carol Lewis, April (Kosd), Giselle B, Abdi Abdillahi, License to Freedom, Clint Carney, Survivors, Nao Kabashima, Brittney Ochira, Ross Fackrell, Keshav Damoor, AV, Hlam, Edward Robles, Bowa Tucker, Ana Lozano, Sheryl Ashley, Monica Melgoza, Jessica Meir, Kenneth Lavigna, 2 phone call ins, Elizabeth Bustos, Vernita Gutierrez from Planned Parenthood, mrhartin@hotmail.com, Laurel Dalstead, Michael Murphy, Ikocher, Julie Germain, Mohammed Tuama

Topic Time

Welcome & Introductions: Mohammed Tuama, Chair
10:35

Membership & Financials: Ross Fackrell, Treasurer 10:41

- No updates, no new membership applications, still can join online on the website, no push for membership during Covid-19 and virtual meetings

Task Force Updates: 10:44

Table with 2 columns: Task Force Name, Update Status. Rows include Advocacy Task Force, Asylee/Asylum Seeker Task Force, Domestic Violence Task Force, Employment Task Force, Health Task Force, World Refugee Day, and Education Task Force.

Resettlement, County, and State Updates- Please see website for up to date information 10:50

Reception and Placement: VOLAGs:

Table with 2 columns: Organization Name, Update Status. Rows include Alliance for African Assistance, Catholic Charities, International Rescue Committee, and Jewish Family Services.

County of San Diego:



County FRC lobbies remain physically closed to the public, meaning customers are not allowed inside due to social distancing, however, the offices do remain “open” for service so if a client comes to any of our FRC’s for assistance, they will absolutely find staff there to help them., no refugee arrivals for the last few months; new arrivals are on hold, only walk-in such as secondary migrants and Haitians are coming to SD at this moment. In March 2020 San Diego resettled 125, in April 2020 SD resettled 16, and for May 2020 SD resettled a total of 9 individuals. The top three arrivals for the FFY 19-20 are Haitian 41%, Afghan 40%, Iraq 6%. Cuban/Haitian is the majority of arrival cases in San Diego. According the state, 0 arrivals for April; in March 2020, state resettled 49 refugees and 588 SIVs. For FFY 20, CA resettled 3,857 (SIVs and Refugees combined) compare to FFY 19 which was 3,226. CA is only trailed by 13 individuals in overall arrivals behind Washington State, and CA leads the nation in SIVs as of today.

In regard to RCA and RMA, ORR is extending for 8 more months. Traditionally, Refugee Cash Assistance has been up to 8 months. Counties are updating their program guide to align with the new ORR regulations. More information to come on this.

Update from County: Elizabeth Bustos 10:52

- County would like to work with SDRF to better expand covid-19 response
- County currently working with Youth and Young Adults
- Dedicate Friday Community meetings to those who live in rural areas

WRD Celebration Update: Carol Lewis and Monica Melgoza 10:56

- Virtual WRD – June 27th 11 AM on Zoom
- Speakers from various sources: County, City, UN, Refugee story
- Please contact if you know a refugee who is willing to share their story
- Share videos from previous years
- Gift card give away – please contact Carol if your organization would like to donate a gift card
- If you know performers, please contact Carol, also looking for previous recordings

Covid-19 Resources: Mohammed Tuama 11:07

- Resources are on Refugee Forum website
- Please utilize resources there, please share if you have further resources to add, resources are in a variety of languages

Announcements: 11:09

- WRD Facebook live event or YouTube options

Adjournment: Mohammed Tuama, Chair 11:14

Next Meeting: Tuesday,

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 Bob Walsh	Volunteer to Refugee Community	Bwalsh1148@gmail.com
Treasurer Ross Fackrell	International Rescue Committee (IRC)	Ross.fackrell@rescue.org
Secretary Julie Germain	Alliance for African Assistance	Julie@alliance-for-africa.org
Ex Efficio Abdi Abdillahi	Program Manager/County Refugee Coordinator	Abdi.abdillahi@sdcounty.ca.gov