

San Diego Refugee Forum

Minutes

Tuesday, July 17th, 2018 – 10:30 am to 12:00 pm IRC – 5348 University Avenue, San Diego, CA 92105

Call to order at 10:38 am

Welcome and Introductions: By Rebecca Paida- SDRF Chair

IRC, COSD HHS, County of SD HHS, BHS, Refugee, American Red Cross, UCSD, UCLA, CAIR, EC Collaborative, UPAC, AAPCA3, CMSS-SY Health, UPAC, District Attorney's Office, San Diego Union Tribune, UCIS, East Region Adult Education, Nile Sisters Development Initiative, Native Interpreting, Somali Family Service of San Diego, Catholic Charities, Oren Robinson, Women's Empowerment International and Mental Health of America, Sam Badwell, Robert Walsh, License to Freedom, IRC, Mission Driven Finance, Girl Scouts San Diego, United Women of East Africa, Survivors of Torture International, NDS, VIM, PANA, SDWF, CAIR San Diego, Access INC., CSA San Diego County, Esther Keleta, No Lost Generation Student Initiative, AAPCA3, Planned Parenthood, San Ysidro Health, PCG, ECC, Office of Congress Woman Susan Davis, JFS, Neighborhood Health Care, SCN, Say First 5, CCS, KRA Career Center, SDPD, City of San Diego, Council District 9,

Chair Rebecca Paida:- Rebecca acknowledged that there was an email that was submitted to the SDRF listserv and informed the General body, the monthly SDRF meeting will continue as planned and any special motions will be handled at the end of the during the Community Announcements section. Mr. Awichu attempted to second this motion, but chair requested motion wait till end of the Community announcements.

I. Membership and Financials

1. The San Diego Refugee Forum meets every third (3rd) Tuesday of the month from 10.30- 12.00pm. Membership is open to the public; we have reached 59 organizations that are members so far this year. As a member, you can be a part of any task force and host a vendor table at the World Refugee Day.

II. Task Force Updates

1. **Advocacy Task Force:** July 24th is the next meeting. We're in the process of completing the score card and candidate questionnaire that will be distributed to candidates running for local offices. We are also working on the national mobilization for oral arguments for Hawaii versus Trump orders. We're planning marketing and outreach with the World Refugee Day committee. We're still actively looking for another co-chair.
2. **Asylee/Asylum Seeker Task Force:** On a Hiatus, anyone interested in this role please reach out.
3. **Domestic Violence Task Force:** We are working on cultural competency to make sure the community is served well.

4. **Employment Task Force:** We are currently looking for space. We are looking to meet and collaborate with domestic task force.
5. **Health Task Force:** Public Health for asylum seekers. Our second Trauma Informed Care Shop will be July 20th from 10:00am-12:00pm. This workshop is already booked. We may have some waiting list spots if anyone is interested.
6. **World Refugee Day Planning Committee:** There was good report for the WRD event held on June 23rd at Copley Price YMCA. The community enjoyed and appreciated. We learned that next time we will need more food.

III. Resettlement Agencies (formerly VOLAGs) Arrival Data and County Updates

1. Total for FFY 370. As of April there were a total of 51 new arrivals. 46 Afghanistan. 1 Democratic Republic of Congo. 1 El Salvador. 1 Haiti. 1 Mexico. 1 Pakistan.

Resettlement Agency:

2. Catholic Charities: About 9 arrivals in June and about 9 expected in July
3. Alliance for African Assistance: Deferred
4. Jewish Family Services: Deferred
5. IRC: Arrival numbers, 18 or 19 expected in the month of July

State Advisory Committee: We had a good meeting talking about State funding. We will send email that will show the figures.

County:

1. We have 52 arrivals in June. For the fiscal year, we have 647. Refugees 207, Asylee 22 and SIV 328

IV. Presentations:

Focus: Mission Driven Finance

Louis Nguyen, CFA, Chief Investment Officer – 858-945-7572

Spotlight: Council on American-Islamic Relations, San Diego

Sondos Afifi, Civil Rights and Legal Services Coordinator- 8582744547

We deal with civil rights and immigration issues

Presentations are available at sdrefugeeforum.org under minutes.

- V. Special Motion read by Madelyne Wagner, drafted by Oren to have an ad hoc committee take over the duties of the officers.
 - 1. Question raised by Dan Nyamangah. We are in such busy time of the year, why do we want to disrupt the duties of officers. The elections are in 4 months, why can't we hold on any differences, officers continue to perform their perspective duties until November.
 - 2. Chair Rebecca- I was not a party to this special agenda submitted to the SDRF listserv and it was drafted without my knowledge and or consent.
 - 3. Sam Badwell -Those who want to do that work can continue to do the work while those who want to step down should.
 - 4. Mejgan- All of us work hard- because of our lack of mediations... we cannot work..
 - 5. Elizabeth- I have been in the refugee forum. I have never seen mediations called. I want to know why?
 - 6. Mohamed- I believe that the business has been done really good and my suggestion is to keep things really good and report to us.
 - 7. Sam Badwell, I call a motion for the forum working and the officers in place till end of their term- Motion seconded by Elizabeth Lou and all are in favor.
 - 8. Mejgan opposes the motion, but the motion passes
- VI. **Community Announcements:**
 - 1. Councilwoman Gomez's representative – we need support for border wall.- Bringing ordinance against ordinance- press conference will be on 7/28 come help with the ordinance.
- VII. **Approval of Meeting Minutes:** Jackline Mola- Motion to Approve Minutes, Elizabeth Lou and Ilena Girdino seconded. All were in favor.
- VIII. **Adjournment** 12:00pm

Next Meeting is Tuesday August 21st, 2018