



Wed, November 11 -----12:15-1:45pm at the SF Foundation

Welcome & Introductions – *Daisy Reyes-LEN Institute, Ildar Hafizov –IIBA, Christopher Martinez-CCCYO, Douglas Vasquez-SF Welcome Back Center, Grace Lau-Refugee Transitions, Eva Iraheta-HAS, Liora Barba Red Cross Bay Area, Terri Massin-CCSF, Lina Avidan-ZFF, Cristy Dieterich-Newcomers Health Program/SFDPH*

Highlights and resources from last meeting ***Immigrant Rights and Current Issues***

**\*\* Guest Panel: *ESL/GED, Educational & Vocational Opportunities***

**Refugee Transitions - Grace Lau**, Program Coordinator. [grace@reftrans.org](mailto:grace@reftrans.org) [www.reftrans.org](http://www.reftrans.org)

- RT mission is to assist refugee and immigrant families in becoming self-sufficient in the U.S. by providing services to help them attain the English Language, life, job and academic skills they need to succeed in their new communities.
- RT matches trained volunteers with refugee / immigrant families for home-based tutoring in ESL as well as offering mentoring programs, community navigators, Civics Education and Orientation Program Leadership development and other referrals and assistance for resettlement. Often volunteers become friends with new immigrants in addition to helping them build resources and confidence during resettlement. RT volunteers commit to 2 hours a week for 6 months.
- RT services are available to low-income new comers with limited English proficient. Current priority is for refugee families, foster youth, and immigrants less than 1 year. RT is giving out priority to the Liberian family who want to pass citizenship test. RT is always recruiting ESL volunteers.
- See attached flyers for: ESL classes offered in Chinatown and citizenship classes for all over the bay area and Home-based Tutoring program for Youth.

**Catholic Charities CYO - Christopher Martinez**, Program Director, Refugee and Immigrant Services. [www.cccyo.org/RIS](http://www.cccyo.org/RIS) 415-972-1313 [cmartinez@CCCYO.ORG](mailto:cmartinez@CCCYO.ORG)

- The ESL program has changed since June due to funding but CCCYO is looking to expand the ESL program again. They are looking to identify needs, partners and collaborate for more ESL services. CCCYO previously partnered with Arriba Juntos and City College of SF for Vocational ESL classes, providing also individual case management to help with enrollment and class attendance barriers. CCCYO is no longer providing these services, however, Arriba Juntos has assumed responsibility for these services effective July, 2011.
- CCCYO is a current partner with Bridge Housing (SF and San Mateo) for 5 onsite ESL classes, which eliminates transportation/child care barriers. The hours /days vary according to site needs.
- Education focuses on access to the health care system, including basic medical terminology, identifying important community places, civics education and other topics by request of students. Classes are 10 weeks for 10 students. Pre and post-tests show significant gains in ESL levels. CCCYO acknowledges the importance of having all-women classes as an access issue for some women who would not be allowed or feel comfortable attending mixed gender classes.
- CCCYO is developing a new ESL program aimed for victims of violence or violent crimes, including human trafficking, those waiting for documentation, or dealing with legal issues.

*\*\* Share info and resources by sending an email to the group at:*

**[sf-cairs@googlegroups.com](mailto:sf-cairs@googlegroups.com)**

**email to : [SF.CAIRS@gmail.com](mailto:SF.CAIRS@gmail.com)**

- The dates and times for the classes have not been set yet, as we are still in the needs assessment phase. We hope to set up classes at our downtown location, which is very secure and accessible.
- CCCYO wishes to make more ESL opportunities available through partnerships since ESL is important to the economic stability of newcomers.
- Contact Christopher Martinez with questions about any programs.

**City College of SF, Dept. of ESL - Terri Massin**, Vocational Instructor [tmassin@ccsf.edu](mailto:tmassin@ccsf.edu)  
 ESL [www.ccsf.edu](http://www.ccsf.edu)

CCSF has a variety of credit and non-credit Vocational ESL classes available each semester, ranging from child development, vocational and academic prep classes. Vocational ESL classes can be non-credit/no fee. (Students learn vocational vocabulary and not vocational skill or functions)

VESL classes include:

- Office training program – certificate program. 1 year. Computer, clerical, telephoning, resume, job search skills, business English. In conjunction with business classes. Students must apply. Chinatown and downtown locations. Free course. Maybe get financial aid after completing program. (Unknown if immigration documentation is required at this time).
- English Communication Skills for Health Professionals– English for current or future health professionals
- Bridge to Bio-tech. helps prepare for biotech program. Includes math, science, English.
- Childcare ESL – helps non-native speaker. Parents come with their child. Core classes can be taken in native language (Mandarin, Cantonese, Spanish) but to advance they must take them in English. ESL teacher in child observation class to help develop English skills. There are different options from noncredit (for parents) to credit (academic preparation for students preparing to get a childcare permit or Family Daycare license). Classes throughout SF.
- Workplace Communication Skills for various fields, including construction, health care, janitorial workers
- Collaboration with CCSF's Welcome Back Center – vocational ESL and services for prior trained professionals and students interested in entering the health care field. Classes are dual-listed.

\* Highlight: recently 4 female Burmese doctors graduated and two are now medical residents. English Communication Skills for Health Professionals is a dual class for credit or non-credit.

**Other CCSF classes:**

- Upcoming: IBEST model, which includes a content teacher (example; nurse) and an ESL teacher who co-teach the class.
- VIP ESL Immersion program. Limited time due to requirements
- Spanish literacy classes offered at Mission campus
- Citibuild program offers pre-apprentice 12-week programs in construction, electrical, blueprints, labor rights and unions. Enrollment requirements: HS degree, CDL, documented immigration status. Classes held at Evans campus. Collaboration with ESL instructors.
- Citizenship classes offered at Chinatown and Mission campuses (but at risk for budget cuts)

**CCSF offers:**

- ESL classes are offered 7 days a week 7am-10pm to meet need of community
- English placement tests are offered all year at no cost.
- Non-credit students get student ID's, which are also good for various discounts
- There is limited childcare at different locations.

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**email to : [SF.CAIRS@gmail.com](mailto:SF.CAIRS@gmail.com)**

See attached flyer and [www.ccsf.edu](http://www.ccsf.edu) for more info.  
 Contact Terri for more materials (they have great brochures/flyers/handouts!)

**Agency updates, current initiatives, events, announcements etc.**

Note - Narika's SEED program has ESL curriculum on basic needs for immigrants, especially for victims of violence. Narika shares this curriculum and opportunities for hosting classes. Contact info: [narika@narika.org](mailto:narika@narika.org)

International Institute of the Bay Area – Providing Citizenship Program 2 times per week. Free ESL instruction. Special consideration is given for low-income, seniors. [www.iibayarea.org](http://www.iibayarea.org)

**Next meeting: Wednesday, January 11 2012 – 12:15-1:45pm**

**SFCAIRS Meeting Evaluation:  
 San Francisco Coalition for Asylee, Immigrant and Refugee Services**

N=

Meeting Date: 11/9/11

<b>Format</b>	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
The time of the meeting was convenient.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	25%	75%
The location of the meeting was convenient.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	25%	75%
The length of the meeting was appropriate.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	25%	75%
Time was used efficiently.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	100%

\* What topics or panel would you like to see presented for future meetings? (If you know of a speaker on a specific topic, please provide the speaker's name and contact information if possible.)

Domestic Violence and Immigrant Crimes Victims. Woman Inc.  
Housing

\* Are there other community partners or agencies who could add to the work of SF CAIRS?

If yes, who?

ORAM

\* What did you enjoy most about today's meeting?

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**email to : *SF.CAIRS@gmail.com***

Hearing all the services offered  
All the information  
A lot to learn from other CBO's

\* Please share any additional comments:  
Thanks for the invite!

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**email to : *SF.CAIRS@gmail.com***