

SF-CAIRS Meeting Notes

October 9, 2019 – 9am– 11am

Host: SF Department of Public Health –Newcomers Health Program
25 Van Ness Ave. #70/basement level
San Francisco, CA 94102

Welcome & Introductions – *Cristy Dieterich (SF-DPH/Newcomers Health Program), Justin Talbott (Jubilee Immigration Advocates), Diane Landino (SF-ORR office), Erika McClorey (Arriba Juntos), Grace Lau (Refugee & Immigrant Transitions), Andy Beetley-Hagler (SF-HSA), Andrew Ciscel (CCSF's CHW program), Joanna Cortez, Alex Altman, Suzanne Riverea, Lorraine Cowili (MAF), Tony Tran (FCA), Rich Whipple (OCEIA), Nikki Mobjni, Alex Richardson (Tahirih Justice Center), Edie Castellon (SF Public Defenders Office)*

Partner Agency Presentations:

Mission Asset Fund: Immigration Loans, LLC Loans, and Lending Circles

[Immigration Loans](#) [Lending Circles](#) [LLC Loans](#),

Joanna Cortez Hernandez, Client Services Director

joanna@missionassetfund.org

Mission Asset Fund (MAF) is a non-profit organization offering several programs to create a fair financial marketplace for hardworking families.

Lending Circles – a global practice of social lending and savings. Individuals apply for the program, get approved, complete online financial education modules, sign promissory notes, and receive payments and distribution. Credit building opportunities, increase financial knowledge. MAF has a long standing trust in the community.

Immigration Loans for USCIS filing fees. 0% interest credit-building loans for six USCIS filing fees: DACA renewal, U.S. Citizenship, Temporary Protected Status, Petition for a Relative, Green Card, U Visa. Available to CA residents. . 50% match grant thanks to support from SF OCEIA for those with SF connection.

10-month term loan.

1. Complete USCIS form
2. Apply for MAF Immigration Loan online or in person
3. Receive check made out to Homeland Security within one week of submitting complete packet.
4. Begin repayment over 10-month term

LLC Limited Liability Company Program \$800, 0% interest credit building loan for business support– LLC business entity holds liability, not the individual.

Eligibility:

- years old or older
- Email address
- ID + SSN or ITIN (currently accept ten different types of ID's)
- Checking account
- Individual and/or Household Income (2 consecutive months of recent pay stubs OR 3 consecutive months of recent bank statements OR public benefits letter)

Clients average 168 point increase in credit scores, 99.3% repayment rate.
Credit scores not required to apply.

Spanish and English staff available. Other languages please call ahead or bring an interpreter.

Mobile app: myMAF track progress for clients and access financial education for anyone.

MAF is part of the [SF Pathways to Citizenship Initiative](#) and are present at workshops.

Refugee & Immigrant Transitions: English Home-based tutoring/Volunteering

Grace Lau, Program Coordinator

(415) 989-2151 grace@reftrans.org www.reftrans.org

RIT name change reflects community served - nearly 24,000 newcomers from 50 countries
In SF, Alameda, and Santa Clara counties. Volunteer supported (200-300) to provide
welcoming cultural exchange, community building and English/Education Programs:

- Home-based tutoring 6-9 months
- School-based tutoring and support after school
- Digital Literacy classes
- Vocational English Language Classes (CalWORKS support)
- Family Support Services – case management (Oakland)
- Community Support and Life Skills
- Youth Programs, Leadership
- Adult Program

New grant focus for Youth Tutoring and Mentorship Program. Age 15-24 for English and
college/career pathway support
10 months, 2 sessions/month. Contact Grace to make a referral.

Women's Initiative English class and early childhood education for children (10mo-4yrs) at same
time

Volunteers needed, 18 years old min. Volunteer Training Part online, part in person.

City College Community Health Workers Certificate Program

Be an internship placement site for a Spring Semester Community Health Worker

Andrew Ciscel Program Manager, Associate Coordinator, [Community Health Worker](#)

City College of San Francisco [415.452.5202](tel:415.452.5202) aciscel@ccsf.edu

CCSF Community Health Worker Program

5 Certificate Program areas:

- Community Health Worker
- Youth Advocate Specialist
- Re-Entry (post prison)
- Elder Advocate Specialist
- HIV and Hepatitis Navigation Specialist

Certificate fulfills 6 months experience for City Health Worker positions. CHW potential earnings median \$61K/year. Welcoming and supporting new immigrants with or without health care backgrounds.

Pre requisite class or exemption if work experience in the health/social service field.
Enroll for classes anytime that helps build skills and resume and create an educational plan.

Spring semester internship. 8 hours per week.

Be an internship site for students to observe and practice CHW skills such as outreach, health education, advocacy, group facilitation, systems navigation. CHW interns match with a supervisor/mentor and weekly check-ins.

In-class support for ESL students.

Nov 6 Internship Fair – Agencies present host opportunities.

Community Mental Health program intro class Intro to Wellness and Recovery -see flyer

Free City enrollment for SF residents. Fee waivers and stipends available. The CHW Health Resource Center is available for info and support.

Announcements, Follow-ups, Events:

- SF-ORR updates: Diane Landino, Regional Representative Office of Refugee Resettlement / 415-437-8471

ORR updates

The administration issued a proposed refugee admissions ceiling of 18,000 for FY 2020. The Department of State (DOS) has not issued its request for proposal and expects to contract with fewer resettlement agencies next year.. DOS extended their current contracts through the end of 2019.

Executive Order for State participation in resettlement process – reaction to increase in refugee arrivals in 2016 when governors were not prepared and some states elected to withdraw from resettlement process. ORR is working with DOS to create a process to ensure state input and support.

Budget:

Health and Human Services and ORR has no approved budget so operating in “continuing resolution” meaning agencies can continue to provide services with funding under previously approved budget 18/19.

Senate and Congress put forth budgets for HHS and refugee support services at same 18/19 level despite lowered resettlement cap. Budget is being negotiated with President.

Funding for refugee Cash and medical assistance is expected to be reduced because it's directly related to the number of refugee arrivals.

Funded though end of Oct, waiting for budget approval, no disruption of services at this time.

- Nor-Cal Asylum Orientation -. Friday –**10/18/19** 1:15pm. 75 Hawthorne St. SF- To attend please email cristy.dieterich@sfdph.org for the security list.
- [Colloquium on Immigrant Health](#) Oct 23rd. the role of UCSF as an academic medical center in addressing ongoing challenges to immigrant health and the current political landscape for immigrants and refugees entering the US.

Public Charge resources:

[ILRC](#) and [PIF Community tool kits](#)

Jubilee Immigration Advocates is taking clients for VAWA, T, U-visa cases (No removal case).

Public Charge educational sessions available – info@jubilee.org

Free consultations about public charge as every case is unique.

Tahirih Justice Center:

Will be hosting asylee adjustment of status clinics. Dates will be announced.

Accepting all immigration cases.

CCSF CHW Program – transgender & immigrant support day Nov 19, TransDay remembrance – email info will be shared.

Networking

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Evaluation questions with responses:

* What topics or panel would you like to see presented for future meetings?

Would love more on supportive counseling resources and translation services.

*Are there community partners or agencies who could add to or benefit from the network of SFCAIRS?

IRC presence

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

Community knowledge

*Please share any additional comments:

2 hours was lengthy and far longer than necessary.

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 Send group emails to: sf-cairs@googlegroups.com

2020 Quarterly SF-CAIRS Meetings: Jan 8, Apr 8, Jul 8, Oct 14

Next meeting: Wednesday, Jan 8, 2020– 9-11am

LOCATION: Van Ness/Market - (Van Ness Muni Stop)
 25 Van Ness Ave. #70 Basement level, San Francisco, CA 94102

SF-CAIRS Mission

*SF-CAIRS aims to serve San Francisco Bay Area asylee, immigrant and refugee communities and its service providers by:
 Expanding knowledge and access to health, employment, social, education and legal services;
 Supporting advocacy efforts through coalition-wide networking, information sharing, cross-referrals and community education; and, Identifying and addressing challenges faced by immigrants at personal and societal level*