



Co- Chairs: Clarisa Sanchez & Eva Iraheta

Secretary: Cristy Dieterich

SF-CAIRS Meeting

Wednesday, May 8th 2013 – 12:15 pm– 1:45pm

Host: API Legal Outreach

Welcome & Introductions – Clarisa Sanchez (CCCYO), Cristy Dieterich (SFDPH), Brendan Rogers (USF), Joan Kelley-Williams & Isabel Flores (American Red Cross, Nikka Rapkin (BACR-Sunset Project), Anthony Moss (IIBA), Hyun-mi Kim (APILO), Nate Dunston (Compass Family Services), Linette Escobar (IIBA), Paola Souto (Women Inc.), Nora Goodfriend-Koven (Interpreter Program at City College of SF), Lauren Markham (OUSD)

API Legal Outreach – SF-CAIRS Member Profile

Hyun-mi Kim, Client Advocate / Legal Caseworker, hkim.apilegaloutreach@gmail.com

APILO has provided services for over 35 years for all immigrant communities. (“API” is historical name and focus) SF & Oakland offices. Main service is informing clients of their rights and helping them where needed.

- **Legal Service Areas:** Domestic Violence, Family Law, Immigration, Human Trafficking, Elder law, Disability Rights, Housing, Civil Rights, Tax Controversies & Other Social Justice Issues
- **Prevention:** Youth Advisory Council
- **Outreach and Education** – Trainings, Technical Assistance, Legal Clinics
- Staff capacity includes 7-8 languages, immigrant experience
- **Daily Restraining Order** intakes – urgent assistance available
- Address client’s priorities such as custody of children, resource needs
- **Elder Law:** elder abuse is often a hidden crime. APILO is doing education outreach and have had an increase of cases including financial abuse of elders.
- **Disability Law** – Restraining Orders, estate and financial planning, Medical directives, conservatorships, public benefits
- **Housing Law** – impact on DV survivors, elderly residents, evictions, rent board
- **Tax Assistance** for low-income individuals via community outreach and education sessions
- **Immigration Services:** family petitions, naturalization, consular processing, DACA.
- APILO must work with Dept of Homeland Security – USCIS, ICE, CBP but priority is client’s legal protection. All actions are with client’s permission. Inform clients of benefits and risks of talking with law enforcement.
- **LGTB** - new program for LGBT population for Legal services
- **Referrals** – have client call APILO directly. Available intake person M-F. Outside case workers can call APILO to inquire about situation and service.
- **Fees:** flexible sliding scale. Most services are free. No one is denied based on ability to pay.

Special Topic Presentations: IRC Oral Histories Project - **Calling This Home: Refugee Resettlement to the Bay Area, 1975-Present** *Project funded by the California Stories Fund, of the California Council for the Humanities*

Lauren Markham, Project Director for an oral history collection & interactive timeline of refugee resettlement to the Bay Area through the International Rescue Committee. Lauren is also the *Community School Program Manager for Oakland International High School & The Refugee & Asylee Student Assistance Program*. Office: 510.597.4287
laurenmarkham@oaklandinternational.org

Collection of stories to see how immigration, the Bay Area, and demographics have changed our communities. Individual narratives from 12 countries can be used as a tool for celebration of individuals, education, service provider trainings, inform about cultural and historical backgrounds of immigration. The participants wanted their stories to be

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told.

The complete book will be released in June. Some short narratives will be on the IRC site. Lauren will make a PDF version available for refugee forums to use as an educational tool and will share with SF-CAIRS.

International Services American Red Cross Bay Area Chapter-“Restoring Family Links” program

Joan Kelley-Williams, Director – Isabel Flores

Joan.Kelley-Williams@redcross.org 415-307-7164 Isabel Flores isabel.flores@redcross.org (415) 427-8100

- Restoring Family Links helps families separated by armed conflict or disaster by locating loved ones, exchanging messages, making health and welfare inquiries, securing travel documents to reunite separated family members provide info and referrals to other agencies.
- ARC is independent of government and is a neutral in conflict, religion, and politics.
- Individuals can contact ARC to ask about a situation and find out other resources
- Tracing services for those separated by conflict and disaster, detention
- Case workers will conduct interviews with requester.
- ARC - Restoring Family Links:
 - Respects the wishes and confidentiality of individuals seeking or being sought
 - Provide services to anyone in need within their capacity
 - Does not use law enforcement, and minimal government services
 - Can connect people overseas but cannot process immigration.
 - Can train case worker staff for intake interview
 - Provides post cards, brochures or copy/information for other agencies resource boards, or Newcomer welcome kits

Contact Isabel for a presentation for your staff and/or clients or attend and table at a community event isabel.flores@redcross.org (415) 427-8100

Discussion Items:

SF Refugee Awareness Day – June 21 12-3pm at Arriba Juntos (1850 Mission St.)

- Arriba Juntos will provide: table, chairs, and food
- Talent show with prizes – need participants!
- Agency, staff, and talent show participants, sign up with Cristy : cristy.dieterich@sfdph.org
- Flyers will be sent soon to share with staff and clients – encourage traditional dress to the event
- About 300 people attended last year

*The Refugee Programs Bureau (RPB) who provides statewide administration of California's Refugee Resettlement Program (RRP) will be attending our July 10th SF-CAIRS meeting. Please join us to meet them!

***July 10 meeting host: The Red Cross 1663 Market St. (near Gough)**

Agency updates, current initiatives, events, announcements.

Nora Goodfriend-Koven (CCSF) – Healing Voices training in June- spots are still available for 5 day training for interpreters for survivors of torture, war trauma, refugees. Seeking refugee interpreters, VOLinterpreting.org (see attached agenda and registration info) *Scholarships for those who interpret for refugees.

Anthony Moss- IIBA – SF/Redwood City Office – **ESL Citizenship classes arranged at YOUR site** (10 students min.)

Available to SF residents over 60, or over 17 with a mental or physical disability

1 day a week for 12 weeks. 2.5 hours per week.

Must have green card. There is a two month window from citizenship application to the interview.

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Clarisa Sanchez (CCCYO) – Refugee family of 4 (two young children) from Iraq in San Mateo county - Employment needs for parents: Father has media training and the wife in school for chemistry.
One Burmese refugee family reunification needs community contacts.
Please share any links to resources or info to help these new arrivals.
Please contact Clarisa Sanchez CSanchez@CCCYO.ORG

Linette Escobar (IIBA) – IIBA offering Victims of Crime Legal clinic info. Linette will send more info to the listserv.

To make announcement to the list serve send an email to: sf-cairs@googlegroups.com

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Next meeting: Wednesday, July 10th – 12:15pm– 1:45pm
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