



Co- Chairs: Clarisa Sanchez & Eva Iraheta

Secretary: Cristy Dieterich

SF-CAIRS Meeting

Wednesday, July 10th 2013 – 12:15 pm– 1:45pm

Host: American Red Cross

Welcome & Introductions – Clarisa Sanchez (CCCYO), Eva Iraheta (Dept of Human Services), Cristy Dieterich (SFDPH), Joan Kelley-Williams, Isabel Flores, Stephanie Vargas, Shilpa Krish, Dione Lien, Julian Clark (American Red Cross, Nikka Rapkin (BACR-Sunset Project), Anthony Moss (IIBA), Paola Souto (Women Inc.), Rosamund Aydh (MLVS), Lourdes Martinez & Juan Camilo Mendez (ILRC), Manlyn Bunag (Aribba Juntos), Daisy Reyes (LEN Institute)

Special Topic Presentations:

International Institute of the Bay Area - Anthony Moss mossac@gmail.com

Citizenship Classes – Quiz!

- IIBA helps individuals obtain citizenship. IIBA classes prep students for the citizenship test and interview.
- USCIS.gov site to study, flash cards are no longer in print.
- Redwood City, Oakland, Antioch, and Napa coming soon.
- Target aim for ESL level is high-beg, low-intermediate.
- Citizenship/EsL class targeted to seniors in San Francisco who receive English language exemptions (Over 50 years old, LPR for at least 20 years).
- Class series are 12-week and students can attend as many classes as needed.
- Classes are fun, celebratory events.
- Citizen Application workshops and practice groups are available.
- Volunteer tutors are needed.

Contact *Anthony Moss* mossac@gmail.com

Immigrant Legal Resource Center (ILRC) services www.ilrc.org

Identifying key flags when working with potential asylum applicants.

Presented by: Juan Camilo Guzman

Lourdes G. Martinez, Staff Attorney, Immigrant Legal Resource Center

1663 Mission Street, Suite 602 San Francisco, California 94103

Tel: (415) 255-9499 Ext. 627 E-mail: lmartinez@ilrc.org

ILRC is a Resource Center for legal professionals & advocates, immigrant communities.

- the ILRC website provide brief podcasts and video-cases of information, webinars, news, etc. Various publications are available and written in a client-centered and partnership approach.
- **FREE** “attorney of the day” available via phone to Bay Area Non-Profits! 415-255-9499 x626 (or email contracts@ilrc.org)

*** When working with a client, listen for the red flags of possible asylum that they may be unaware of.**

Basic requirements of Asylum:

- Persecution – *physical or extreme non-physical harm, some cases related to population control (forced abortion, sterilization)*

** Members may share info and resources by sending an email to the group at:*

sf-cairs@googlegroups.com

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- Cannot obtain protection in home country –government is persecutor, or private actor is persecutor and government is unwilling or unable to give protection (police reports, explanations for not reporting to police/government)
- Fear of future persecution – reasonable fear, subjective fear
- “on account of” a protected ground –
 - o Race
 - o nationality (ethnic and linguistic ties, clan membership)
 - o religion
 - o political opinion (membership or assumed membership)
 - o particular social group – what you cannot change, nor reasonable be forced to change
- Not “barred” from asylum application
 - o One year currently. Difficult exemption circumstances
 - o Previous asylum denial

* Consider what is at stake for your client – asylum case or other immigration process has different requirements, pros and cons. Remember that client may have difficulty identifying themselves as a possible asylum applicant.

Refugee Awareness Day –recap and slide show with photos by Clarisa Sanchez – *see them posted on the SF-CAIRS website!* Thank you to all the SF-CAIRS members who participated and we look forward to another great event next year.

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

Clarisa Sanchez: Citizenship collaborative info session, next meeting August 10th

The San Francisco Pathways to Citizenship Initiative – partnership of agencies to help San Francisco immigrants navigate the process of applying for citizenship.

<http://www.sfmayor.org/index.aspx?page=846&recordid=367&returnURL=%2findex.aspx>

Office of Refugee Resettlement director Mr. Eskinder Negash will visit for a Town Hall meeting August 7th. Details will be announced via the listserv.

Please share more agency, program info, or news by sending an email to:

sf-cairs@googlegroups.com



Next meeting: Wednesday, Sept 11th – 12:15pm– 1:45pm

Host: American Red Cross – 1663 Market Street

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Meeting Date: 7/10/13

Please circle the appropriate number to the statements below.

N=8 Format	Strongly Disagree ☹	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree ☺
The time of the meeting was convenient.	-	-	2	6
The location of the meeting was convenient.	-	-	2	6
The length of the meeting was appropriate.	-	-	2	6
Time was used efficiently.	-	-	-	8
Speaker(s) - ILRC & IIBA				
The speaker's presentation was relevant/interesting to my work.	-	-	2	6
The speaker's presentation was relevant to the coalition.	-	-	1	7
The speaker's communication style was effective.	-	-	2	6
Communication				
The frequency of emails from SF-CAIRS is appropriate.	-	-	2	5

* 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.)

- [Benefits available to immigrants/undocumented, etc and services to apply.](#)
- [U-visa training.](#)
- [I would like to hear about federal and state benefits and how they differ from undocumented/green card holders/citizens.](#)

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

If yes, who?

[Assn Mayab, LCCR, St. Peters, Clinic by the Bay, Immigrant Rights Committee.](#)

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

- [Slide from Refugee Awareness Day were great!](#)
- [Everyone was informative and interesting](#)
- [The IIBA activities.](#)
- [ILRC presentation](#)

* Please share any additional comments:

- [The opening dynamic "civics" was great!](#)

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- [Great presentations! Thanks. This is my first SFCAIRS meeting, would love to see greater collaboration with the East Bay!](#)

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