



Co- Chairs: Clarisa Sanchez & Eva Iraheta

Temp Secretary: Annie Rivera

## SF-CAIRS Meeting

Wednesday, September 11<sup>th</sup> 2013 – 12:15 pm– 1:45pm

Host: American Red Cross

**Welcome & Introductions** – Clarisa Sanchez (CCCYO), Eva Iraheta (Dept of Human Services), Samira Causevic (SFDPH), Annie Rivera (CDC-PHAP/SFDPH), Joan Kelley-Williams (Red Cross), Isabel Flores (Red Cross), Daisy Reyes (LEN Institute), Rosie Breen (US Fund for UNICEF), Suyen Figueroa (Arriba Juntos), Speakers: Mario Paz & Jazmin Segura

ORR visit update – Eva

- Directors at stakeholder's meeting in August regarding children 18yo& younger, crossing the border increased has increased ~23,000 (national number, CA's not available), issues they're having; fundings being moved around (DoE, Parks & Recs, etc)...
- Mental Health reports from Alameda; issues on communication and reporting from other counties like San Francisco
- Switch focus from language barriers and access TO the positive aspect of the agencies
- State analyst's suggestion having 3 counties work together to create connection (San Mateo, Santa Clara, Alameda); how can we collaborate better to get resources
- Refugees coming from another state needs to be reported; low numbers reported -> may be because they do not know about the U & T visas and the services being offered; community outreach is planned, use of flyers & materials
- Issues on restricted SS cards for T & U visas, asylees and refugees
- Promotion of U visa to take advantage of benefits after 8-month eligibility (ex. CalFresh)

### Special Topic Presentations:

Mario Paz - *SF Immigrants Rights Commissioner & Executive Director of Good Samaritan FRC*

- Good Samaritan FRC: 120 years in 2014; mission: ensure successful integration of immigrants in SF; primarily serving families from Latin Americas; him and his family benefited from the program when they immigrated
- Immigrants Rights Commission: around for 14years, 15-member policy body; mission: improve, enhance the quality of life of the immigrants in SF; no investigative/human rights power; recommendations to board of supervisors and mayor that relate to the improvement of lives of immigrants in SF, outreach and education ; ensure and handle complaints which affects limited English language-speaking immigrants; report in advocating in immigration reforms, from immigrant cases that has been heard;
- Staff: office of civic engagements; actively involved in Census project; community ambassadors program to ensure diverse members of the community are working together; language access services -> if in-need of interpreters for meetings or hearings, emergency or crises to provide support

Contact *Mario Paz* at [mariopaz@goodsamfrc.org](mailto:mariopaz@goodsamfrc.org) | 415-401-4242 | [goodsamfrc.org](http://goodsamfrc.org)

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

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website: [www.sf-cairs.org](http://www.sf-cairs.org)



Jazmin Segura - E4FC (*Education for Fair Consideration*)

- E4FC was started by two educators in 2006 and has grown over the years; provides resources for undocumented students and people who like to achieve higher education (for now, none for asylees or refugees)
- Empowers undocumented students to push and go for higher education; provides scholarship, leadership development and policy advocacy; mental health needs of undocumented people;
- Limited on eligibility; DACA resources can be found online which will help with the continuing education for undocumented students;
- Availability of list of scholarships for undocumented students, eligibility and qualification; online, undoc stud can input anonymous intake sheets can be assessed by the immigration office to how they can pursue their case/status;

Contact Jazmin Segura at [jazmin@e4fc.org](mailto:jazmin@e4fc.org) | 323-271-5015 | e4fc.org

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

- DACA Day, celebration of DACA implemented at SFCC: free screenings, resources, services, -> why people are not applying for DACA, people are scared (E4FC & Immigrants Rights is here); future events will be planned to spread about DACA; promotion of agencies are very welcome for participation
- Sept.28<sup>th</sup> 9am-1230pm, Citizenship Day, assistance for fee waiver, attorneys and reps will be available for assistance; free event
- Graduate student from Oxford, Rebecca Wilson will come to San Francisco Nov. 11th – 16th to speak with service providers, agencies, advocates, etc. regarding the U.S. asylum system.
- USF Mark Griffin will be working with Clarisa to work on an article on difficulties on finding housing, for example, and eradicate other difficulties that refugees face; Mario suggested they contact HOPE SF;
- Sacramento analyst that will be available in SF (clarify when)
- National Preparedness Month, availability of preparedness awareness coloring books and contact cards which is availability in several languages

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

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

**Next meeting: Wednesday, Nov 13<sup>th</sup> – 12:15pm– 1:45pm**

Host: Catholic Charities CYO

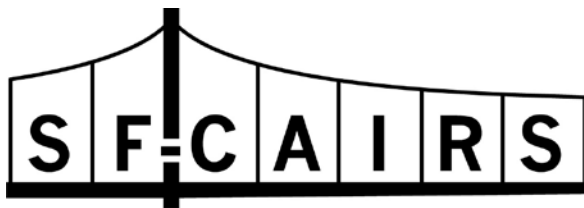
180 Howard Street, Suite 100 San Francisco, CA 94105

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Meeting Date: 09/11/13

Please circle the appropriate number to the statements below.

N= 5 Format	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
	☹			☺
The time of the meeting was convenient.	1		2	2
The location of the meeting was convenient.	1	1	2	1
The length of the meeting was appropriate.	1		2	2
Time was used efficiently.	1		2	2
<b>Speaker(s) - ILRC &amp; IIBA</b>				
The speaker's presentation was relevant/interesting to my work.	1		1	3
The speaker's presentation was relevant to the coalition.	1		1	3
The speaker's communication style was effective.	1		2	2
<b>Communication</b>				
The frequency of emails from SF-CAIRS is appropriate.	1		3	1

\* 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.)

- [Lia Balden, US Census Bureau \(Joan will provide her email\)](#)
- [Low housing in SF and how people can get funds to pay rent](#)

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

If yes, who?

- [Compass, Radco](#)

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

- [Everything!](#)
- [Presentations and updates](#)
- [Involvement and passion of the members](#)
- [All information was very helpful](#)

\* Please share any additional comments:

- [Location was too noisy](#)

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