SF-CAIRS Meeting
Wednesday, July 8, 2015  9-11am

Host: American Red Cross
1663 Market St, San Francisco, CA 94103

Welcome & Introductions – Cristy Dieterich (SF-DPH/Newcomers Health Program), Eva Iraheta (SF-HSA), Daisy Reyes (LEN Institute), Efrain Sandoval (Arriba Juntos, English Language Training program), Julia Rudakof & Amilcar Velasquez (MediCal), Paola Souto (Woman, Inc), Loudes Martinez and Rachel Prandini (ILRC), Beth Urfer (JVS), Margaret Lamb & Aili Golubjatnikov (TRC/SI), Hannah Potter (NHP), Olga Radan & Tania Dubrovsky (Sunset Tobacco Project), Clare Tarbes & Naomi Pease (Red Cross)
Via phone: Samira Causevic (Newcomers Health Program)

Partner Agency Presentation:
UCSF Trauma Recover Center & Survivors International - Margaret Lamb, LCSW & Aili Golubjatnikov, MS, Project Assistant
Survivors International provides the following services at no cost.
- Individual psychotherapy for adults
- Forensic psychological and medical evaluations for asylum applicants
- Psychiatric medication management
- Clinical support groups
- Speaker’s Bureau
- Medical consultation and referrals for primary care
- Links to local agencies that provide assistance for food, shelter, education, and employment
- One-on-one support with day-to-day living needs and accompaniment to appointments
- Ongoing case management to ensure that each survivor gets what he/she needs to heal and thrive
- Tutoring available (financial literacy, computer literacy, post-asylum benefits, English language and literacy)
- Free clothing closet for clients, with professional and everyday clothing, and personal hygiene supplies

In addition, SI provides training programs for clinicians, individuals and agencies working with refugees and asylees to improve their understanding of the experiences of torture and its psychological impact on the person, so that treatment interventions can be optimized.

Eligibility:
- Must be an adult survivor of torture (see torture definition) or adult secondary survivor of torture who is experiencing mental health symptoms related to the trauma(s) (Children are referred to SFGH’s CASARC and programs in East Bay)
- Must be a San Francisco resident
- Must not have another mental health provider (therapist, psychiatrist, or master’s level case manager) currently
- No private insurance (Medi-Cal, HSF, Medicare okay).

Referrals:
To make a referral for mental health services:
- Call TRC/SI and ask for the “Building Officer of the Day,” M-F, 8-5pm, Tues 8-7pm

* Members may share info and resources by sending an email to the group at: sf-cairs@googlegroups.com
website: www.sf-cairs.org
- If eligible, the Building Officer of the Day will be able to schedule an intake interview (the first step to entering services)

To make a referral for a psychological or medical evaluation:
- Contact Cristina Biasetto, 415-437-3049  cristina.biasetto@sfdph.org
- Documents needed before an eval can be scheduled:
  - http://traumarecoverycenter.org/services/survivors-international/asylum-documentation/

UCSF/SFGH Trauma Recovery Ctr.  Survivors International
2727 Mariposa (at Bryant), Suite 100  San Francisco, CA 94110
415-437-3000 (front desk)   www.traumarecoverycenter.org

Community Benefits Presentation:
**Medi-CAL - SF Benefits Net-** Julia Rudakof and Amilcar Velasquez  Eligibility Workers
Covered CA/ACA and Medi-Cal eligibility:
For Covered California Eligibility:
- Consumers must be lawfully present to be eligible for Marketplace Qualified Health Plans, premium tax credits and Cost-Sharing Reductions. *Please refer to the list of acceptable immigration statuses.*

For Medi-Cal Eligibility:
- In general, to qualify for full Scope Medi-cal, a legal immigrant must be a “qualified non-citizen.” The qualified non-citizen category includes lawful permanent residents, Individuals granted asylum or refugee status or withholding of deportation/removal, Cuban/Haitian entrants, Victims of trafficking, Veterans, active duty military and their spouses, and Individuals receiving foster care. Unauthorized (or “undocumented”) immigrants are not eligible for health coverage offered through the Marketplace. These individuals may be eligible for emergency services or pregnancy-related services through Medi-Cal. As long as they meet other eligibility requirements, such as income.
  - In determining the household size for lawfully present applicants, undocumented family members are included in the applicant’s household size, and their taxable income counts in calculating the applicant’s household income.

Sponsor deeming rules do not apply for Covered CA or Medi-Cal eligibility. The income of a sponsor does not count in determining the consumer’s income for determining eligibility.

Asylum applicants who have applied for asylum are eligible for health coverage if they have been granted employment authorization, or are under the age of 14 and have had an application pending for at least 180 days.

RMA – Refugee Medical Assistance for 8 months as of asylum status is available to those who do not quality for zero share of cost Medi-Cal.
  - In California, undocumented immigrants and children age 16 to 31 who came to the U.S. as children and have been granted Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) are NOT required to have health insurance and would NOT pay a penalty if uninsured.

*Regardless of immigration status, anyone can receive Restricted/“emergency” services provided they are otherwise eligible for Medi-Cal. Restricted Benefits for undocumented individuals – restricted benefits cover emergencies and pregnancy related services Full benefits for qualifying US Citizens and/or Eligible individuals.
Community Agency Event Review

Efrain Sandoval from Arriba Juntos shared photos from the June 12th SF World Refugee Awareness Celebration. Photos will be posted on the SF-CAIRS website.

Announcements, Agency Updates, Events, etc:

Lourdes Martinez, Staff Attorney-Immigrant Legal Resource Center (ILRC)
The judicial hold on the executive action programs for deferred action is still on hold. There will be a hearing by summer of 2016 if the program is allowed to move forward. There is a significant decrease in participation since the injunction.
ILRC can arrange for trainings for legal service providers with focus on DACA and DAPA processes.
Lourdes Martinez  lmartinez@ilrc.org  or Rachel Prandini  rprandini@ilrc.org

There are LGBT Refugee services provided through JFCS including a resource guide
http://jfcs-eastbay.org/refugeeandimmigrant/lgbt-refugee-services

Featured in SF Weekly News, life of an LGBT refugee in San Francisco and LEN student:

Beth Urfer, JVS -Free training and paid internship for food services, security, and housekeeping jobs at CPMC. Job transition and assistance services are available in health care field, banking, and other industries. Telephone: 415-782-6282 – www.jvs.org

Reminder: members can send emails to group via: sf-cairs@googlegroups.com
Contact Cristy if you have any problems: cristy.dieterich@sfdph.org

Next meeting: Wednesday, October 14th 9-11am.
Host: American Red Cross  1663 Market St, San Francisco, CA 94103
Chair: Eva Iraheta  Coordinator: Cristy Dieterich  Secretary: Daisy Reyes

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website: www.sf-cairs.org
Evaluation questions:
* 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.)
  - Housing resources in SF – maybe rep from Mercy Housing), low-income families coming projects.
  - A variety of service providers is always great – like today

* Are there other community partners or agencies who could add to or benefit from the network of SF CAIRS?
  - El/La for Translatinans
  - Immigration service providers

* What did you enjoy most about today’s meeting?
  - The variety of info – great! Loved learning about Survivors Intl’.
  - The presentation by Survivors Intl’

* Please share any additional comments:
  - Thanks for putting these great agendas together!
  - It would be wonderful if meetings started at 9:30am instead of 9am.