

SF-CAIRS Meeting

Wednesday, April 12 2017 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), Christina Iwasaki (HAS), Grace Lau (RT), Evan Xu (DOR), Vlad Komanovsky, (SF-HSA), Amy Lee, (Jubilee Immigration Advocates), Angelina Romano (SFUSD), Fatima Karaki (UCSF), Jovita Ramos (HSA), Lex Duey (UpGlo), Laura Vaudreuil & Grace Lau (RT), Gladys Garcia, Reyna Tiscareno, Victor Magallanes(Arriba Juntos), Katherine Lowe (AHH), Kahanu Salavea (API Wellness), Naomi Pease (ARC), Diana Landino (ORR-SF)*

Via phone: Bowa Tucker (ORR-SF)

Partner & Agency Presentations:

SF-CAIRS Meeting

Wednesday, April 12th 2017 – 9am– 11am

Host: American Red Cross – Boardroom A

1663 Market St, San Francisco, CA 94103

Agenda

Partner Agency Presentations:

PAES and Single Adult Employment Services, CAAP Redesign presentation - Jovita Ramos, HAS Tenderloin Workforce Center Manager.

CAAP: cash assistance to low-income, single adults without dependent minor, authorized to work.

CAAP is made up of Four Programs: (see attachment CAAP Information sheet for descriptions)

- Personal Assisted Employment Services (PAES)
- Cash Assistance Linked to Medi-Cal (CALM)
- Supplemental Security Income Pending (SSIP)
- General Assistance (GA)

Eligibility: SF resident, income less than \$2000/mo or less for single.

Expenses not exceed grant amount. Must also apply for CalFresh and Medi-Cal.

Mandatory work activity for CAAP (except SSIP), partners with many city agencies such as DPW, Park & Rec. FastPass included.

Voluntary Intensive Employment Services (VIES) program – link with JobNOW program, min. \$13/hr.

PAES -Voluntary Intensive Employment Services – single adult clients

Focus on getting job right away through readiness screening and set up for interview within a week.

Resume and mock interview assistance available.

After refugees received 8 months support, they qualify to go into CAAP.

No repayment requirement.

Assure concerns that taking benefits will not be considered as a public charge. Eva shared the FAQ weblink via the listserv. <http://www.sfhsa.org/2668.htm>

Angie Romano Caminos Program Coordinator SFUSD School Health Programs, Cell: [415.637.8666](tel:415.637.8666)

Office: [415.242.2615](tel:415.242.2615) romanoa@sfusd.edu

District wide program to support refugee newcomer students. Provide trainings, consulting, support to schools, ensure schools are integrating newcomer students.

Caminos program supports students from Central American Minor who are in removal proceedings with support from legal services to protect from deportation. Many families are being granted asylum.

ORR grant supports staff, however hiring process for the Refugee Support position was delayed and anticipated new hire will be ready in the fall. Referrals are accepted for new refugee or asylee students facing challenges at SFUSD please contact Angie.

Currently 419 youth from El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala. Another surge from Nov – January and numbers are increased.

SFSUD support: Newcomer Pathway Sights at certain schools, bilingual/cultural staff, ELL staff, integrated with other students in English Lang Development classes. Two Elementary, 4 Middle, and 6 High Schools have Pathways program.

Effort to enroll students and avoid miscommunication.

Angie helps make connections to other support agencies. Students can stay in school as English Language Learners up to 22nd b-day as long as they are engaged in their learning.

Mental Health services – connect to group at school, SFSUD has contract with many agencies. There are waitlists at most agencies but Angie can help find agency or school program.

Guest Presentations:

At Home Humanitarian -Katherine Lowe – Katherine@athomehumanitarian.org

Aim to support current organization to support their clients.

AHH matches volunteer/community mentor and client within geographical area throughout the Bay Area. Aim to help refugees and immigrants feel at home in new country.

Volunteer mentors help identify needs, collaborate with agencies to problem-solve.

Mentors can provide extracurricular activities for refugees and immigrants and increase community linkages.

Volunteers commit 8-12 hrs/month for 12 months. Financial responsibility and have support with AHH resources.

Catholic Charities SF partnership with unaccompanied asylees.

AHH and Organization identify clients and mentors.

AHH plans large group outings to bring community members together with refugees and asylees as regular engagement (eg. Google, Giants game).

AHH is developing Educational Scholarships – for refugee/asylee/immigrant youth who want to participate in extracurricular activity (sports, music, etc.) and support them for one year with necessary funds.

Aprox. 30 SF volunteers are ready, inclusive of background checks. AHH interviews, then your organization can interview volunteers prior to meeting client. AHH is option to match language but encourage English practice. AHH provides support to take advantage of organization programs.

Volunteers receive 1 hour training, follow up check-ins and support on monthly basis and as needed.

Each organization can make arrangements that work with them. Complete the “Partner” tab on website.

Application available on the website to make direct contact for client.

Work together to train volunteers to understand and navigate systems. Idea to form committee or group to support volunteers so they know what resources are available and better support clients.

AHH can take any overflow volunteer.

Announcements, Events:

Refugee Awareness and Appreciation event June 16, 12-3:30pm, Arriba Juntos

Victor Magallanes – Case Manager for Refugee Outreach Services Program

Education, Training, and Employment services for refugees and asylees.

Need donation and volunteers for the event – set-up, food, clean-up, etc.

Please contact vmagallanes@arribajuntos.org

Suggested option to have app donations. Gladys said she will look into that.

Encourage your clients to attend, wear traditional costumes, enter talent show, win prizes.

Organization who donate will get a table and logo on the event program.

Agency Updates – round table- Agency successes and/or challenges

- **Upwardly Global** – Lex Duey, outreach manager– Aims to match job seekers to jobs and careers similar to what they had in home country.
New “English First” assessment tool online. The assessment helps direct to appropriate ESL resources and levels. Services are free.
- **API Wellness** - Kahanu Salavea Outreach and Enrollment Specialist. 30 years in community. Started as support for HIV API community. Now LGBTQI Health Clinic: Primary Care, M-F . Locations in Tenderloin (in building with Shanti and Project Open Hand and new space in LGBT Center, specialize in HIV, Trans care, mental health, immigrant health, people of color. Programs include drop-in center for Trans and people with HIV, including food, employment, social service connections. MediCal eligibility, efforts to get HSF support as a site. Multi-lingual, cultural staff.
- **Jubilee Immigration Advocates** and Grace Fellowship Community Church are hosting a **free immigration clinic in SF on Saturday, May 6th, 9AM-1PM**. See email from Amy with attached flyers in English, Spanish and Chinese. We are encouraging folks to **pre-register** for the clinic by calling 415.813.1958. Consult on any immigration topic except employment law. Cantonese, Mandarin, and Spanish available, bring interpreter for other languages. Know Your Rights workshop at the same time. 3265 16th st. Bring any immigration documents available.
- **ORR**, new director, Scott Lloyd, experienced in policy. Operating under “continuing resolution” waiting to hear about budget. Call Diane with any questions.

Next Nor Cal Asylum Orientation – May 5, 1-3:30pm. 75 Hawthorne St.

Networking & Meeting Evaluation

.....

Evaluation questions with responses:

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

[Public charge.](#)

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

[First SF Church/ESL Program, The Bread Project, Mission Language & Vocation Services](#)

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

[Seeing the variety of organization here.](#)

[Informative](#)

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

2017 Quarterly SF-CAIRS Meetings: Jan 11, Apr 12, Jul 12, Oct 11

Next meeting: Wednesday, July 12, 2017– 9-11am

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 levels