

REFUGEE WORKS

THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR REFUGEE EMPLOYMENT AND SELF-SUFFICIENCY

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E-NEWSLETTER

June 2009 (Vol. 2, Issue 11)

NATIONAL CONFERENCE FOLLOW-UP

The National Conference on Refugee Professional Recertification was a success. 175 conference participants used the opportunity to exchange ideas and present working models. The event received excellent news coverage.

--> <http://refugeeworks.org/downloads/newscoverage.pdf>

Participants from one of the conference workshops, a working group on public outreach, have established a recertification networking site, where conference presentations have been posted and the discussion continues. Feel free to invite interested foreign-trained professionals and colleagues to join this exciting new platform.

--> <http://recertification.ning.com>

RefugeeWorks has also compiled new resource materials in a special section with a focus on recertification.

--> http://www.refugeeworks.org/service_providers/recertification.html

Conference participants are also invited to submit their revised papers for an edited volume that will cover themes from the conference. Papers should focus on best practices, first-hand experiences and solutions relating to the theme of refugee professional recertification. The maximum article length is 3,500 words and the final article submission deadline is Sept. 15, 2009. If you are interested in submitting a paper, please contact Daniel Sturm with you article topic, at

--> dsturm@refugeeworks.org.

Thanks for helping to make RefugeeWorks' first recertification conference a success. Onwards.

NEW RESOURCE AVAILABLE FOR ENGINEERS

RefugeeWorks has released a guide for foreign-trained engineers who are seeking to practice their profession in the United States. It describes the structure and future of the engineering profession and workforce composition, as well as the skills, training and credentials needed to advance in the field. This guide is an essential resource for refugees, other newcomers and employment specialists. Hard copies of the guide are available on request. Click here to download your free copy:

--> <http://www.refugeeworks.org/downloads/RefugeeWorksEngineeringGuide.pdf>

COMMUNITY COLLEGES

Charting a Path: An Exploration of the Statewide Career Pathway Efforts in Arkansas, Kentucky, Oregon, Washington and Wisconsin. (The Working Poor Families Project, May 2009)

--> http://www.careerladdersproject.org/docs/Career_Pathways_Report.pdf

Promoting Economic Mobility By Increasing Postsecondary Education (The Urban Institute, May 2009)

--> http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/1001280_promotingeconomic.pdf

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Burmese refugees find jobs, new lives in Logan (The Salt Lake Tribune, June 14, 2009)

--> http://www.sltrib.com/news/ci_12580199

Using Workforce Development As A Tool To Diversify the Economy (The Center for an Urban Future, June 2009)

--> http://www.nycfuture.org/images_pdfs/pdfs/WorkforceTestimony06_23_09.pdf

GREEN JOBS

Green Pathways Out of Poverty: Workforce Development Initiatives (Green for All, April 2009)

--> <http://tinyurl.com/ljbkvc>

Green College Initiative and Utility Construction Prep Program (Los Angeles Trade Technical College, Los Angeles, CA)

--> <http://tinyurl.com/nwa539>

RECOVERY ACT

Recovery Act: The Employment and Training Administration has announced five solicitations for grant applications in the June 24, 2009 FEDERAL REGISTER. The respective solicitations address eligible applicants, funding levels and funding ranges, and application submission requirements.

--> <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/pdf/E9-14924.pdf> (Energy Training Partnership Grants)

--> <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/pdf/E9-14920.pdf> (Green Capacity Building Grants)

--> <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/pdf/E9-14928.pdf> (Pathways Out of Poverty)

--> <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/pdf/E9-14922.pdf> (State Energy Sector Partnership (SESP) and Training Grants)

--> <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/pdf/E9-14930.pdf> (Labor Market Information Improvement Grants)

Community of Practice Conference Call on the importance of partnerships in qualifying for these grants (Green for All, June 2009)

--> <http://tinyurl.com/m5s2bz>

"From Stimulus to System: Using the ARRA to Serve Disadvantaged Jobseekers" (Center for Law and Social Policy, June 2009)

--> <http://www.clasp.org/publications/fischerreisstimulustosystemfinal.pdf>

IRAQI REFUGEES

Iraqi Refugees in the United States: In Dire Straits (The International Rescue Committee, June 2009)

--> <http://www.theirc.org/special-report/iraqi-refugee-crisis.html>

Iraqi refugees face poverty, eviction in U.S.: study (Reuters, June 16, 2009)

--> <http://www.reuters.com/article/topNews/idUSTRE55F62I20090616>

Local refugees find it hard to get jobs. Advocates urge more help for immigrants escaping war and destruction (Orlando Sentinel, June 16, 2009)

--> <http://tinyurl.com/mu73k4>

LEGAL ISSUES

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) announced that the Employment Eligibility Verification form I-9 (Rev. 02/02/09) currently on the USCIS Web site will continue to be valid for use beyond June 30, 2009.

USCIS has requested that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approve the continued use of the current version of Form I-9. While this request is pending, the Form I-9 (Rev. 02/02/09) will not expire.

USCIS will update Form I-9 when the extension is approved. Employers will be able to use either the Form I-9 with the new revision date or the Form I-9 with the 02/02/09 revision date at the bottom of the form. (CLINIC, June 2009)

RECERTIFICATION

Refugees strive for work in U.S. (The East Lansing State News, June 23, 2009)

-->http://www.statenews.com/index.php/article/2009/06/refugees_strive_for_work_in_us

Conference aims to ease refugee return to work (The Chicago Tribune, June 21, 2009)

--><http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/chi-ap-mi-refugees-lookingf,0,851057.story>

Conference on Refugee Professional Recertification (WDET 101.9 FM, Detroit Today, June 18, 2009)

--><http://www.wdetfm.org/detroittoday/>

--> http://www.wdetfm.org/audio/detroittoday/712/DT_6-18.MP3 (Download Show)

PREVIOUS NEWSLETTERS

Previous e-newsletters are now available for download from our website. The archive can be found in the section "RefugeeWorks E-Newsletter," at:

--> <http://www.refugeeworks.org/about/publications.html>

CONTACT US

Please visit our web site at <http://www.refugeeworks.org>

RefugeeWorks is the U.S. Office of Refugee Resettlement's training and technical assistance arm for employment and self-sufficiency activities. Submit newsletter contributions to dsturm@refugeeworks.org

Would you like to hear about new RefugeeWorks resources and Web site feature each month by email? To sign up for the RefugeeWorks E-Newsletter, visit our subscription page at:

--> <http://lists.lirs.org/mailman/listinfo/refugeeworks>

To post to this list, send your email to:
refugeeworks@lists.icn.net

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