

REFUGEE WORKS

THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR REFUGEE EMPLOYMENT AND SELF-SUFFICIENCY

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E-NEWSLETTER

October 2008 (Vol. 1, Issue 14)

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>

UPCOMING CONFERENCES & EVENTS

The Role of Community Colleges in Promoting Immigrant Integration

Oct. 21, 2008, 8:30-10 a.m.

Grantmakers for Education Annual Conference, Baltimore, Maryland

--> <http://gcir.org/programs/2008/10/gfe>

Iraq at the Crossroads

Oct. 24, 2008, 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

Symposium hosted by The Center for Law and Justice at Rutgers School of Law-Newark, 123 Washington Street, Newark, NJ 07102

--> http://lawrecord.typepad.com/rutgers_law_record/files/agenda.html

In Our Hands: Building Solidarity & Community

Nov. 14-16, 2008

The Refugee Women's Network Inc. presents its 9th Annual Refugee & Immigrant Women's Leadership Conference, Westin Peachtree Plaza Hotel, 210 Peachtree Street, Atlanta, GA 30303.

--> <http://www.riwn.org/rwn/rwn+conference>

The Challenges of Migration for Health Professional Women

Dec. 7-8, 2008

Symposium hosted by The Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools (CGFNS), The Four Seasons Hotel, Philadelphia, Pa.

--> <http://www.cgfnsglobalevent2008.org/agenda.html>

NEW RESOURCES

Education

Increasing Refugee Civic Participation in Schools. A Guide for Community Organizations (Mosaica: The Center for Nonprofit Development and Pluralism, 2008)

--> <http://www.cliniclegal.org/Refugee/Docs/GuidetoRefugeeCivicParticipationinSchools.pdf>

Hands-on engineering, campus visit inspire former refugees (News at Princeton, Aug. 25, 2008)

--> <http://tinyurl.com/3soyje>

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Employment and Self-Sufficiency

The Changing Face of Pennsylvania's Workforce: A Guide to Hiring and Working with New Americans

--> http://www.welcomingcenter.org/documents/WCNP_ChangingFace.pdf

The Integration of Immigrants and Their Families in Maryland: The Contributions of Immigrant Workers to the Economy (Urban Institute, 2008)

--> http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/411751_immigrant_integration.pdf

What's in a Word - Maybe Your Next Job! (OH). Ohio's "What's in A Word, Maybe Your Next Job" uses the importance of appropriate keyword selection as a basis to successfully guide users through the job search process

--> <http://lmi.state.oh.us/research/WhatsInAWord.pdf>

Workforce Development and the Disadvantaged. New Directions for 2009 and Beyond (Urban Institute, 2008)

--> http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/411761_workforce_development.pdf

Work Supports: Helping Families Reach Self-Sufficiency

A toolkit for community leaders to help them know and understand the many work support programs available in their community (The Annie E. Casey Foundation and PathWaysPA, 2008)

--> http://www.kidscount.org/news/fes/sep2008/WorkSupports_Toolkit.pdf

Iraqi Refugees

US policy change reduces flow of Iraqis to Mich. (Associated Press, Oct. 2, 2008)

--> <http://www.miamiherald.com/news/nation/AP/story/710107.html>

What To Expect Your First Year in the U.S.: An orientation document for Iraqi professionals (Upwardly Global, 2008)

--> http://www.upwardlyglobal.org/downloads/Iraqi_Orientation.pdf

Unsettled in America. For one Iraqi family struggling to make ends meet, the end of Ramadan is overshadowed by fears of what the future may hold (Houston Chronicle, Sept. 30, 2008)

<http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/life/religion/6033234.html>

The List Project

A nonprofit group's website aimed at Americans wanting to help and to the Iraqis who need it.

--> <http://www.thelistproject.org/>

--> <http://netroots.thelistproject.org/>

Legal Issues

Fired Muslims To Sue Over Prayer Break Dispute (National Public Radio, Oct. 2, 2008)

--> <http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=95254631>

Guidance on Expired Employment Authorization Documents (U.S. Office of the Ombudsman at DHS/USCIS, September 2008)

The guidance recommends specific steps that can be taken by the EAD applicant in cases where EAD processing is delayed.

--> http://www.dhs.gov/xabout/structure/gc_1221837986181.shtm

The Facts About Human Trafficking for Forced Labor (U.S. Department of State, October 2008)

--> <http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/108839.pdf>

A Somali Influx Unsettles Latino Meatpackers (The New York Times, Oct. 16, 2008)

--> <http://tinyurl.com/3wn5rr>

SSI Extension For Refugees Signed Into Law

Refugees and other humanitarian immigrants whose Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits were available only during a seven-year time period, may receive SSI for at least two additional years (National Immigration Law Center, October 2008)

--> <http://www.nilc.org/immspbs/ssi/ssi009.htm>

New Populations

Bhutanese Refugees - Highlighted Resources (Bridging Refugee Youth and Children Services, September 2008)

--> <http://www.brycs.org/documents/ResourcesBhutaneseRefugees.pdf>

Burmese newcomers not refugees, but America's new immigrants (Fort Wayne News Sentinel, Oct. 7, 2008)

--> <http://tinyurl.com/4ze8cd>

Today's refugees face harsher adjustment as program funding, flexibility lag (The Salt Lake Tribune, Oct. 13, 2008)

--> http://www.sltrib.com/News/ci_10678040

Nonprofit Management

The Strategic Positioning Initiative is a technical assistance effort aiming to assist Ethnic Community-Based Organizations to be strong, sustainable and effective in meeting community needs. The SPI program is intended to support ECBOs that have been given ORR eligibility within the last 5 years. There is no direct cost to applicants for participation, and no direct funds are provided. Recently formed ECBOs are encouraged to apply, and applicants need not be ORR grantees to participate in SPI. Applications should be submitted by Monday, Oct. 27, 2008 to karen.white@navasa.org. If you have any questions or to request an application, please contact Karen White at 301-587-2781.

U.S. Department of Labor: *Directory of Foundation Workforce and Economic Development Grants*

The "Directory of Foundation Workforce and Development Grant Opportunities" is a resource for organizations that seek funding opportunities for their workforce development or economic development programs.

--> <http://www.dol.gov/cfbci/DFWGO.pdf>

Small Business Resource Guides

A Match Made in Philadelphia: Connecting Highly Skilled Immigrant Workers with the Employers Who Need Them.

--> <http://www.welcomingcenter.org/documents/MatchMadePhila.finalreport.doc.pdf>

How to Start a Grocery or Deli in Philadelphia

--> <http://www.welcomingcenter.org/documents/DeliWeb.pdf>

How to start a Coffee Shop in Philadelphia

--> <http://www.welcomingcenter.org/documents/CoffeeShopWeb.pdf>

How to Start a Flower Shop in Philadelphia

--> <http://www.welcomingcenter.org/documents/FlowerShopWeb.pdf>

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

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