

REFUGEE WORKS

THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR REFUGEE EMPLOYMENT AND SELF-SUFFICIENCY

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E-NEWSLETTER

March 2009 (Vol. 2, Issue 6)

NEWS

Make plans now to attend the National Conference on Recertification in East Lansing, Michigan. The first of its kind, this conference will focus on the specific issues related to professional retraining, job-seeking and recertification for refugees resettling in the United States.

--> <http://www.refugeeworks.org/conference>

RefugeeWorks conference organizers still need speakers for the following sessions:

POST-SECONDARY INSTITUTIONS:

Partnerships; Policy Changes/Implementation; Success Stories; Healthcare Professions Outlook; Teaching Profession Outlook

ROUNDTABLES:

From Arrival to Recertification; Expectations; Cultural Orientation; Economic Crisis; Counseling; Funding Prospects

NUTS AND BOLTS:

Credential evaluation, licensure requirements, etc.

Submit your paper abstract today! Any questions? Contact Linda Rabben, at:

--> lrabben@refugeeworks.org or

--> 410-230-2769

THE AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act: Technical Assistance Webinar Series/PowerPoint Presentations (Workforce 3 One, March/April 2009)

1. Technical Question and Answer Session," March 30, 2009

--> <http://www.workforce3one.org/view/5000907555462547660/info>

2. Creating Meaningful Work Experience Opportunities For Youth, March 31, 2009, 3-4:30 p.m. EST

--> <http://www.workforce3one.org/view/5000907556387353421/info>

Nonprofits Provide Principles for Effectively Targeting State Stimulus Funds (The Working Poor Families Project, March 2009)

--> http://www.aecf.org/news/fes/mar2009/pdf/ARRA_principles.pdf

Requirements for Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program Grantees under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. Local grantees must submit plans for use of this money by May 18, 2009 (U.S. Housing and Urban Development Briefing, March 2009)

--> <http://www.hud.gov/recovery/hrp-notice.pdf>

AWARDS

The Nansen Refugee Award recognizes extraordinary and dedicated service to refugees. The winner receives \$100,000 to fund a project for refugees in consultation with UNHCR. The deadline for submitting nominations is 24 April 24, 2009.

--> <http://www.unhcr.org/events/EVENTS/49ba6dd62.pdf>

CONFERENCES

Building Partnerships for Success: Embracing Emerging Opportunities, The 14th Hmong National Conference (April 3-5, 2009; Appleton, Wisconsin)

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

National Immigrant Solidarity Network Conference (April 10-12, 2009; Chicago, IL)

--> <http://www.ImmigrantSolidarity.org/2009Conference/>

Webinar: Mental Health - Strengthening Refugees' Resilience (Project SOAR, SAHMSA, April 14, 2009, 1-2:15 p.m. EST)

--> <http://www.zoomerang.com/Survey/survey-intro.zgi?p=WEB228VSFDWLPJ>

The Future of African Refugees and Immigrants: A Time for New Thinking (May 4-6, 2009; Ethiopian Community Development Council)

--> <http://www.ecdcinternational.org/newsevents/events.asp>

National Alliance of Vietnamese American Service Agencies 2009 National Conference, "Developing Leaders & Transforming Organizations" (May 14-16; Hyatt Fair Lakes Hotel, Fairfax, Va.)

--> <http://www.navasa.2009conference.com>

Catholic Legal Immigration Network 12th Annual Convening, "Rising to the Challenge. Seeking Justice and Unity" (May 20-22, 2009; Colorado Springs, Co.)

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

Building Professional Pathways for New Americans. The National Conference on Refugee Professional Recertification (June 22-24, 2009; East Lansing, Michigan)

--> <http://refugeeworks.org/conference>

African Festival, 10th Anniversary (Indianapolis, Ind., Aug. 14-15, 2009)

--> <http://www.africancommunity.net/festivals.html>

CAREER LADDERING

Career Advancement. From 'Work First' to 'Worker Mobility' (The Seedco Policy Center, March 2009)

--> http://www.aecf.org/news/fes/mar2009/pdf/Seedco_Report_Feb_09.pdf

Learning to nail the job interview. Mock sessions aid language skills (The Boston Globe, March 8, 2009)

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

The Civic Engagement of Older Refugees: Recognizing Their Contributions and Supporting Their Participation (CLINIC Webinar/PowerPoint, March 2009)

--> http://cliniclegal.org/sites/default/files/SHINE_webinar_final.pdf

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Community Economic Development Projects: HHS/ACF/OCS Announces Potential Funding Opportunity for CDCs to Assist Low-Income Individuals (March 2009)

--> <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/grants/open/HHS-2009-ACF-OCS-EE-0034.html>

Directory of Federal Funding Sources for Adult Education (Anney E. Casey Foundation, February 2009)

--> <http://tinyurl.com/d3lr3j>

New U.S. Government Program Offers Help Towards Citizenship (Latin-American Herald Tribune, March 24, 2009)

--> <http://www.laht.com/article.asp?ArticleId=330309&CategoryId=12395>

U.S. Office of Refugee Resettlement Open Funding Opportunities (ORR, March 2009)

--> http://www.acf.hhs.gov/grants/grants_orr.html

USCIS Announces \$1.2 Million Citizenship Grant Program. Up to 12 Grants Offered to Community-Based Organizations Serving Immigrant Population

--> <http://www.grants.gov/>

IRAQI REFUGEES

Iraqi Immigrants in the United States (Migration Policy Institute, March 2009)

--> <http://www.migrationinformation.org/USfocus/display.cfm?id=721>

LEGAL ISSUES

Can My Employer Do That to Me?" Find Out If You're Being Treated Fairly (Interfaith Worker Justice, March 2009)

--> <http://www.canmybossthat.com/>

MEDIA AND POWER

We are seeking papers for a panel to submit to the AAA annual meeting that would explore the themes of identity, media, and power as they relate to the experiences of refugees. Our papers will address broadly how refugee identities are shaped by, and how refugees themselves may resist, media images and other discourses that seek to define them. Please respond if you are interested in participating and have an abstract for a paper that would speak to these themes.

Anna Jaysane-Darr is an anthropology doctoral student at Brandeis whose research addresses the meanings, struggles, and constraints experienced by South Sudanese women in the Boston area as they encounter new and ongoing motherhood. Allison B. Taylor is an anthropology doctoral student at Brandeis Studying the role of identity construction and negotiation in trauma and coping Among Somali refugees.

→ annajay@brandeis.edu

→ abtaylor@brandeis.edu

RECESSION

America's Loss is the World's Gain: America's New Immigrant Entrepreneurs, Part IV (Kauffman Foundation, March 2009)

--> http://www.kauffman.org/uploadedFiles/americas_loss.pdf

Census Bureau Will Try an Ad Campaign To Reach Minorities. Economic Downturn Complicates Count (The Washington Post, March 24, 2009)

--> <http://tinyurl.com/cqjw8>

Federal funding boost will help Utah refugees. Rescue » New money allows for expanding staff and shrinking caseloads (The Salt Lake Tribune, March 22, 2009)

--> http://www.sltrib.com/ci_11968051

Immigrants fearful English classes could be cut (The Associated Press, March 22, 2009)

--> <http://tinyurl.com/d7o5dx>

Land of less opportunity. Refugees struggle to find work as Houston economy slows (The Houston Chronicle, Feb. 26, 2009)

--> <http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/special/immigration/6281589.html>

Refugee family chosen to receive gift of a house, van in Salt Lake (Deseret News, March 28, 2009)

--> <http://deseretnews.com/article/1,5143,705293837,00.html>

Refugee job hopes wax and wane at farmers market (The Christian Science Monitor, March 17, 2009)

--> <http://tinyurl.com/cdq6uf>

Refugees struggle to find jobs in tough economy (Burlington Free Press, March 29, 2009)

--> <http://www.burlingtonfreepress.com/article/20090329/NEWS02/903290309>

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

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