

REFUGEE WORKS

THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR REFUGEE EMPLOYMENT AND SELF-SUFFICIENCY

REFUGEE WORKS

E-NEWSLETTER

April 2009 (Vol. 2, Issue 7)

NEWS

RefugeeWorks invites submissions for an upcoming issue on helping refugees get jobs in a down economy.

Would you like to contribute? Please send your story ideas and/or submissions to Daniel Sturm at:

--> dsturm@refugeeworks.org

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>

AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT

COBRA Continuation Coverage Assistance Under The American Recovery And Reinvestment Act Of 2009 (U.S. Department of Labor, April 2009)

--> <http://www.dol.gov/ebsa/cobra.html>

Concise Guide to Assistance for Jobless Workers in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (National Employment Law Project, April 2009)

--> <http://tinyurl.com/cxz3x9>

Extended Benefits under the Economic Recovery Bill (National Employment Law Project, April 2009)

--> <http://tinyurl.com/dz5bce>

H-1B Visas Applications to Decline, Target Existing Workers (Workforce Week, April 5, 2009)

--> <http://www.workforce.com/section/00/article/26/28/66.php>

Immigrants in the United States and the Current Economic Crisis (Migration Policy Institute, April 2009)

--> <http://www.migrationinformation.org/Feature/display.cfm?id=723>

Implementing the Recovery Act in the Workforce Investment System, Live Broadcast (Workforce3One, March 23, 2009)

--> <http://economicrecovery.workforce3one.org/>

In Depth: 10 Tips For the Unemployed (Forbes Magazine, October 2008)

--> <http://tinyurl.com/d7ezf6>

Recovery Act Funding for VISTA Volunteers (Corporation for National and Community Service Corporation State Office, March 2009)

Priority goes to projects that work in employment and skills training programs; financial planning; home foreclosure prevention and housing assistance; nonprofit capacity building; volunteerism; and other activities that will support economic recovery. A useful factsheet is here, at:

--> http://www.nationalservice.gov/pdf/09_0313_recovery_vista_guidance.pdf.

--> <http://www.cns.gov/about/contact/stateoffices.asp>

Regional Recovery and Reemployment Forums through early June, 2009 (The Employment and Training Administration, April 2009) The schedule:

Boston Region - April 28 - 30, 2009, Boston, Massachusetts

Dallas Region - May 5 - 7, 2009, Dallas, Texas

Philadelphia Region - May 11 - 14, 2009, Baltimore, Maryland

Atlanta Region - May 27 - 29, 2009, Atlanta, Georgia

San Francisco Region - June 2 - 4, 2009, San Francisco, California

--> <http://reemploymentworks.workforce3one.org/page/home>

CONFERENCES

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>

CULTURAL ORIENTATION

Highlighted Resources on Bhutanese Refugees, including a photo blog, a video of the Bhutanese community in Minnesota, and a number of Nepali dictionaries (Bridging Refugee Youth and Children's Services, April 2009)

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

Hireimmigrants.ca published an interactive online roadmap to better understand and meet accommodation needs, and overall, create an inclusive climate (Hire Immigrants, Canada)

--> <http://www.hireimmigrants.ca/Roadmap/>

LANGUAGE

RepeatAfterUs.com is a Web site that was created by a high school student to help ESL students with their pronunciation and language skills (Thanks for the hat-tip, BRYCS).

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

LEGAL ISSUES (I-9 Form)

The I-9 Form Has Changed. As of April 3, 2009, employers must use the revised Employment Eligibility Verification Form (Form I-9). The new I-9 Form requires an employer to accept only unexpired documents for completion of the I-9 (U.S. Office of Special Counsel for Immigration Related Unfair Employment Practices, April 2009)

--> <http://www.usdoj.gov/crt/osc/> (General Info)

--> http://www.uscis.gov/files/form/I-9_IFR_02-02-09.pdf (Revised I-9 Form)

--> <http://www.uscis.gov/files/nativedocuments/m-274.pdf> (I-9 Handbook for Employers)

MENTORING

Mentoring Immigrant Youth provides statistics on the make-up of today's immigrants and describes the challenges that face immigrant youth in the United States. In addition, see the section in their toolkit on Mentoring Immigrant and Refugee Youth.

--> http://www.mentoring.org/access_research/immigrant_all/

--> http://www.mentoring.org/find_resources/immigrant_toolkit/

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

REFUGEEWORKS

700 Light Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21230

Phone 410/230-2758

Fax: 410/230-2859

The National Center for Refugee Employment & Self-Sufficiency
A Program of Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service

Email: dsturm@refugeeworks.org

Visit: <http://www.refugeeworks.org>

You are subscribed to the RefugeeWorks Monthly E-Newsletter