

SEATTLE OFFICE OF IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE AFFAIRS WORK PLAN



Seattle Office
of Immigrant and
Refugee Affairs

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- Four goals drawn from legislation:
 - Seattle’s immigrant and refugee communities have a voice in City government; ensure the City is informed of the critical issues and concerns of the immigrant and refugee community.
 - Improve City Services and better engage immigrant and refugee communities – including but not limited to: employment, economic development, public health, student achievement, citizenship, public safety and criminal justice, civic engagement, and protection of civil rights.
 - Advance the mission of the Office in a manner consistent with the City’s race and social justice initiative.
 - Define and achieve desired outcomes for City investments for immigrant and refugees in conjunction with community partners and city departments – including but not limited to: employment, economic development, public health, student achievement, citizenship, public safety and criminal justice, civic engagement, and protection of civil rights.

Metrics

- **Would like to collect - quantifiably/qualitatively for each of the subcategories as possible:**
 - **Refugee**
 - **Settled Immigrants**
 - **Aging Immigrants**
 - **New Immigrants**
 - **“Children” of Immigrants and Refugees**

Strategies and Key Actions

- Each Goal has three strategies to achieve the desired outcome by the end of 2013
- Each Strategy has multiple items identified to achieve the strategy – and to maintain consistency they are put into the following categories:
 - ▣ Develop community
 - ▣ Include community
 - ▣ Process
- Metrics are evaluated accordingly with the same model

Goal One: Have a Voice

- Broadly – via ethnic media/website
- Building leaders in the community
- Help them build their capacity to participate.

Goal One: Have a Voice

- Ethnic Media
 - ▣ Bolster capacity of ethnic media outlets
 - ▣ Develop personal relationships
 - ▣ Coordinate across departments in culturally competent manner
- Immigrant and Refugee Commission
 - ▣ Support capacity and elevate visibility
 - ▣ Host town hall for community
 - ▣ Assist strategic planning efforts and implementation of Commission work plan
- OIRA Website
 - ▣ Publicize and update internal vendor Bank
 - ▣ Community calendar
 - ▣ Renew Internal City Language Bank

Goal Two: Improve City Services

- Figure out what everyone is already doing
- Help coordinate the messaging to the community
- Be informed by the community
- Some things we have been hearing for years – low income utility assistance, communication with police, small businesses

Goal Two: Improve City Services

- Complete internal layout of the City's core programs and services
 - ▣ Assess programs
 - ▣ Needs Assessment in community
 - ▣ Interdepartmental teams
- Make recommendations for improvements to at least three city services for 2013 to better serve the immigrant and refugee population
 - ▣ Citizenship
 - ▣ Community work groups
 - ▣ Analysis on three city services
- Provide concrete recommendations to coordinate and facilitate city efforts aimed at improving services and better engaging immigrant and refugee communities long-term
 - ▣ Educate on existing programs
 - ▣ Consult with community groups regularly
 - ▣ Ongoing advice to departments

Goal 3: RSJI

- Advancing internal RSJI work around inclusive outreach and public engagement
- Include the perspective of noncitizens
- Give people the tools they need to participate

Goal 3: RSJI

- Interpretation and Translation
 - ▣ Increase capacity for translation and message delivery
 - ▣ Apply Inclusive Outreach and Public Engagement Toolkit to ensure less community “burnout”
 - ▣ Develop policies for how to engage with I & R populations
- RSJI – “Non-citizen”
 - ▣ Provide opportunities for leaders in the community to advise city officials on current I & R issues
 - ▣ Communicate with other organizations to define the different “groups” in metrics
 - ▣ Create training model with OCR around privilege of being a citizen
- Community Engagement
 - ▣ Work with commissions and departments to assess needs
 - ▣ Host monthly meetings with community members on a variety of topics
 - ▣ Maintain community presence by speaking at conferences, advancing positive image of immigrants and refugee communities

Goal 4: Outcomes

- Long-term - different strategies for youth/adults
- Develop a plan that has input from the community
- Coordinating between different stakeholders

Goal 4: Outcomes

- Work to assist in participation from community
 - ▣ Youth: Work with school district, work with parents, civic engagement for I & R youth in schools
 - ▣ Adult: I & R participate as strong candidates for city funding opportunities, Provide conduit explaining how funding opportunities work, OIRA to participate in community funding opportunity taskforces at the city
- Legislative Strategy
 - ▣ Increase capacity of I & R population to understand legislative process
 - ▣ Work with community partners around key legislative issues that would impact immigrants and refugees in Seattle
 - ▣ Analyze legislation that impacts I & R
- Next three years
 - ▣ Work with community leaders
 - ▣ Consult with community consistently
 - ▣ Provide report to Mayor, Council and community for next 3 year plan



See you in 2014!