**Minutes of Meeting**

**Newcomer’s Collaborative**

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**Mission:** *embrace, empower, connect with self and others, and to provide resources to everyone who is new to east region.*

**Date:** Tuesday May 9th, 2017

**Time:** 10:30 am to 12:00 pm

**Location:** 389. N Magnolia Ave. El Cajon, CA 92020

HHSA/CWS East Region - Building 367

**Minutes taken by:** May Hasan

**Attendees:**

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| **#** | **Name**  | **Agency** |
| 1 | Al Lejandr | SD habitat for Humanity |
| 2 | Estela De Los Rios | CSA- SDCOUNTY – NC Chair |
| 3 | Rita Shamoon | Cuyamaca College |
| 4 | Neda Rivera | CWS - SDCOUNTY |
| 5 | May Hasan | San Diego Youth Services – NC Co-chair |
| 6 | George Ibarra | CSA |
| 7 | Dana Stevens | CASA |
| 8 | Susanne Ball | San Diego Youth Services |
| 9 | Angel Carretero | Public Consulting Group |
| 10 | Carol lewis | ECC |
| 11 | Jesus Pacheco | EJE Academies |
| 12 | Mary Gentry Roberts | YMCA |
| 13 | Agnes Hajek | UPAC-EMACS |
| 14 | Joseph Jok | IRC |
| 15 | Erik Dececchi | DCSS – SDCOUNTY |
| 16 | Jennifer Naval | AHASA – NC&E – SDCOUNTY |
| 17 | Catherine Shaba | CWS - SDCOUNTY |
| 18 | Dilkhwaz Ahmed | License To Freedom |
| 19 | Maysar Chalagh | SYHC/CMSS |
| 20 | Shafiq Nashashibi | San Diego Youth Services |
| 21 | Denise Thompsen | San Diego Youth Services |
| 22 | Lorraine Gonzalez | CASA |
| 23 | Brittney Najar | CWS – SDCOUNTY |
| 24 | Shammran Rayes | CWS – SDCOUNTY |
| 25 | Nancy Bathke | SD Habitat for Humanity |
| 26 | Sarah Tominna | Grossmont Adult School |

Minutes of the meeting:

1. **Networking, welcoming and introduction**

Members of the meeting introduced themselves.

1. **Updates on the Refugee World Day (WRD)**

The WRD task force’s representative couldn’t attend this meeting, however update was provided via email to the NC co-chair who briefed the members as follows:

* The flyer for the event and the participation form for anyone interested in being part of the event were shared with members. Some larger sized posters and small 4x6 or 5x7 cards of the flyer in English to disburse; hopefully within the next few weeks.
* The flyer is currently only in English, Arabic and Spanish; Farsi language was still missing, LicenseToFreedom volunteered to provide translation.
* Some RSVP’s for participation in the event were received so far (several resource tables, a few cultural tables and 2 performers) – they have room for many more so please advertise to your friends/family/clients/community/etc.
* They are working on getting food trucks to the event; unfortunately they cannot have food vendors at the event other than trucks due to permits so that option is off the table for this year
* Any questions, ideas or comments can be directed to me and/or the event e-mail of WRDinSD@googlegroups.com
* Agencies interested to have their logos on the Newcomers banner that will be presented in this event were requested to share it with the co-chair.
* LicenseToFreedom will pay for the banner expenses and Carol Lewis will organize the printing.
* PCG and Carol Lewis are working together to liaison the transportation of those interested to participate in the event from the east region.
1. **Discuss the long term goals for NC 2017 and next month presenter**

The long term goals that were highlighted by the members during the February 2017 meeting were further discussed:

* **The guidelines to becoming a welcoming city**

Dana Steven from CASA elaborated on this topic. Detailed document on welcoming cities and counties is available for those interested. George Ibarra from CSA further added that it is recommended to start initially with welcoming city but to graduate as sanctuary city.

Mary Gentry Roberts from YMCA introduced the welcoming week event hosted by YMCA on September 15-24, 2017. ‘Welcoming Week celebrates the growing movement of inclusive communities that fully embrace New Americans and their contributions to the social fabric of our country. Created by YMCA of the USA’s (Y-USA) national partner Welcoming America, Welcoming Week brings together immigrants and U.S.-born residents to promote cross-cultural understanding and raise awareness of the benefits of welcoming everyone’. NC members to look if this is something we would like to be part of or not.

* **State Superintendent- Safe Haven School Districts**

To be discussed in coming meetings.

* **Housing for homeless**

To be discussed in coming meetings.

* **Landlord abuse and fair housing rights, Fair housing training to section 8 housing and Mandatory training for complexes receiving money**

Presenter on section 8 and affordable housing will be provided by CSA for the month of June 2017.

1. **Discuss committees for the social event in November 2017**

Those members, who haven’t signed up yet for any of the committees and would like to, were invited to participate in the event committees to start planning and working on the coming event. This event will be for newcomers who reside in the East Region; it is organized for all newcomers to share their cultures and celebrate their presence in new community. Committees members are expected to meet monthly once or twice on this event and report to the NC members in the monthly meeting. A point of contact for each committee was assigned; an email with details to be shared to all members.

1. **Announcement**

An event on redistricting El Cajon City will be taking place today 5/9/2017 at 7pm.