



El Cajon Collaborative
Newcomer Support Coordination Meeting
Meeting Notes – July 2nd, 2009

I. Introductions

Kara Vickrey, facilitator for the meeting reminded everyone of the mission of this work group and of some ground rules and expectations for the meeting. The expectations included that everyone work with an intention and focus of mutual respect, if individual conflicts arise they will be directed to be resolved outside of the meeting.

During introductions, Marilyn Nahas announced that her organization is changing its name from St. Luke's Refugee Network to the Episcopal Diocese Refugee Network.

II. Follow-up items from June Meeting

- Updated ESL Classes
Lea provided the updated ESL class list and it was noted that Cuyamaca can add additional sites for classes – but they need help finding more sites that are available 5 days a week for at least 3 hours per day.
- Translation of El Cajon Neighborhood Connection information
This is being worked on in both Arabic and Burmese, follow up at next meeting.

III. Discuss Target Areas

- Parent Education
 - Child Welfare Services – Community Dialogues
Charisma De Los Reyes from Child Welfare Services is going to be working on this, but was unable to be at the meeting so we will postpone until next meeting.
 - Landlord Tenant Issues – Carmen Aparicio from Center for Social Advocacy was again present to help discuss the housing counseling and renter's rights.
 - Promotora model
 - Cajon Valley School entry presentations
Izela Jacobo from the Cajon Valley Union School District has been offering school entry presentations, she is on break this summer and we will follow up when she returns.
- Job Development
 - Job Search Training for case managers and other staff will be scheduled in the afternoon from 3-5pm in August.
- Encouragement respect and understanding of other cultures
 - We ran out of time to discuss the friendship fair idea and will bring it up at next meeting.

IV. Next Meeting: August 6th

Workgroup Mission: *Our mission is to encourage respect and understanding of diverse cultures through community education and newcomer service support coordination.*

El Cajon Collaborative Vision: *An El Cajon community working collaboratively to ensure children, youth and families are safe, empowered and thriving*

Mission: *The El Cajon Collaborative builds relationships, leverages resources and implements best practices to serve the children and families of the El Cajon Community.*