



Cultural  
Connections  
Committee

## **Gate City Immigrant Initiative**

**April 25, 2018**

**9:00AM – 10:30AM**

**Nashua City Hall Auditorium**

*Gate City Immigrant Initiative is a subcommittee of the Nashua Cultural Connections Committee.*

**Present:** Jenn Hosking (Co-Chair), Lauren Osowski (Co-Chair), Mark Hastbacka, Shirley Woodward, Paul Janampa, Cristina De Los Santos, Sylvia Gale, Carlos Camacho, Samba Halkose, Donna Marceau, Deepa Mangalat, Cecilia Ulibarri, Jay Sharma, Becky Field, Erin Cotton, Zippy Elikanah

**Commenced at 9:05am**

### **1. Call to Order/Introductions**

### **2. Co-Chair updates**

- Jenn recapped the Cultural Connection Committee's quarterly forum with the Mayor that took place at the library on April 17<sup>th</sup>. Superintendent Mosley discussed his interest in putting more resources into the districts ELL program. Marcel Rukema and Juan Marcos demonstrated two apps they, along with a group of students, created using the software Thinkable. One assisted with a call to 9-1-1 for those that are not able make the call in English. The second focused on alleviating fear of newcomers to the community by sharing experiences of others. Police Chief Lavoie addressed concerns about racial profiling at traffic stops.
- Lauren provided an update on [SB 525](#), proposed legislation in NH that limits adult education funding to legal residents. It has passed the Senate and is now with the House Education Committee. The Adult Learning Center is advocating for the rejection of this legislation.
- Jenn attended the open house at International Institute in Manchester on April 18, 2018 highlighting their new location. The Mayor of Manchester spoke and Amadou Hamady was recognized for his service.

### **3. Resettlement Agency update**

- Ascentria – There have been 42 arrivals to date this fiscal year. One family was resettled in April but quickly moved to New Jersey because of family connections. One Congolese family of 5 is scheduled to be resettled on May 3<sup>rd</sup> in Manchester. Dinesh Chauwan has joined the team again as a Community Health worker under the IDN project. His focus is our Rohingya population in Nashua. He'll be working with them on health and mental health services but also wrap around

support. He is able to communicate with many of them in Hindi. He has also completed medical school.

- International Institute- No report.

#### **4. Member updates**

- Jenn Hosking shared two family concerts coming up at the Nashua Public Library to help promote the summer reading program. This will also be an opportunity for families to ask questions register for the summer reading program. Help will be available in English, Spanish and Portuguese.
- Cecilia Ulibarri announced the Mayor's Family Day event on Saturday, May 12<sup>th</sup> at North Common Park 11-4pm. North and South high school students will host baseball clinics and family friendly activities are planned. Families are invited to bring a picnic lunch.
- Paul Janampa shared a Q&A session Cathy Chesley of Catholic Charities is hosting today regarding immigration legal services.
- Becky Field discussed a photography project she worked on with students at the International Institute and announced her photos from *Different Roots, Common Dreams: New Hampshire's Cultural Diversity* are currently exhibited in Dimond Library at the University of New Hampshire.
- Lauren discussed a visit from Juan Felipe Herrera, 2015 Poet laureate, to the Adult Learning Center on April 13<sup>th</sup>. He recited some of his poems and listed to poems and other spoke words from Adult Learning Center students. The Mayor was also part of the festivities.
- Donna Marceau announced the Employment Connect event at the library on May 9<sup>th</sup>. If anyone is interested in having an information table, please contact her.
- Samba Halkose announced a job fair at the Adult Learning Center on May 10 & 11. She also shared a recent experience helping a community member apply for a green card. She learned from USCIS that it currently can take 7-12 months for an application to be processed.
- Cristina De Los Santos shared that the Welfare department will be at the Arlington Community Center this Friday, April 27<sup>th</sup> from 3-5:00pm. Staff will be able to answer questions about benefits or other related issues.

#### **5. Cultural Presentation**

- Adriana, a student at the Adult Learning Center, shared her experience growing up in Mexico and highlighted interesting parts of the Mexican culture.

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 23, 2018 – 9:00 AM-10:30 AM at Nashua City Hall Auditorium**

# Are you hiring?

Wednesday May 9 at Nashua Public Library

Join us for our 10th annual



## Who We Are

We are the Greater Nashua Continuum of Care, a coalition of concerned citizens, nonprofit organizations, faith communities, veteran's service agencies, local government and federal government representatives,, educational institutions, youth organizations, and leaders in the business community, working to address all facets of homelessness, in the Greater Nashua region, for over 23 years.

## What we do

Employment Connect is an event organized by the Greater Nashua Continuum of Care that focuses on providing direct contact between employers and applicants. We are now organizing our tenth annual Employment Connect in partnership with the city of Nashua, Great American Downtown, the Greater Nashua Chamber of commerce, and more!

## Register Now!

Yashira Vega

Event Coordinator

Phone: (603) 816-9132

Email: [nashuaemploymentconnect@gmail.com](mailto:nashuaemploymentconnect@gmail.com)

Registration Link: [nashuachamber.com/employment-connect/](http://nashuachamber.com/employment-connect/)



*Yashua Continuum of Care Presents*

**Wednesday May 9<sup>th</sup>**

**Nashua Public Library**

**Employment Prep: 9am - 1:30pm**

**Job Fair: 10:30am**

Resume building

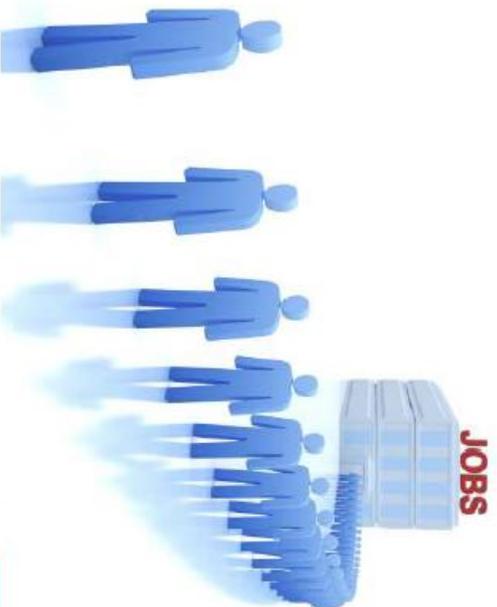
Mock Interviews

Clothing

Haircuts

An opportunity to meet with reputable employers face to face  
within this competitive job market!

For more details, please call Yashira Vega at (603) 816-9132  
or via email at [nashuaemploymentconnect@gmail.com](mailto:nashuaemploymentconnect@gmail.com)



# Family Concerts

2 Court St. | Nashua, NH | 589.4600  
www.nashualibrary.org



## Steve Blunt's Rockin' Sing-Along

Steve delivers a little rock 'n' roll and lots of fun. Sing, listen, clap, shake, sign, and move to guitar, harmonica, djembe drum, and low brass horn.

**Sunday, May 6, at 2 pm**



*Sign up the whole family for summer reading programs during these concerts!*

## Rob Duquette

Now that he's all grown up, musician Rob Duquette is excited to return to his childhood library to lead kids in original songs, dance, and silliness.

**Saturday, June 2, at 2 pm**



***DIFFERENT ROOTS, COMMON DREAMS***  
***New Hampshire's Cultural Diversity***

Becky Field, Photographer

***PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT***  
***&***  
***OPENING RECEPTION***

UNH Museum, Level One, Dimond Library,  
University of New Hampshire, 18 Library Way, Durham, NH



Since 2012, NH photographer Becky Field has been documenting the lives of immigrants and refugees in the Granite State. Her work reveals the vibrant and colorful diversity in our communities.

In this exhibit, her photos show that, while we have different cultural roots, we all have the same dreams for good jobs, a strong future for our children, and freedom to practice our traditions.

**EXHIBIT: April 5 – May 31, 2018**

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**OPENING RECEPTION: April 12, 2018, 5-7 p.m.**

Light refreshments will be served.

***Featuring music by***  
***Himalayan Heritage Music Group***  
*traditional folk, sacred and classical music*  
*from South Asia*



**Exhibition and reception sponsored by the Department of Anthropology,  
UNH Museum and UNH Special Collections.**

For more information: [library.unh.edu/museum](http://library.unh.edu/museum), 603-862-1081  
Museum Hours M-F, 12-4 p.m.; Wednesdays during semester: 12-7 p.m.



**University of New Hampshire**  
Library



**Immigration Legal Services Q&A  
Wednesday, April 25: Noon - 1:00 pm**

There has been a great deal of recent changes to immigration policy – with a profound impact on many immigrants and families right here in New Hampshire.

Join us for a special Q&A on **Wednesday, April 25, 2018, from Noon - 1:00 pm** with Cathy Chesley to answer any questions you may have and discuss what's in store for the next several months. You'll also learn how Catholic Charities New Hampshire provides assistance and support for those most in need.

**The Q&A will take place via [Zoom](#).  
Details on how to join the event will be provided upon registration.**

**Sign Up**