

Gate City Immigrant Initiative

July 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), Carlos Camacho, Erin Cotton, Steve Genest, Samba Halkose, Mark Hastbacka, Paul Janampa, Deepa Mangalat, Donna Marceau, Shayana Owen, Cecilia Ulibarri, Pedro Altagracia, Dinesh Chauwan, Puspa Joshi, Molly Short Carr

Commenced at 9:05 AM

1. Call to Order/Introductions

2. Co-Chair updates

- The Cultural Connections Committee held its quarterly community forum on July 17th at the Nashua Public Library. The topic was public transportation. Nashua Transit presented an overview of their extended routes, summer rides to Hampton Beach, and frequently asked questions with answers.
- The Nashua Multicultural Festival is scheduled from September 15th 12-4pm in the Elm Street Middle School gym. The planning committee is still looking for cultural performers and fashion show participants.
- The Nashua Public Library has summer bus passes, provided by the Public Health and Community Services division, to distribute to teens.

3. Resettlement Agency update

- Ascentria has resettled 62 individuals in FY18. See attached report for a breakdown of data. They are working with Lamprey Health Care to develop mental health tools and screening which should begin in the fall.
- International Institute of New England (IINE) has resettled 55 individuals in FY18. Twenty one people are expected to arrive in August all but one will be resettled in Manchester. One will live in Nashua. On September 30th the Palace Theater in Manchester is hosting "Suitcase Stories" which will profile immigrants and refugees sharing their life experiences.
- IINE is waiting to hear if its contract to resettle refugees will be renewed next year.
- IINE is now offering legal services by appointment with reduced fees. They are an authorized provider of immigration services similar to Catholic Charities.

4. Member updates

- The Nashua Soup Kitchen is planning their back to school backpack give away from August 21- August 23rd.
- Erin Cotton from Representative Kuster's office provided an update on misinformation regarding deportation and related border news. People are not having to de-naturalize or being deported if they are naturalized in New Hampshire.



International
Institute of
New England

FY2019 Capacity Proposal

U.S. Tie Capacity	135
No U.S. Tie Capacity	100
Total Refugee Capacity	235
SIV Capacity (<i>if proposing SIVs, must serve a minimum of 10 SIVs</i>)	65
Total Capacity (<i>Note a minimum of 100 refugees and SIVs total required per affiliate</i>)	300

Proposed Caseload: Afghan, Bhutanese, Burmese, Burundi, Congolese, El Salvadoran, Eritrean, Iraqi, Nepalese, Pakistani, Somali, Syrian, Ukrainian, Yemeni

Agency Updates

Facilities:

IINE is looking for ways to fill out our classrooms and can rent space for events or classes. If you are looking for a place to hold an event, class, or community meeting please consider IINE.

Upcoming Events:

Suitcase Stories coming up in September 2018. We are looking for sponsors and story tellers. If interested reach out to Shannon St. Pierre at 603-892-1748. Keep a look out on our website, www.iine.org/events for ticket sales.

Programming:

LIFS (Legal Immigration Form Service) is officially open in Manchester. This low cost program provides accredited immigration services including I-485 (green card), I-130 (family reunification), and N-400 (citizenship). Please contact the LIFS intake line for an appointment.

617-801-5258

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iine.org/legal