

## **Gate City Immigrant Initiative**

**November 28, 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), Steve Genest, Paul Janampa, Deepa Mangalat, Donna Marceau, Sandra Pratt, Erin Cotton, Samba Halkose, Kenton Kayira, Daniela Allee, Jennifer Chantler, Khaleel Shreet, Bruno Soares, Margaret Loret, Dr. Debra St. Lawrence, Mark Hastbacka

**Commenced at 9:05 AM**

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

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

- Daniela Allee of NHPR requested information regarding the history of immigration in NH, specifically in Nashua for research she is doing for an edition of Word of Mouth. Attendees shared their experiences as individuals and social service agencies helping immigrants and refugees.
- Thank you to those that volunteered at the Holiday Stroll table. Our welcoming table distributing baked goods from Latin Bakery, La Mexican Bakery and the Brazilian Bakery was a big success. It brought some diversity to the stroll and provided an opportunity to discuss food from other cultures with visitors.
- Steve Genest has arranged for Rebecca Ayling, Project Director for NH Human Trafficking Collaborative Task Force at Child and Family Services of NH to present a 20-30 minute presentation on human trafficking in NH and how this affects immigrants and refugees at the January meeting.
- The meeting scheduled for December 26, 2018 is canceled due to the holiday.

### **3. Resettlement Agency update for Nashua**

#### **Ascentria**

- Total number of refugees resettled in FY 19 (Oct 2018 – Sep 2019)- 18
- The proposed admissions ceiling for refugee arrivals in FY 2019 is 30,000. This is 15,000 lower than the FY 2018 admissions ceiling, which was 45,000.
- International Organization for Migration (IOM's) arrival moratorium will be from December 20, 2018 through January 3, 2019.

	<b>October 2018</b>	<b>November 2018</b>	<b>Concord</b>	<b>Nashua</b>	<b>December</b>
<b>DRC/Congo</b>	11	7	3	15	None expected

#### **International Institute**

	<b>October 2018</b>	<b>November 2018</b>	<b>December 2018</b>
<b>DRC/Congo</b>	2		None expected
<b>Burma</b>	3		None expected

#### **4. School District Presentation/Discussion**

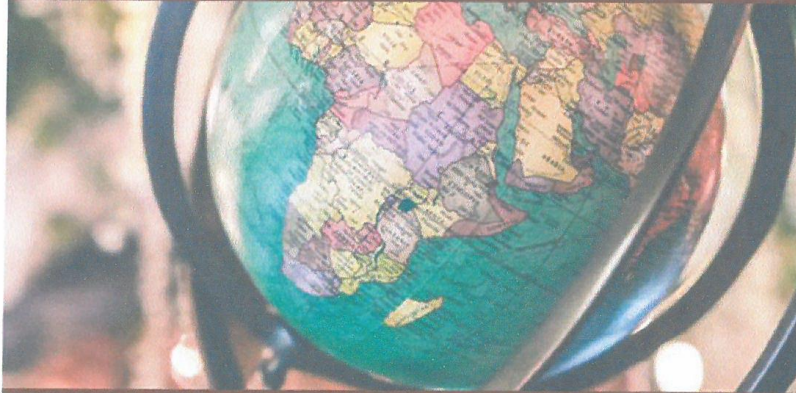
- Jennifer Chantler and Debra St. Lawrence, educators in the Nashua School District are developing a newcomer's guide for families to understand what the school district can do and what the expectations are of families. The guide will be translated into all languages spoken in the district and will be distributed when a student is registered for school. The goal is to distribute the school district calendar and a Nashua Public Library card application at the same time.
- Jennifer and Debra requested members of the group review the guide and provide feedback for improvements or changes.

#### **5. Member Updates**

- Steve Genest shared the Arlington Street Community Center now has a full time director, Megan Caron.
- Margaret Loret shared a new Polish discussion group she will be hosting at the public library beginning Friday 12/7/18, 1-2:30pm.
- Samba Halkose invited Jennifer and Debra from the school district to come and discuss their work on the Adult Learning Center radio show on WSMN. The show is scheduled for Fridays at 11:00am for 1 hour.
- Bruno Soares discussed legislation recently drafted for undocumented immigrants to get NH drivers licenses. The LSR was submitted 11/26/18. Twelve states have similar legislation and there is some current support in the NH House. Support for the NH Senate is currently being worked on.

# Cultural Connections Concert - Dec. 11

Music from Latin American, Myanmar (Burma), Persia, and more!

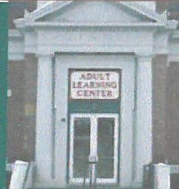


Free concert with Symphony NH and community musicians, celebrating Nashua's immigrant communities

**Tuesday, December 11 at 7 pm**

Adult Learning Center  
4 Lake St, Nashua

This is a free concert, but RSVP is required at [www.SymphonyNH.org](http://www.SymphonyNH.org) or (603) 595-9156



**LEARN MORE**

**603-595-9156**  
**SYMPHONYNH.ORG**



@symphonynh

This Neighborhood Connections Concert is made possible thanks to generous support from the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation.



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