



EAST BAY REFUGEE FORUM

General Meeting, October 4, 2016

Moderator: Jack Tyler (EBRF Steering Committee Chair, Diversity in Health Training Institute)

Introductions

Pooja Prakash (Narika), Kaitlan McClenahan (Partnerships for Trauma Recovery), Lila Katz (Jewish Family Children Services East Bay), Kate Goodin (Jewish Family Children Services East Bay), Lex Duey (Upwardly Global), Nicole Germanov (Refugee Transitions), Kara Tofte (International Rescue Committee), KJ Evans (California Department of Social Services, Refugee Programs Bureau), Sysvahn Kabkeo (California Department of Social Services, Refugee Programs Bureau), Sadaf Siddiq (Social Services Administration), Sambo Ly (Alameda Health Systems), Elisabeth Lang (Catholic Charities of the East Bay), Bowa Tucker (Administration for Children and Families, Office of Refugee Resettlement), Dusty Cooper (community advocate), Allyson Fritz (community advocate), Michael Carnevale (San Francisco State University, Master's Social Work), Guenet Sebsibe (Alameda County Public Health), Nate Dunstan (Oakland Unified School District)

Remembering Mr. Lai Van Luu

Moment of silence for Mr. Lai Van Luu, the Director of the East Bay Vietnamese Association

Welcome

Emma Dinkelspiel:

- Begin running clinics to talk about problems that refugees and asylees are having accessing benefits.

Updates from RPB

Sysvahn:

- One vacant position in Sacramento for a representative from the Bay Area.
- 2016 saw \$15 million in new funding; OUSD received \$171,000 and SFSD received \$100,000
- Possibility of a Refugee Summit and partnering with CDSS, not RPB; interest in regional, Bay Area summit
- California is currently approaching 11,000 refugees resettled; the national figures are reaching 110,000; might see as many as 13,500 in 2017
- Sysvahn wanted to know if we have a central resource where refugee resources are accessible

Refugee Arrival Data for End-of-FFY and Projections

Update from Building Home Together

- Sean is working on regrouping and developing a new strategy; original funding is no longer accessible

Presentation: "The Burmese Refugee Project"

Community/Agency Announcements

Formal Service Acknowledgements for Steering Committee Members rotating off