



November 12-13, 2020

OUR CITY OF NATIONS

"On Common Ground: Becoming Together with Refugees and Immigrants"

2020 Executive Conference Summary

Vision

Provide a platform for improved skills attainment, sharing, and captivation of advanced research and practices within the prism of human wellness, being interchangeably influenced by local and global factors.

"Arrive,
survive,
thrive"

Introduction

OCON4 was focused on becoming one community with refugees and immigrants. We came together virtually to strengthen our relationships and understanding of our newest community members. OCON4 welcomed speakers of different professional and socio-cultural backgrounds to share their experiences providing services to refugees or transitioning to life in the United States. Through story-telling and teaching, we were given the chance to better understand the strengths and needs of refugee communities. OCON4 allowed us to link agencies and communities to strengthen our relationships and reach towards positive outcomes that will put us all "on common ground".

Goal

Mobilize and harness the diverse knowledge, capacities, and services of various stakeholders interested to learn from and with those who interface with refugee and immigrant communities in the USA.

Action

OCON4 was held virtually November 12 and 13, 2020. There were 250 registered participants who represented over 50 different organizations. These organizations represented six diverse sectors including healthcare, higher education, K-12 education, government, community service, and business. There were nearly 50 diverse speakers and moderators who provided distinctive insight from their professional and personal backgrounds including healthcare professionals, state and local government officials, community service leaders, and refugees.

"Dignity is
difference"

Conference Evaluation

Participants' formal feedback was documented through a post-conference online survey that was sent out via email through qualtrics. These survey results demonstrated significant enthusiasm for the conference. A super majority stated that "this conference has improved my ability to deliver services to newcomers" and that participants were able to identify two new resources and agency connections. Please ask for our "Post Conference Evaluation Narrative" document for a full summary of responses.

"Build tables, not walls"

Future Steps

After its fourth conference, OCON is continuing its momentum in creating a space for refugees, immigrants, organizations and assisting agencies to come together and discuss what it takes to join together as one community. It is important to keep connections and partnerships active in order to continually grow and build on shared goals. OCON will further pursue future connections and networks to work towards the goal of becoming together. Suggestions from OCON4 registrants are being examined thoroughly to enhance future conferences.

Thank you to the following co-sponsors for their generous donation to sustain this conference.

Anonymous Donor



Thank you to the following co-sponsors for their generous in-kind support to implement this conference.



INTERPROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

