



Our City of Nations 6.0

Wednesday, August 28, 2024

8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Varied Journeys, Shared Dreams and Traditions: Standing together as Neighbors

In-Person Conference

Thrive on King: 2153 N. Dr Martin Luther King Jr. Dr., Milwaukee, WI 53212

Vision	Goal
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.	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

Educational Objectives:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Gain an understanding of how newcomer neighbors are arriving and 2-3 new skills as best practices to best serve them 2. Understand how to create a welcoming environment and 2-3 ways to build belonging together with newcomer neighbors.
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Conference Agenda			
Time	Content & Location	Speakers/Presenters	Educational Objectives
8:30	Registration, networking, and light refreshments (Mercado El Rey, Stone Creek Coffee)		
9:00	Opening Remarks Welcome to the 2024 <i>Our City of Nations</i> Conference	Bojana Zorić Martinez , Director- Bureau of Refugee Programs, Department of Children and Families/State Refugee Coordinator Benjamin York , Refugee Programs Administration Section Manager, Bureau of Refugee Programs, Department of Children and Families	Educational Objective: Welcome conference participants and review the impetus for this year's theme

9:20	Keynote Address To protect the rights and address the needs of persons in forced or voluntary migration worldwide and support their transition to a dignified life.	<u>Dylanna Grasinger</u> , Vice President of Refugee Programs with U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants (<u>USCRI</u>)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Understand various ways newcomers are arriving and ways to support them in our work as it relates to our theme of standing together as neighbors 2. Learn about immigration status and legal ramifications
10:30	Interactive Session The Welcoming Standard, a framework developed by Welcoming America to create and maintain an infrastructure of welcoming, inclusion, and belonging to build a nation of neighbors	<u>Briana Broberg</u> , Midwest Regional Manager, <u>Welcoming America</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Gain exposure to the Welcoming Standard 2. Identify the infrastructure of welcoming, inclusion, and belonging that exists in Milwaukee 3. Understand opportunities that exist to build welcoming, inclusion, and belonging with neighbors
11:30	Break, Connect, and Networking Lunch (The Bread House)		
12:30	Plenary Session A discussion with multiple agency representatives on reception, placement, support services, ways of entry, and ways to welcome and build belonging with newcomers	Frontline and Resettlement Systems <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <u>Omar Mohamed</u>, Executive Director, Lutheran Social Services ● <u>Sheila Badwan</u>, Executive Director, Hanan Refugee Relief Group ● <u>Dr. Paul Trebian</u>, President & CEO, International Institute of Wisconsin ● <u>Briana Broberg</u>, Midwest Regional Manager ● <u>Dylanna Grasinger</u>, Vice President of Refugee Programs with U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants (<u>USCRI</u>) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Overview of "basic" newcomer arrival information: how they arrive, where they are coming from, how resettlement works, challenges experienced 2. Learn 2-3 skills from "on the ground" workers as they assist with newcomer arrival and welcome systems 3. Learn best practices and opportunities to welcome and build belonging with newcomers.
1:30	Break & Connect		

<p>1:40</p>	<p>Panel Session I Presentation from Milwaukee Public Schools and the Wisconsin Department of Instruction on best practices to engage students, families, and communities of diverse backgrounds</p>	<p>Education Perspectives on Best Practices to Engage Newcomers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <u>Dr. Kourosch Hassani</u>, ESL Teacher Leader & Newcomer Parent Coordinator, Department of Bilingual Cultural Education Office, Milwaukee Public Schools ● <u>Sarah Borges</u>, Curriculum Specialist English as a Second Language, Department of Bilingual Cultural Education Office, Milwaukee Public Schools 	<p>1. Explore challenges that newcomers face when integrating into a new school</p> <p>2. Learn best practices for engaging newcomer families and fostering belonging</p>
<p>2:20 Break & Connect</p>			
<p>2:30</p>	<p>Panel Session II Newcomer Systems Change: Barriers & Opportunities</p>	<p>Landscape that newcomers must navigate all areas of life in with an emphasis on legal status, health, and employment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <u>Janice Beers</u>, Policy Advisor for New American Integration, Department of Children and Families ● <u>Marina Kroft</u>, JD, Director of Immigration Services & Attorney, International Institute of Wisconsin ● <u>Dr. Sebastian Ssempijja</u>, Owner, Clinical Director & Psychologist, Sebastian Family Psychology Practice, LLC, 	<p>1. Learn how individuals gain access to resources and best practices for providing legal care</p> <p>2. Gain knowledge on the most common health barriers newcomers face and how to assist them in navigating systems.</p> <p>3. Gain knowledge on opportunities and challenges related to employment</p>
<p>3:30</p>	<p>Closing Remarks Summary of the day's presentations and participation</p>	<p><u>Bojana Zorić Martinez</u>, Director-Bureau of Refugee Programs, Department of Children and Families/State Refugee Coordinator</p> <p><u>Benjamin York</u>, Refugee Programs Administration Section Manager, Bureau of Refugee Programs, Department of Children and Families</p>	<p>Varied Journeys, Shared Dreams and Traditions: Standing together as Neighbors</p>