

Commission on Immigrant and Refugee Affairs
January 27, 2025
Retreat Notes:

Access to services

- Budget with lens of immigrants and refugees
 - a. Omission in budget

Education

- Paperwork

Community org. – Data to inform Council

Eligibility based on status

Temporary night to work (at City level)

Inventory (Welcoming City)

Welcome week

Trauma-Informed policing follow-up

Accomplishments

- Blue cards, reporting cards
- Not using children for interpretations
- QR codes/links not working.
- 3 Chiefs ratified jurisdiction over detain.
- TPD interpretation system
- Preserving funding for legal servicing and phone cards for detention center
- Initiating welcoming city
- Support of welcome week
- Trauma informed policing proposal
- Collaborating with CPAC

Workplan Discussion

- Welcome Week
 - Language Access
 - Meet with immigrant and refugees
 - Specifically, with and benefit to the refugee and immigrant communities
 - Marketing – not only for one provider
- Visit/learn about other “CIRAs”
 - Attend meetings
 - Invite to CIRA meeting
- Build Trust
 - City Council (1 per quarter)
 - Community

- City departments
- Marketing
- Outreach and engagement
- Host meeting to understand needs.
 - Business, legal, etc.
 - Develop report on gaps
 - Structure as listening sessions
 - Inform future projects/tasks
 - How to do within Scope of CIRA – what we can and cannot do
- Engage with leadership about budget
- Incorporation into Tacoma 2035
 - Advocate for incorporation
- Language access
 - Marketing and awareness with outreach
 - Understanding access process/barriers
 - Multiple languages
- Promote know your rights outreach
 - Funding
 - Printing
 - Publicity
- Advocate for affordable housing for Immigrants and refugees
 - In housing plan
 - Language access
- City advocates for state for federal policies or endorse policies such as
 - DACA, work permits, pathways to citizenship.
- Education/How to for City processes and services
 - Business – starting in general, permitting as
 - Community services
 - City services
- Community Services
 - Welcome organization/businesses
 - Open, clear process for what organizations/people present
 - Recommendation or funding process – outreach, eval, etc.
- Increase awareness of services
- Lack into City -right to work (City granted)
- How to support and promote immigrant and refugee business
 - Consider safety and protection
- Civility campaign
 - Originally in response to discrimination during COVID
 - Context – non what is happening federally
- TIP Proposal
- Website review and maintenance
- Sanctuary city/Provisions
 - Cooperations with ICE

- Outreach by TPD at NWICE on how to report crime
- Training at TPD on work with people at NW ICE
- Phone and legal
- In any topic, City department, etc., engage staff
- Conversations with ICE on conditions at the detention center
 - Recommendation to City
- Gang violence and drug use (such as inpatient tx for youth)