

London & Middlesex Local Immigration Partnership Justice & Protection Services Sub-council Monday, March 22, 2010

Present: Mohammed Baobaid, Trevor Hinds, Ahmed Yahya Ali, Doreen Hodgkinson, Lori Cunningham, Melikie Joseph, Trish Taft, Nina Hamou;

Regrets: Marcel Marcellin, Jan Richardson, Neena Sharma-Kendrick.

SUMMARY

Welcomes & Introductions

Mohammed Baobaid, Executive Director of the Muslim Resource Centre for Social Support and Integration, was introduced as a guest consultant.

Updates:

Trevor gave a brief update on the Central Council meeting. One item brought up by other sub-councils was tabling bigger issues that need advocacy but making sure they are still captured. The Central Council will work with other Local Immigration Partnerships in the province to collectively address bigger issues.

A document by Statistics Canada projecting diversity in the Canadian population was circulated. Long-term trends are important to keep in mind when developing a strategy.

Minutes

Minutes were approved and will be found on the London & Middlesex Immigration Portal at www.welcome.london.ca.

Review Gaps

Trevor provided overview of the key themes identified at the last meeting. Mohammed was asked to provide his input and direction.

Recommendations include:

- Include cultural aspects and pre-migratory experiences when responding to domestic violence without compromising safety of victims
- Need to consider supports for the whole family. It is important to hold men accountable but keep in mind that they may also be victims of war trauma and torture
- Create mechanisms or protocols to look at the human side of the issues related to family violence and domestic violence
- Adopting a manual for service providers to recognize pre-migratory experience. In the intake process. To give insight on vulnerable experiences of newcomers
- Considering culture, migratory experiences, spiritual beliefs
- Creating partnerships and engaging immigrants in planning process

- Need to identify and collaborate with faith based organization, cultural organizations, and key people in the community
- Bridge between settlement services and criminal justice system and protection services.
- Identifying risk factors associated with domestic violence and the criminal justice system and then develop an appropriate intervention
- Screening tool or risk factors with families who are new immigrants. Need to identify the most vulnerable families and refer to individual therapy
- Accommodation and flexibility of the way the services are delivered such as home visitation and individual counseling.

In the approach and methodology of this sub-council the following will guide the implementation of the strategy:

- Engaging individuals at all levels
- Ensuring community collaboration and allowing all communities to be visible
- Considering mental health issues and pre-migratory trauma experiences

ACTION: Mohamed will be copied on all emails and will provide input when possible.

ACTION: Nina will update the template to include Mohamed's recommendations.

Next Steps:

Next meeting
April 6, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 a.m.
London Police Services
Regards to: nhamou@uwlondon.on.ca