



MAP Multi-Agency
Partnership BC
Working Together for Refugee Claimants

MAP Member Agency News

MAP Bulletin # 154

January 25, 2023

Dear MAP members,

How are you doing? Three years into the pandemic this question is even more important and one that MAP will focus on during the pandemic and the unrest caused by overt and covert racism - providing support through online MAP meetings. We will keep you up to date with any changes to refugee claimant services as they happen - and if you have information that you would like to share with MAP please email info@mapbc.org.

MAP NEWS

Enjoy this bumper bulletin! So much information about events, trainings, discussions, grants all INSIDE!

MAP Meeting: January 26 at 9:30 am at South Vancouver Neighbourhood House!

Mark it in your calendar! AGENDA has been circulated

MAP Strategic Planning

Thanks to the staff of Journey Homme Community for hosting our all-day Strategic Planning process on Friday January 13.

Angie McLeod led the discussions and analysis of what MAP BC does best and where we want to be 3 years from now.

We're not quite done yet! And a lot will depend on the participation and support of MAP members who benefit from our network.

We will be discussing all aspects of the plan at our MAP Meetings and invite you to check out the ONE pager attached as a start.

Thank you for all you are doing to support vulnerable refugee claimants

Thanh Lam, Sireen El Nashar and Jenny Moss. MAP Executive

Message from the Chairperson
Immigration and
Refugee Board of Canada



Message du président
Commission de l'immigration
et du statut de réfugié du Canada

(Received January 17)

Dear stakeholders,

I am writing to inform you that the new [Immigration Appeal Division \(IAD\) Rules](#) have now come into force and will apply to all pending appeals, subject to certain exceptions detailed in the transitional provisions.

To learn more:

- [Regulatory Impact Analysis Statement](#) published in the Canada Gazette, Part II
- [Summary of key changes to the IAD Rules](#). This page also discusses exceptions to the new Rules for pending appeals filed before January 14, 2023
- Updated instructions for [making an immigration appeal](#)

Please share this message with your membership as you deem appropriate. Thank you once again for your ongoing engagement.

Richard Wex

Chairperson

Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada



News highlights:

Refugee claimant-related articles from Canada and around the world

January 25, 2023

Please see a list of interesting articles gathered by MAP from across Canada and globally ([PDF attached](#))



Thanks to Journey Home Volunteer **Barry Grove** for his research and compilation

[CBSA says there are alternatives to holding immigration detainees in jail](#)

CBC

January 20

[Biden invites Americans to sponsor refugees as admissions languish, borrowing a page from Canada](#)

AFP

January 19

[‘Why was he in a maximum-security prison?’ Advocates want answers on immigration detainee’s death in custody](#)

Toronto Star

January 15

[New program incentivizing newcomers to settle outside Metro Vancouver draws mixed reactions](#)

CBC

January 8

[Hundreds of refugee families quietly transferred to Niagara Falls](#)

Niagara This Week

December 23, 2022

[Quebec’s social services put under pressure by influx of asylum seekers](#)

Canada Today

January 4

[A bed of one’s own: how the Matthew House Furniture Bank helps newcomers feel welcome](#)

Ottawa Citizen

January 23

Upcoming READY Tour Dates

Vancouver

February-March 2023

Information also attached



Virtual Ready Tours on Microsoft Teams will be offered on the following dates:

- February 3rd, (Friday) - 9:30-11:30am (PST)
- February 17th, (Friday) - 9:30-11:30am (PST)

- March 3rd, (Friday) - 9:30-11:30am (PST)
- March 17th, (Friday) - 9:30-11:30am (PST)
- March 31st, (Friday) - 9:30-11:30am (PST)

Registration:

To register a client/service provider for the Ready Tour please check the website: <https://myrefugeeclaim.ca/en/ready-tours/>

For more information please contact:


Masi Allahverdi

Ready Tour Organizer

readytours@myrefugeeclaim.ca

masi@kinbrace.ca

604-362-1070



Refugee Appeal
Division (RAD)
**INFORMATION
SESSIONS**

Next virtual session:
08 March 2023 • 1:00-3:00 PST

A free orientation session for refugee claimants to learn about the refugee appeal process.

- Do you wonder what will happen if you receive a negative decision at your refugee hearing?
- Have you received a negative decision already?

This session is for all refugee claimants at any stage of the process who would like to learn more about how to make an appeal.

Meet an officer of the Refugee Appeal Division (Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada) and have your questions answered:

- Who is eligible to appeal to the Refugee Appeal Division?
- What are the deadlines for filing an appeal?
- What do I need to do to file an appeal?

Register now by emailing Masi Allahverdi:
masi@kinbrace.ca

Poster attached

The next **RAD Info Session** is on Wednesday, March 8th, 01:00-03:00 pm, details are in the poster (also attached), you can refer refugee claimants/service providers by sending their information to Masi:

Masi Allahverdi
Ready Tour Organizer
readytours@myrefugeeclaim.ca
masi@kinbrace.ca
604-362-1070



Umbrella Workshops for Health

Let's Talk about COVID-19 Vaccines!

for the Arabic-speaking community

What A workshop for everybody!

Let us come together to:

Learn about the COVID-19 pandemic Vaccines and Boosters

Meet new people

Practice English

Have fun and relax!

When Wednesday February 15 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm

Where On Zoom please click on this link

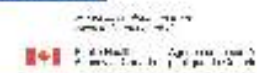
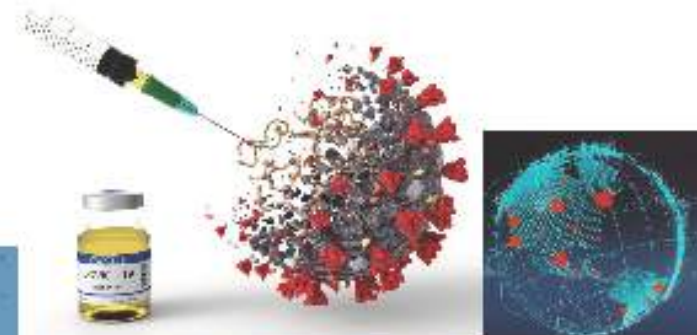
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82610047938?pwd=QzIKM0p1aU9POEdnK3dkanIxSytWZz09>

Meeting ID: 826 1004 7938

Passcode: 612872

Poster attached

It's free! Join us!



No registration needed. If you have questions please call Hana 778-788-7340
Event with interpretation to Arabic



ART-MAKING IN COMMUNITY GROUP

The earth without “art” is just “eh”



Make art **in person** with us!

Explore different art modalities (Drawing, Painting, Collage, Modelling with clay, Movement, Poetry, Voice, Drama)

Art materials provided to participants

No artistic skills required

Interpretation available

Four consecutive Thursdays (February 16, 23, March 2, 9)

10 am-12 pm

2610 Victoria Drive, Vancouver Room 101

Registration required

Contact: matias.hacker@vast-vancouver.ca

elena@vast-vancouver.ca

Posters attached

VAST's next Art-making in Community group will start next February 16. This will be our first in-person group of the year. Four sessions on Thursdays from 10-12 pm at the VAST office in Vancouver.

For forced migrants. Interpretation and art materials available.

GRUPO DE ARTE EN COMUNIDAD

“El mundo sin arte seria aburrido”



Haz arte con nosotros **en persona!**

Expresate explorando diferentes modalidades artisticas (Dibujo, Pintura, Collage, Modelado con arcilla, Movimiento, Poesia, Voz y Drama)

Te proveemos de los materiales artisticos para el grupo

No se necesitan aptitudes artisticas para participar

Interpretes disponibles

Cuatro jueves consecutivos (16, 23 de febrero y 2, 9 de marzo)

10 am-12pm

2610 Victoria Drive, Vancouver Room 101

Registration required

Con registracion. Contactanos: matias.hacker@vast-vancouver.ca

elena@vast-vancouver.ca

Hello,

As a local charity working with refugee claimants, we recognize that having a BC Driver's License can be an important step in the process to finding employment and settling in Canada.

In B.C. many people of all ages find it difficult to pass the driving test the first, or even the second time. We recognize that for Newcomers, the challenge to pass may be even more difficult due to unfamiliarity with our cities, Canadian driving rules, and what the driving adjudicators are looking for that can cause an individual to pass or fail the driving test.

To help with this issue we are hosting a FREE workshop "How to Pass Your Driving Test" on Monday Feb. 6 at 6:30 pm at Archway Community Services. Please see poster attached for the details.

Register today at this link [How to Pass Driving Test Registration](#)

Kelly Rader - Executive Director, Inasmuch
Cell: 778-201-6729

Poster attached

How to Pass Your Driving Test

ALL NEWCOMERS ARE WELCOME TO THIS FREE CLASS

- ✓ REFUGEE CLAIMANTS
- ✓ DISPLACED UKRAINIANS
- ✓ AFGHAN REFUGEES

CLASS INFORMATION:

Date: Monday February 6, 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

Location: Archway Community Services 2420 Montrose Ave

2 Ways to Register

1. Online at: www.inasmuch.ca under Classes
2. By phone to Inder Singh (Archway) 604-217-4584
3. By email: Inder.Singh@archway.ca

Please note, class is in English

Topics Will Include:

- Bad Driving Habits to Avoid
- Traffic Signs and Meanings
- Roundabout Navigation
- What you need to know to pass the driving test
- Proper Shoulder Checking



Refugee Claimants & Your Church :

Discovering Transformative Ways to Welcome

Sat
11
Feb

St. Andrews Hall
6040 Iona Dr,
Vancouver
&
Online

From its earliest days, the Church has provided care and safety for people seeking refuge. This year, over 70,000 asylum seekers will arrive in Canada asking for refugee protection. Your church could be a vital lifeline of welcome with and for refugee claimants.

We are privileged in Vancouver to have a number of organizations that have been faithfully supporting asylum seekers for many years. These organizations have learned a considerable amount about healthy engagement with people seeking refuge and have developed a host of best practices.

At this gathering, engage and learn from people with lived refugee claimant experience, welcoming churches, and frontline communities.

Build your church's knowledge and capacity to bear witness to the love of God among one of the world's most vulnerable displaced groups.



For registration and more information
visit www.citygatevancouver.org/events/rcyc/

Poster attached

[Your Church and Refugee Claimants: Discovering Transformative Ways to Welcome](#)

This event is hosted by CityGate Vancouver with the goal to support and inspire church communities in their welcome of refugee claimants.

Loren Balisky
Director of Engagement
M 604.803.9024
T 604.255.9691
loren@kinbrace.ca



Pathways to **EMPLOYMENT & SELF-EMPLOYMENT** For Newcomers

Inspiring newcomer professionals and entrepreneurs share their stories about their successes and challenges with navigating their unique employment journeys.

Engage 1:1 with newcomer service experts and learn about available game-changing resources!

Participate in Panel Discussions:

- Successful Entrepreneurs and Newcomer Professionals
- HR Experts for Jobseekers
- Resources and Funding for Self-Employment/Entrepreneurs

Learn more at www.bipt.ca



**Newcomers
Welcome!**

FEB. 15, 2023

8:00 am - 3:00 pm

Ismaili Centre
4010 Canada Way, Burnaby

FREE EVENT

*Registration Required: <https://tinyurl.com/yc62swm4>

A light breakfast and lunch will be served!

Scan to
Register!



SCAN ME



Funded by:
Immigration, Refugees
and Citizenship Canada

Financé par:
Immigration, Réfugiés
et Citoyenneté Canada



Hello BCSIS Service Providers,



We are pleased to announce the launch of the **BCSIS E-Learning course on the Indigenous Worldview vs the Colonized Worldview**.

You can access the course here:

<https://institute.amssa.org/courses/indigenous-worldview-vs-colonized-worldview>

This course is part of AMSSA's work to engage BCSIS Service Providers about topics related to Truth, Reconciliation and Decolonization. The content for this module was created in collaboration with Indigenous leader, Norm Leech.

Learners will be invited to consider their own worldview and the forces that have contributed to its development. Learners will have the opportunity to participate in reflection exercises that are designed to support them in their personal exploration of this topic, as well as to provide them with ideas for ways of sharing information with newcomer clients and colleagues. Out of respect for the Indigenous oral tradition, numerous video and audio clips are included throughout the e-learning module.

This course is designed to be fluid and you can listen and do the activities if you'd like to, but in order to receive a certificate you must click "complete and continue" at the end of each section.

After completing the course, learners will be invited to participate in a Reflection Circle. It will be a live virtual discussion with Norm Leech, in which attendees can reflect about what they have learned from the e-learning module, as well as share questions and experiences implementing the knowledge they have gained. **The Circle is scheduled to take place on February 27, 2023, from 1:30 – 3:30pm.** The registration link can be found at the end of the e-learning module.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Kind regards,

Marta



Event Notification
AMSSATalk Virtual Event
The Changing World of Work
Thursday, February 2, 2023 | 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. PST

[Click here to Register](#)

Many settlement service provider organizations are experiencing challenges in human resources capacity building. Key issues involve staff recruitment, retention, career progression, leadership development, sector compensation levels and well-being at work.

The changing world of work is a factor in the complexities. The workplace and employee expectations shifted dramatically during the COVID-19 pandemic. Recent trends impacting turnover rates and recruitment challenges can be associated with resignations, reassessment of priorities with preference for fulfilling work with flexibility, better work-life balance, higher pay, and improved benefits. It's valuable for settlement service providers to be informed about current trends in the world of work, and what the future of work might mean for their organization and human resources management. This includes looking at the impact of the pandemic and beyond.

In this AMSSATalk virtual event, Katie Crocker, AMSSA CEO, will moderate an armchair-style panel discussion with employment experts from the sector. They will discuss current issues, challenges, and approaches that can contribute to building HR capacity as organizations strive to deliver settlement and employment services that help newcomers achieve the best possible settlement outcomes.

Speakers: Carolyn Neilson, MSc., Vice President Employment Services, YWCA Metro Vancouver
Garrison Duke, MBA, Chief Operating Officer, DIVERSEcity Community Resources Society
Patrick MacKenzie, Chief Executive Officer, Immigrant Employment Council of BC

Questions? Email Lori at lcameron@amssa.org

MAP (Multi-Agency Partnership) Bulletin January 25, 2023

Kindred Spirit – Free Singing Program for Immigrant and Refugee Youth

Welcome new Members!

VYC Kindred's leaders Deanna and Russell create an environment that welcomes newcomers and introduces them to Indigenous ways of music and life while also allowing the participants to share their own cultural music and dance.

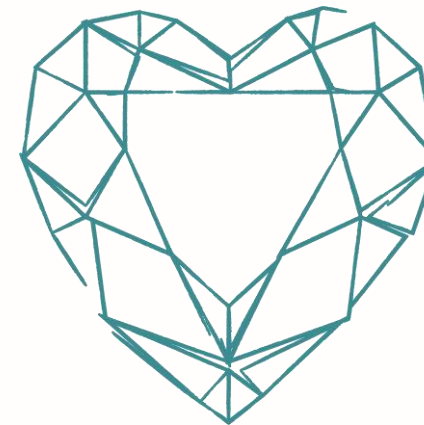
For more information visit our [website](#) to see some previous performances. You can also take a look at our [digital brochure](#).

Interested? Contact Teddy Ngkaion (he/him)

VYC Kindred Program Manager

Vancouver Youth Choir

teddy@vancouveryouthchoir.com





Get ready to apply for a Participatory Action Research Grant in 2023. Applications for Convene and Investigate grants are open from January 16 to February 13, 2023, through our online grant management system.

Exciting News for 2023

We've made funding more accessible! In the past, we required Investigate research projects to match funds, but in 2023, both Convene and Investigate grants will not require applicants to match their funding request. As part of our commitment to trust-based philanthropy and equitable grant-making, we hope to address and remove barriers to accessing grants.

Considering Applying?

We offer two different grant types to reflect the different stages of a participatory action research process:

[Participatory Action Research Grants at a Glance](#)

	Convene	Investigate
Purpose of Grant:	To develop a participatory action research project plan.	To investigate the root cause(s) of a pressing issue, impacting the health of communities.
Maximum funding available:	Up to \$20,000	Up to \$100,000
Length of grant:	Up to 1 year	Up to 3 years
Requires matching funds:	No	No
Application process:	one-stage	two-stage

Please note: To be eligible for a PAR grant, the research project **must be a collaboration** between community organizations and institutions with access to an ethics board, such as universities and research institutions.

[Click here to learn more](#)

Hi All,

I'm sharing this grant opportunity with organizations we've worked with in the past who might be eligible for this grant or know another organization that is (Please do share!). For more information please reference the website directly.

Website: [Community Services Recovery Fund](#) accepting applications Jan 6th-Feb 21st. The grant is eligible to support charities and non-profits as they focus on how to adapt their organizations for COVID pandemic recovery.

Link to the Info Session recording: <https://uwbc.ca/csrf/>

Best,

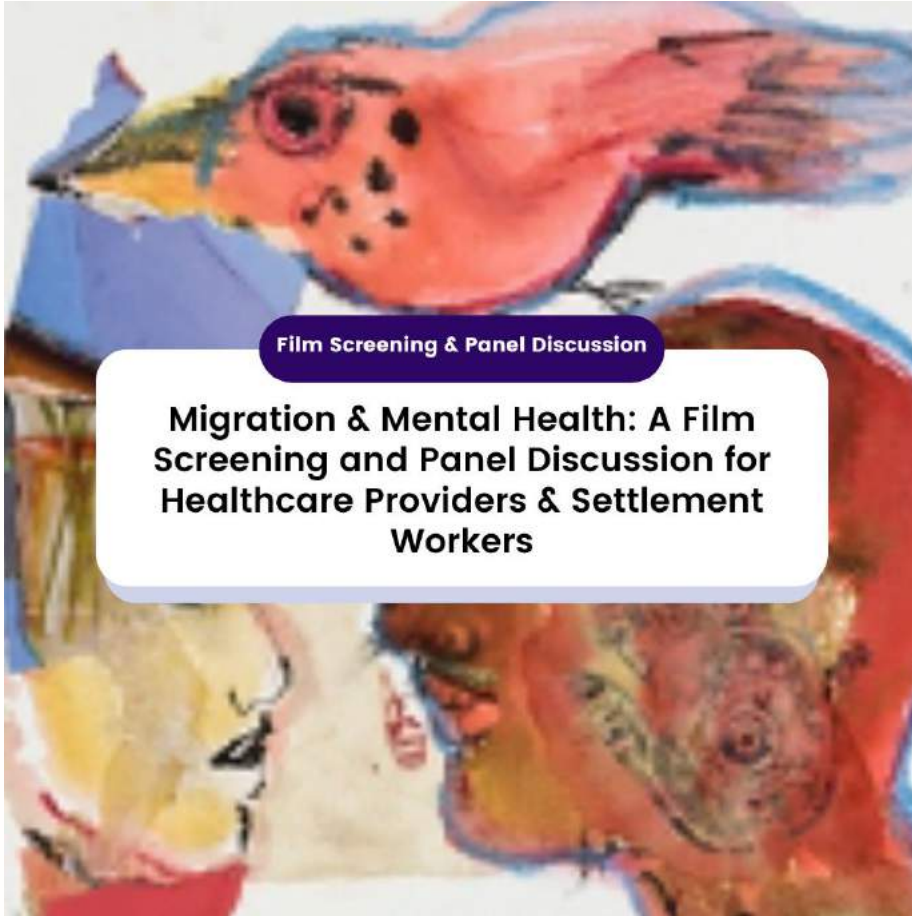
George Berking
Community Engagement Specialist,
Community Engagement - United Way British Columbia | Lower Mainland
4543 Canada Way, Burnaby, BC V5G 4T4

NOTE: This grant is not the same as the [Recovery & Resiliency Fund](#) and has a different application process, created by the fund partners. Before you apply, take this [short eligibility questionnaire](#) to confirm the focus area for your application. Visit communityservicesrecoveryfund.ca to find out more about how to apply and to explore the application resources.



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Centre for Migration Studies



Film Screening & Panel Discussion

Migration & Mental Health: A Film Screening and Panel Discussion for Healthcare Providers & Settlement Workers

Migration & Mental Health: A Film Screening and Panel Discussion

Co-hosted by the CMS Community University Partnerships Group and MOSAIC

Screening: virtual (on demand)

Panel discussion: Feb 1, 2023 (in person)

Are you a frontline mental health worker supporting immigrants and refugees in your community? Are you familiar with, or do you wish to learn more about issues related to mental health and the settlement process? If so, you are cordially invited to a *virtual* screening of the documentary, [The World is Bright](#) (Ying Wang, 2019), followed by an *in-person* public panel discussion about the film one week after the screening. This event is co-hosted by the UBC Centre for Migration Studies (CMS) Community University Partnerships working group, and [MOSAIC](#), the BC organization providing inclusive settlement and employment services for newcomers.

The event is free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be served to those attending the panel discussion in person.

Registration is required. Please find event details and registration info [here](#).



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

alumniUBC

Poster attached

UBC SPRING CAREER FAIR 2023



Tuesday, March 7



11am - 4pm PST



Robert H. Lee Alumni Centre



Register on CareersOnline

[REGISTER](#)



Canadian Council
for Refugees
Conseil canadien
pour les réfugiés

We are pleased to invite you to participate in the **quarterly virtual meeting on issues for refugee claimants** on Tuesday, February 21.

Refugee claimants *Virtual meeting*

When: Tuesday, February 21 starting at
11:00am Pacific

The meeting will last 60 mins.

[Register](#)



Canadian Council
for Refugees
Conseil canadien
pour les réfugiés



We are pleased to invite you to participate in our virtual meeting on **Options for supporting, monitoring and demonstrating quality services to support refugee, immigration and citizenship processes**, on Tuesday, February 7.

As part of the Quality of Service Project, this meeting is a continuation of the conversation we had during the Townhall meeting in May 2021, to explore alternatives to IRCC's interpretation of [section 91 of the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act](#).

The Quality of Service Project is committed to exploring systems – voluntary, incentive-based, or mandatory – for tracking, monitoring, and supporting the work of CCR members in the future. This exploration will result in a short paper that outlines options.

In this meeting, members will:

- Be presented with a short draft paper prepared by Julie Mathews, Executive Director of CLEO, who has been active in the project for several years and who has done extensive work on non-governmental organizations (NGOs) as "trusted intermediaries" in legal areas (see [Community Justice Help: Advancing Community-Based Access to Justice](#)). The draft will be sent to you prior to the meeting.
- Provide feedback on the document and discuss other options that would work best for the diverse NGOs across Canada working to support refugees and migrants with immigration law-related matters.

If you have any questions or comments prior to the meeting, you can write to Basel at bdakak@ccrweb.ca.



Understanding the lasting impact of policy changes on highly skilled migrants' decision-making: Comparative perspectives in post-pandemic times

Thurs. Feb. 2, 2023, 3-4 PM EST

As countries compete to attract highly skilled immigrants to fill the labour shortages, they have little information about how high-skilled migrants make migration decisions. There is now an urgent need to understand how policy initiatives and pandemic-related risks, uncertainty and ambiguities have affected the future of decision-making among highly skilled migrants and their families.

Join **CERC Migration** for a webinar to investigate the lasting impacts that changes in immigration policies made during the pandemic have had on migration-related decision-making in Canada, Australia and the UK.

Presenters include:

- **Margaret Walton-Roberts**, Professor, Wilfrid Laurier University
- **Chris F Wright**, Associate Professor, University of Sidney
- **Mucahit Aydemir**, PhD candidate, University of Sheffield

The discussion will be chaired by **Luisa Veronis**, Associate Professor, University of Ottawa and co-chaired by **Ashika Niraula**, Research Fellow, CERC Migration, Toronto Metropolitan University.

[Register](#)



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Job Descriptions

Position: Violence Prevention Coordinator 28 hours a week until June 30th 2023 with potential for renewal

The Violence Prevention Coordinator will coordinate our “Gender Based Violence Prevention” project intended to increase support for people who have been victims of gender-based violence. The VPC understands the dynamics of violence, importance of community partnerships and has the skills to support people who have been victims and the skills to coordinate projects. The project will address gender-based violence through a diversity of methods: support groups, educational, talking circles and one to one support. Key areas will be prevention, support, resources and education. This role reports to the MFC Manager. This is a new role, so the VPC should be able to adapt and be flexible in taking on new tasks and giving input into how their role can best serve REACH’s clients and the community. **SEE FULL DESCRIPTION AND APPLICATION PROCEDURE ATTACHED**

Position: Vietnamese Cross Cultural Health Promoter *31 hours per week.*

General Responsibilities:

We are looking for a bright energetic person who has a love for programing and health promotion! The Cross-Cultural Health Promoter (CCHP) works with specific immigrant and refugee communities to enhance the well-being of community members through educational and prevention strategies, program development, and initiatives to reduce inequities in the social determinants of health. Working both independently and collaboratively with clients, staff, community partners, and volunteers, the CCHP acts as a bridge between cultures to facilitate the delivery of culturally relevant programs and services, employing adult education strategies, community development techniques, and research methodology.

SEE FULL DESCRIPTION AND APPLICATION PROCEDURE ATTACHED