

New American/Foreign Born/Immigrant Advisory Board
August 23, 2021 – 6:00 PM
Meeting Minutes

Attendance

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| Sam | Acquah |
| Fowzia | Adde |
| Bini | Kouadjo |
| Iredia (Ray) | Osadolor |
| Yolanda | Roja |

Other Attendees: Alicia Belay, Valentina Asiedu, Dipshika Sharma, Sargam Ghimire, Beverly Anaele

Agenda Items

Introductions and Announcements

- NFI Health Liaison – Sargam Ghimire
- Appreciation for participation in focus group during July Meeting

New State Refugee Coordinator – Holly Triska Dally

- Preparing for new fiscal year and expecting anywhere 250-427,000 refugees starting October 1, 2021.
- Hoping to hold a participatory grant making session for the Youth Mentorship Program and hoping to get a few different ethnic community organizations involved. Awards will probably be around \$10,000 per organization.

State Refugee Coordinator – Dipshika Sharma

- Manage refugee health and services and work closely with health and community partners. Make sure refugees are aware of community health services.
- Working on vaccine outreach.

Special Project Announcements

- Introduce the ESHARA/LIRS partnership and opportunities to join the project (NDDoH Staff)
 - The partnership is to provide Covid information and services across the state. Trying to find ways to connect with the west side of the state. Ideally would like to support non-profits.
- New COVID “Wall” project (NDDoH)
 - Opportunity for stories to be shared in regard to COVID.
 - Soft launch of the COVID Wall.
 - Would love for people from the NFI committee to share their stories of how COVID has impacted you.
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Discussion

- COVID funding to address issue in the NFI community
 - Katarina will be working with the task force to decide on a project and do the work on the project and we need 3-5 volunteers from different parts of the state.
 - The following strategies need to be met:
 - Expand existing or new mitigation and prevention resources and services to reduce Covid disparities.
 - Increase and improve data collection and reporting for populations experiencing a disproportionate burden of Covid-19 infections, severe illness, and death to guide the response to the Covid-19 pandemic.
 - Build leverage and expand infrastructure support for Covid prevention and control among populations that are at higher risk or underserved.
 - Mobilize partners and collaborators to advance health equity and address social determinants of health, as they relate to Covid-19.

Next meeting: Monday, September 27, 2021