



City of Twin Falls Diversity and Inclusion Committee

Wednesday, September 4, 2019, 4:00 PM

CSI Idaho Refugee Center
1526 Highland Avenue East
Twin Falls

MINUTES

Members Present:

Richard Aldama, Liyah Babayan, Stephanie Nevarez, Alejandra Hernandez, Sergio Larios

Members Absent:

Daniel Gardner, EM. English

City Staff Present:

Travis Rothweiler, City Manager; Mandi Thompson, Grant & Community Relations Manager; Brian Maughan, Police Department Liaison

City Council Present: Shawn Barigar, Mayor

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER/CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM

Mandi Thompson called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

2. ITEMS OF CONSIDERATION

a. INFORMATIONAL: Tour the College of Southern Idaho Refugee Center

Tara McFarland, Management Coordinator & Community Liaison, gave a review of the center's role in helping refugee clients during the resettlement process.

The center provides initial services such as:

Case management

English language training

Job counseling

Cultural integration

Concept of debt

Education on Police Department Law Enforcement

Team discussion followed.

Travis Rothweiler asked how the City can partner with the center.

Tara McFarland explained some of the challenges the center faces are finding clean, safe and affordable housing; lack of an adequate transportation system for Medicaid and work related transport; and inability to provide mental health services.

Team discussion followed.

Lack of mental health services is community-wide

Acceptance of Medicaid

Translator costs

Refers clients to Idaho Legal Aid relating to discrimination

Personal hygiene packs are available at the center and for the entire school system

3. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

The next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 2, 2019, at 4:00 p.m.



Leila A. Sanchez

Recording Secretary