OFFICE OF NEW AMERICANS

Office of New Americans





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BI MONTHLY MEETINGS

LET'S COME TOGETHER TO

DISCUSS AND PRIORITIZE PLANS FOR THE ONA OFFICE

We invite you to be part of our bimonthly meetings to:

- Providé advice on future initiatives
- Be part of the creation of the Welcoming Strategic Plan.
- Help us identify the needs and other outreach activities.

Below you will find tentative dates for our Bi Monthly Meetings: • November 20th 9-10:30am • January 15th 9-10:30am • March 19th 9-10:30am

- May 2nd 9-10:30am
- July 16th 9-10:30am September 17th 9-10:30am

Some projects to be discussed:

- Welcoming Strategic PlanOutreach Opportunities
- Legal Defense Fund
- Language Access
- Citizenship Workshops

To get involved in our monthly convenings, register here.

Goin us!



COMMUNITY INPUT COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Please take the time to complete our <u>survey</u> to help us identify the needs in our community. Click here for survey.

Q: Who are New Americans? A: New Americans are foreign-born residents.

Q: What is a "Welcoming" City/County? A: "A Welcoming City or County is one that works across multiple sectors, such as government, business, and non-profit, to create inclusive policies and practices such as making it easier for entrepreneurs to start a business or having government documents available in multiple languages. Welcoming Cities/Counties are guided by the principles of inclusion and creating communities that prosper because EVERYONE feels welcome, including immigrants and refugees." –Welcoming America



Creating such a place means county departments prioritize and consider policies, actions, and practices that help ALL, including immigrant and refugee communities succeed.

Office of New Americans

Q: Why build a welcoming place? A: Welcoming communities are inclusive places where neighbors get to know one another. A Welcoming place connects ALL residents to their new and established neighbors and to local government. Welcoming communities creates a climate where EVERYONE can become deeply involved in their community and invest their time, talents, money, and hopes.

In being a Welcoming County we invite New Americans to join us in building strong communities, finding strength in our diversity, and resisting fear and division. Welcoming communities are safer, stronger, and more vibrant. As a Welcoming Place, we seek a safe, engaged and inclusive El Paso where EVERYONE can contribute and thrive through civic, economic, and cultural integration.

We should stop thinking in terms of "us versus them," and start thinking in terms of **just us** – if we can do that, we will be able to do so much, together.

Q: How do welcoming communities benefit us? A: Becoming a more inclusive community means a more vibrant culture, more jobs created by immigrant entrepreneurs, and a thriving economy that benefits us ALL. Welcoming helps us work together to make sure that ALL of us - white, black, Christian, Muslim, or any faith - are part of making a community a great place to live. By giving each person an equal opportunity to contribute, it makes the entire community stronger.

Welcoming communities are inclusive, equitable places where EVERYONE can reach their greatest potential and contribute to a prosperous economy and flourishing culture.

Receptive communities are critical for immigrants to be able to fully participate in the social, civic, and economic fabric of their adopted hometowns.

Welcoming communities helps communities move beyond divisiveness and fragmentation to a coordinated web of policies and programs that ensure that ALL residents - including immigrants - can fully participate and belong.

Q: Do newcomers want to integrate with our community? A: Yes! With the support of nationwide partners and local advocacy groups we can accelerate this process and make our community a place where EVERYONE can thrive. We know that when cities and counties work towards becoming a "Welcoming Place", they become more vibrant and prosperous places for everyone. The successful integration of immigrants contributes to a robust economy and a vibrant culture for EVERYONE.

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Please forward information on upcoming events or trainings and new services to highlight in our newsletter. What would you like to see in our next issue? Email me for suggestions <u>loflores@epcounty.com</u>



Website Resources Our page has gone live! Click on link: Office of New Americans Website



It is a work in progress but you'll be able to see resources that will be made available to our constituents. What other resources should we consider posting on our website? Let us know.

El Paso County recently established the **Neighborhood Association** Program to ensure residents who rely on the County for services have the opportunity to provide input and feedback on community concerns.

Staff from the Planning & Development Department will be hosting a series of English and Spanish meetings for residents interested in forming their own neighborhood association. The meeting information is below:

English Session Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 Location: Virtual Meeting Link: <u>Join Microsoft Teams Meeting</u> Call-In Option: Dial +1 469-848-0247 Conference ID: 256 126 05#

Spanish Session Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 Location: Virtual Meeting Link: Join Microsoft Teams Meeting Call-In Option: Dial +1 469-848-0247 Conference ID: 147 656 571#



VIRTUAL DACA RENEWAL CLINIC AVAILABLE

A virtual DACA clinic offered by Texas Here to Stay and the Texas Law Mithoff Pro Bono Program is open for those who are seeking to renew their DACA application. There are 25 spots available and you can register <u>here</u> if you're a DACA recipient in Texas who needs help with renewal.

SEEKING PARTICIPANTS FOR FOCUS GROUPS

The intent of the focus groups is to assess and address community needs based on zip codes. El Paso County wants to improve its outreach efforts for county services and COVID. We are looking for participants in these zip codes: 79928, 79838, 79836, 79849, 79821, 79927, 79835, 79932, 79853. We're looking for individuals willing to share their opinion during our 90-minute focus group. <u>To take part, click here.</u>

SEEKING UTILITY ASSISTANCE AND

El Paso County Community Services Department continues to offer services. <u>Click on link for list of services.</u> Contact the division for more information.

NOVEMBER 2020

VENDER	EMBER 2020						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
1	2	3 ELECTION DAY	4	5	6	7	
8	9	10	11 Offices Closed	12	13	14	
15	16	17	18	19	20 Juntas de ONA 9:00-10:30		
22	23	24	25	26 Offices Closed	27 Offices Closed	28	
29	30	TES ^T	OVID-19 TING ble 9am - 4pm hent required.	App City S		rive Thru schedule call	
		WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 28 THURSDAY OCTOBER 29 TUESDAY NOVEMBER 3	16001 Socorro Rd ESD #2 HQ Fabens 16001 Socorro Rd ESD #2 HQ Horizon City 17018 Darrington	Tobin Re 8831 Rail SISD Stur Activities 1300 Joe	ilroad Dr Schuster Av 1966 Round Ident south side o	ster 1 Parking Lot venue and Spur dabout, on the of the complex e Verde	
		WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 4 THURSDAY NOVEMBER 5	Horizon First Bapti Socorro 11440 N. Loop ESD #2 Fire Station Horizon City	n Azcarate Pa 6900 Delta (Use back er Eastside Spo 14380 Mont	Dr entrance off Fonseca Dr) ports Complex (Every Day)	MST Region 19 Kenworthy (Mon - Sat) 9776 Kenworthy	
		FRIDAY NOVEMBER 6 MONDAY	Fabens 16001 Socorro Rd ESD #2 HQ Montana Vista	WEDNES NOVEME THURSD	BER 18 5411 Pa: MVFD S DAY Horizon	iso View Dr Station 2	
		NOVEMBER 9 TUESDAY NOVEMBER 1 WEDNESDAY	MVFD Station 2 Horizon City 17018 Darrington Horizon First Bapti	FRIDAY NOVEMI	BER 19 17018 D Horizon Vinton BER 20 510 Vint West Va	alley Fire St.	
		NOVEMBER 1 FRIDAY NOVEMBER 1	1 510 Vinton Rd West Valley Fire Si Socorro		BER 23 ESD #2 W Horizon BER 24 17018 D	N. Loop Fire Station	

New Americans El Paso County, Texas

11440 N. Loop ESD #2 Fire Station

Fabens 16001 Socorro Rd ESD #2 HQ

MONDAY NOVEMBER 30

Montana Vista 5411 Paso View Dr **MVFD Station 2**

MONDAY NOVEMBER 16

OUTREACH EFFORTS

Self Help Center Flu Shot Event

On October 17th El Paso County Community Services- Community Development hosted a flu shot drive-thru event at the Self Help Center. Reps from the ONA office were out spreading the word on new services.

New Americans





OUTREACH AND PRESENTATION REQUESTS

The Office of New Americans offers outreach and educational services to bring awareness on certain issues and to connect with the community.

1. For Outreach/Presentation requests, please fill out the Outreach/Presentation Request

2. Please allow two weeks advance notice for presentation or outreach activity requests when possible.

3. All request are subject to availability.

VISION AND MISSION (Vision y Mision):El Paso County's Office of New Americans (ONA) is committed to improving the inclusion, integration, and overall quality of life for our county's immigrants and refugees through enhanced collaboration with the community, educational institutions, nonprofits, and interfaith organizations. ONA seeks a safe, engaged and inclusive El Paso where EVERYONE can contribute and thrive through civic, economic, and cultural integration.

We will work with our constituents, community-based organizations, and advocacy groups to establish a Welcoming Strategic Plan. The Welcoming Strategic Plan will record our overall mission as well as our short term and long-term goals and the action plan to reach them.

El Paso County ONA is proud to collaborate with not only local partners but also nationwide organizations like: Welcoming America, National Partnership for New Americans, Cities 4 Action, New American Economy, Cities for Citizenship, and Immigration Legal Resource Center.



Visit our website <u>Office of New Americans</u> Follow us on <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Facebook</u>, or <u>WhatsApp</u> Subscribe to ONA's N<u>ewsletter</u> Register for <u>Bi-Monthly Meetings</u> Complete our <u>Survey</u> Request a <u>Presentation</u> Get Involved

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