



CHARLOTTE™
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Immigrant Integration Task Force

May 22, 2014

- Introduce New Appointees
- Learning and Listening Phase
 - Community Listening Sessions Through July
 - Launch Survey this Summer



Listening Sessions

Organizations Committed to Host:	Organizations contacted/considering:	Largest Populations Meck. County:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action NC – done • Charlotte Chamber of Commerce (May 29) • Refugee Support (June 18) • CIC/Choice Translating (Mid-June) • IITF at Bethesda Center (June 24) • Latin American Coalition • CPCC • CMS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Southeast Asian Coalition • Vietnamese American Senior Association • Muslim American Society • Asian Library • CAACC • Neighborhood Good Samaritan Center • Community Relations Committee • Mecklenburg Ministries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Latin America <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mexico ○ El Salvador ○ Honduras • Asia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ India ○ Vietnam ○ China • Europe <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ United Kingdom ○ Germany • Africa <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Nigeria ○ Liberia ○ Ethiopia

Task Force Member Commitments

- Recruit organizations to hold a Listening Session
- Invite people to attend Listening Sessions
- Facilitate topic discussion at Session(s)
- Lead the After-Session Review

Listening Session Feedback

- Task Force Session – April 27th – about 50 people
 - What Charlotte is doing well:
 - Cultural events and festivals
 - Variety of nonprofit organizations to assist immigrants
 - What Charlotte can improve:
 - Information to CMS students and parents (how to navigate education system, grades, buses, etc.)
 - Study the impact of 287(g)
 - Critical Needs:
 - Driver's license/ID access
 - Central location for resources; a "Welcome to Charlotte" directory or orientation

- Action NC Session- May 10th – about 15 people
 - What Charlotte is doing well:
 - More public transportation options and routes available
 - Festivals
 - More job opportunities available
 - What Charlotte can improve:
 - Driver's license/ID access
 - Access to information about resources (need to advertise to immigrants better)
 - Critical Needs:
 - 287(g) program creates fear & mistrust, immigrants lose jobs because can't drive to work
 - Cultural sensitivity training for police
 - Notary public v notaries-at-law issues

- Task Force Community Listening Session
 - Task Force members had little to no expectations
 - Group more diverse than expected: Japan, Congo, Colombia, Ecuador, Bhutan, France, Peru, Mexico, El Salvador, Nicaragua, West Africa, and India
 - Most heard through word of mouth
 - Learned:
 - Participants more interested in discussing specific topics, not general questions (opposite in Action NC session)
 - Participants wanted to say answers, not write down
 - Suggestions for next session:
 - Very important to make sure they write answers on sheet
 - Have time keeper or time cards to display
 - Better definition for Quality of Life

In your groups

- Answer the 3 General Focus Questions
- Discuss your answers with one another
- Share what topic generated the most interest in each group

Learning from Others

- Peer City Calls
 - Mainly receiving community and agency questionnaires
- Web Research
 - Few share questions online
- Talking to Local Partners

Local Partners

- Urban Institute
 - Develop phone survey
- N&BS Community Research team
 - Develop written survey

What to Ask

- Demographic questions, 3 Focus Questions, ...

Break into different groups

- Discuss thoughts on survey samples
- Come up with possible questions
- Share three questions developed in each group

Please leave your feedback
for today's meeting on the table