



CHARLOTTE
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Immigrant Integration Task Force Update

June 26, 2014



Mayor Clodfelter Address on Immigration

Reflection



- Break into groups of six
- 3 minutes to individually answer the 2 questions on the sheet titled “Reflections on Today’s Presentation”
- 10 minutes to discuss your answers among your group
- Share what topic generated the most interest in each group



Immigrant Integration Task Force

Already Held	Organizations contacted/considering:	Largest Populations Meck. County:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action NC • Charlotte Chamber/LACC/CMBCC • Refugee Support Services • CIC/Choice Translating • IITF at Bethesda Center • Latin American Coalition • Muslim American Society • CPCC/ Neighborhood Good Samaritan Center • CMS • International house after meet and greet (7/19) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Southeast Asian Coalition • Vietnamese American Senior Association • 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

What Are We Doing Well?

- Cultural events and festivals showcase diversity
- There are a variety of nonprofit organizations to assist immigrants
- There are good public transportation options and routes available
- There are more job opportunities available
- Schools offer quality English Language classes
- Entrepreneurship is encouraged
- The community is accepting of international business community

Where can we improve?

- Better information to CMS students and parents
 - How to navigate education system
 - How to become involved in schools
- Improve access to information about resources
 - Marketing efforts need to be improved
 - Information needs to be **printed** in multiple languages
- We need more culturally competent services
- We need more sidewalks
- We should streamline the process to open new businesses
 - Less paper work
 - Clarify/Simplify regulations

What are some critical needs?

- Driver's license/ID access
- Central location for resources
 - An official "Welcome to Charlotte" directory or orientation
 - Not just an online presence
- Address roadblocks caused by the 287(g) program
 - Limits economic opportunities
- Cultural sensitivity training for police, other City/County service providers
- Increased access to start-up capital and loans
- Address notary public versus notaries-at-law issues

Next Steps



The screenshot shows a webpage from the Office of International Relations. The header includes the office name, a search bar, and navigation links for Resources, News & Events, and Get Involved. The main content area is titled 'Immigrant Integration Task Force' and features a 'Notify Me' button. The text on the page states that on November 25, 2013, the Charlotte City Council adopted a resolution to create an inter-agency Immigrant Integration Task Force. It details the task force's mission to maximize immigrants' economic and civic contributions and lists upcoming meetings and listening sessions.

Immigrant Integration Task Force

On November 25, 2013, Charlotte City Council adopted a resolution to create an inter-agency Immigrant Integration Task Force to maximize immigrants' economic and civic contributions to the city of Charlotte.

In 2014, the 29-member task force will review the recommendations of the 2007 Mayor's Immigration Study Commission; research and recommend policies that facilitate access to city services for all residents of Charlotte, while addressing gaps in civic engagement; prepare a report with recommendations to the City Council that promotes awareness among the public of the availability of existing programs and services facilitating immigrant integration; and seek opportunities to better educate the Charlotte community on how embracing immigrant communities will help move the city forward.

All Task Force meetings will be held the fourth Thursday of every month for one year and open to the public. Additionally, the Task Force will host public Community Listening Sessions to engage the public in open discussion throughout the spring of 2014.

Upcoming Task Force Meeting:
June 26, 3:00-5:00 p.m. RSVP
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center, Room 267
600 East 4th Street, Charlotte, NC 28202

Upcoming Community Listening Sessions:
CPCC and The Neighborhood Good Samaritan Center
June 11, 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Sailboat Bay Apartments
5417 Albemarle Road
Charlotte, NC 28212

Charlotte International Cabinet and Choice Translating
June 16, 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Tryon Plaza
112 S. Tryon Street, 2nd Floor
Charlotte, NC 28202

Next Meeting

- **June 26, 3:00-5:00 p.m.**
CMGC, Room 267

Next Listening Session

- **June 11, 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**
Neighborhood Good Samaritan
Center

More Information

- www.CharlotteInternational.org