

Steeles/L'Amoreaux Local Immigration Partnership

Team 3: Making Services and Supports More Effective-

Meeting Minutes May 27th 2010

Location: ACCES Employment - 2100 Ellesmere Rd. - Suite 250

Time: 9:30am – 11:30am

Attendees: Gurprit Matharu (Transcare Community Support Services, formerly SSS), Michelle Allen (ACCESS Employment), Cynthia Dumont ((WSHCC), Christine Ng (Carefirst), Mei Tin Lee (CICS), Frank Chu (TCDSB), Marie Herrera (Toronto Public Health), Wael Homaidan (ACCT), Ralph Gain (YouthLink), Hakima Yusufi (AAO), Tawanda Chirenda (Eglinton/Kennedy East LIP & ACCESS Employment), Mani Mahadeva (S/L'Am LIP), Rezwan Karim (S/L'Am LIP), Michelle Davis (S/L'Am LIP)

1. Welcoming
 - Mani opens the meeting and participants give a brief introduction of themselves
 - Mani goes over the agenda and discusses chairperson role

2. Update on what was discussed in the Steering Committee Meeting - May 11th at ACSA
 - Mei Tin briefly discusses what took place in the Steering Committee Meeting, informs the group about potential extension of LIP till March 2011, and a possible further extension beyond that
 - Discussed the focus areas and the role of each LIP Team
 - Recommendations on welcoming packages for Team 1 to make it more effective and potential welcoming centres from existing resources
 - Team 2 was focused on capacity building, and including faith-based/community groups and employers, and also to devise a mechanism to share negative experiences of newcomers to keep them informed
 - Concern of Team 3 that timeline for Strategic paper will not be enough time
 - Mani discusses deadlines – draft to be in place by July internally and an extension for work plan and budget will need to be negotiated with CIC. The document we submit in October 2010 will be an interim strategy paper.

Feedback

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- Mani explained that CIC will be funding the extension
- Ralph asked if there is collaboration with other LIP's

- Mani explained that he has been involved in collaborations with other LIP's through OCASI and on a personal level

Mani informs that there will be a Toronto wide LIP headed by City of Toronto where most of the Toronto neighbourhood LIPs will be part of.

3. Process Evaluation of LIP

- LIP Project has hired an outside consultant from WISE Solutions
- They will provide the participants with an online evaluation form in June 2010, due back in 2 weeks from the received date
- The evaluations is part of the project work plan and a required aspect of the LIP process

4. Analysis of Existing Services

- Mani informed that the analysis was not completed due to missing information from most of the Council members
- Shares the data that he was able to extract from the Partner Profile's

Feedback

- Ralph suggested investigating what will happen with Employment agencies due to funding cuts from CIC
- It was told that any agency involved in employment services should have all five major components to receive future funding

5. Review and develop Goals, Objectives & Outputs for Team 3

- Participants break into two groups to review and work on Goals, Objectives, and Outputs of Team 3

Feedback

- Participants proposed to break into small groups to analyze and make recommendations for different service sectors
- All the members agreed with the following approaches
 - Build the capacity of all the stakeholders in touch with newcomers
 - Share information among partner agencies
 - Analyze what we have and what is the gap
 - Identify potential area for partnership and provide better services
 - Proper case-management approach
- Outputs
 - Identify availability of different newcomer services in the project area
 - Identify the gaps in those services
 - Identify training needs of front line staff and community leaders
 - Identify settlement service organizations willing to work together
 - One or more partnership models identified
 - Identify potential locations for one- stop-shopping centres
 - Prospective employers are identified
 - Mentors in different professional field identified and connected
- Settlement services should refer their clients to the right agency when they do not have a particular service in their organization

- We need proper guideline for case management - who claims the clients
- Agencies interested in partnering with any other agency should express their interest directly or thru Partnership Council
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6. Next Steps & Next Meeting Date, Time & Venue

- Mani suggested to meet the Team 3 members before next Team meeting to receive feedback and continue the ground work
Next meeting will be held on July 8th, 2010 9:30am – 11:30am at CICS, 2330 Midland Ave.