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## Refugee Services Office

### Summary of Suggested Recommendations to the Advisory Board

March 23, 2017

#### **EMPLOYMENT**

- Bring all refugee providers together who offer employment to identify where there is overlap and develop a better, clear, coordinated system.
- Enhance job training and build clear pathways for refugees to move from low-paying jobs into job training and higher-wage paying jobs.
- Continue to build pathways to moderate-income jobs.
- Continue to provide services for under-employed refugees.

#### **LIFE SKILLS**

- Provide better intermediate life skills training.
- Help refugees learn to navigate complex systems to meet the gaps in their knowledge.
- Develop a plan that identifies the key areas and provides more life skills training at higher levels for refugees to integrate more successfully.

#### **HOUSING**

- Work with the State Plan to encompass more available, affordable housing for refugees.
- Look at how to build up resettlement opportunities outside the Salt Lake Valley in areas where housing is available and affordable and other support is easily accessible.

#### **YOUTH**

- Develop clear coordination and pathways with providers working collaboratively to develop the conversation to identify a pathway, role, system changes, gaps, responses and coordination.
- Identify services for at-risk youth related to prevention, English Language Learners (ELL) pathways, employment and job training.

#### **ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS (ELL)**

- Develop long-term learning pathways and link learning to employment, which is critical to our future success in helping refugees.
- Provide specific subject matter learning linked to employment areas.
- Provide persistent, consistent, systematic teaching and engagement, in order to achieve successful outcomes across the board.
- Continue to coordinate with providers, develop clear pathways based on assessment and profile, and build new English- and employment-based learning.



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## **VOLUNTEERS**

- Help volunteers understand all the opportunities that exist for volunteers' effort to make a good match with their time and talents.
- Find service opportunities that match with one-time volunteers and their interests.

## **MENTAL HEALTH**

- Increase access to non-refugee specific programs by supporting refugees' efforts to access these programs and by providing training to existing programs regarding how to better serve refugees.

## **NEW AND EMERGING PROGRAMS**

- Coordinate new programs with key providers to help build collaboration and guide their work.
- The Advisory Board recommended RSO lead the effort in bringing new programs together, to build collaboration and provide guidance in shaping programming and focus.

## **FUNDING**

- Develop a funding breakdown in the areas where there is overlap of services.
- Enable the Advisory Board to make recommendations regarding how services and funding could be more coordinated to prevent duplication and build a more seamless system.