



EMPLOYMENT &  
HUMAN SERVICES

## MEMORANDUM

Kathy Gallagher, Director

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To: All Staff Date: March 11, 2021

cc: Executive Team

From: Tamina Alon, Interim Assistant Director, Policy & Planning

Subject: Contra Costa County Receives Award to Develop a Welcoming Plan for Immigrant Inclusion – Opportunities for Staff Involvement

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EHSD and Contra Costa Health Services are partnering to build a **Contra Costa County Welcoming Plan for Immigrant Inclusion**, with help from the Gateways for Growth (G4G) team. Launched in 2016, G4G is a competitive opportunity for localities to receive research support and/or technical assistance to improve immigrant inclusion in their communities. Last November, Contra Costa County was one of 19 G4G grant awardees nationally.

A Gateways for Growth award supports the County's proposed plan to integrate racial equity and immigrant inclusion work. The plan will embed and link the work of welcoming and immigrant inclusion into the community planning process soon to be underway to establish a County **Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice**. Contra Costa County's planning process will both seek out language minority and immigrant communities, and bring in more small community-based and faith-based organizations.

Would you like to be involved? We need your help!

- Translate documents (we need help with a lot of languages!)
- Help develop a short community survey
- Connect us with immigrant community groups, organizations, churches, businesses, nonprofits etc.
- Share your immigrant experience in Contra Costa County
- Provide recommendations on what the community should do to advance immigrant inclusion civically, socially and economically
- Create outreach materials to minority and language minority communities (flyers, social media, etc.)
- Create/work on Welcoming Contra Costa website for the Welcoming Plan and other immigrant inclusion resources
- Catalog immigrant community organizations and contact information
- Attend community meetings (all virtual!) and take notes or be an interpreter

- Create an outreach plan for reaching community members who do not have stable internet access
- Interview community members to get insight on barriers to public participation
- Survey your own family, friends, and community (in Contra Costa) and write a report on their answers to immigrant inclusion questions
- Read reports of other communities who have done this work and make a presentation about best practices
- Other ideas welcome!

The Gateways for Growth project will end on December 31, 2021.

There are many ways to participate, even if you only have a short amount of time. **If you are interested, please obtain your supervisor's approval for the amount of time you would like to work on this project, and then contact Claudia Lam at [clam@ehsd.cccounty.us](mailto:clam@ehsd.cccounty.us) or 8-1002. Please copy your supervisor on your email to verify that they are informed.** Please respond by April 15, 2021.

We look forward to hearing from you.