



International Catholic
Migration Commission's
Resettlement Support
Center
Turkey and Middle East

CULTURAL ORIENTATION
Program

9th Annual Refugee Admissions Program Workshop
December 2-6, 2013





Refugees served by ICMC FFY 2013

Turkey:

- Number of refugee adult learners attending – 3,279 (97% attendance)
- Youth CO 389
- Muslim, Christian, Baha'i
- Iraqi, Iranian, Afghani, Sudanese, Somali, Palestinian

Lebanon:

- Number of refugee adult learners attending – 1,173 (99% attendance)
- Muslim, Christian
- Iraqi, Sudanese

Kuwait and UAE:

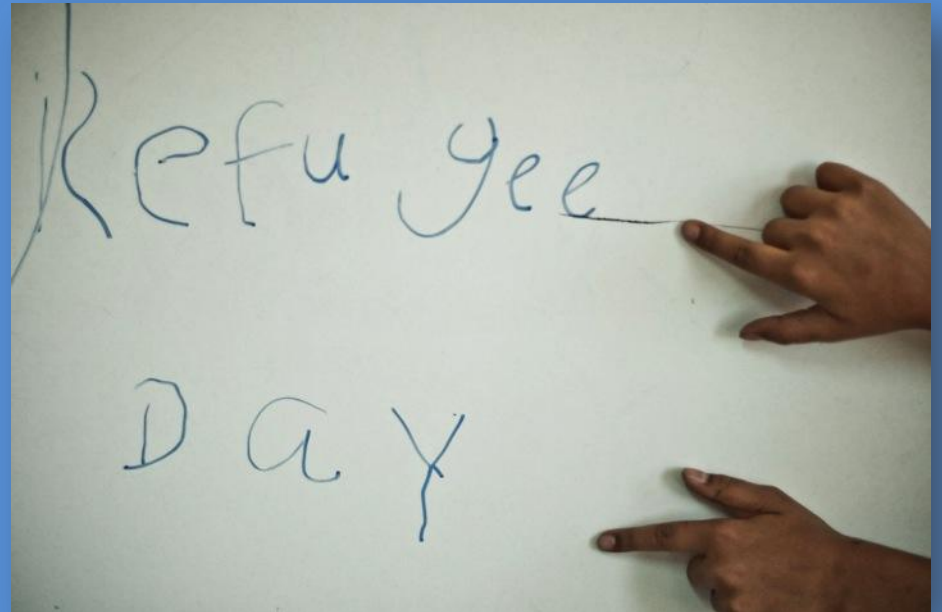
- Number of refugee adult learners attending – 182 (88% attendance)
- Iraqi





Class composition and duration:

- Adult classes ages 14 and over
 - Mix of all ages and gender
 - Language specific
- Youth classes ages 8-14
 - Age mix
 - Language specific
- Child care ages 0-7
 - Age mix
 - All languages





Curriculum

Objectives and Indicators: Equip refugees with the appropriate knowledge, skills and attitude for their resettlement to the US

Lesson Plan

Interactive activities, role plays, discussions focused on:

Knowledge:

- Timely, personal, opportunities

Skills:

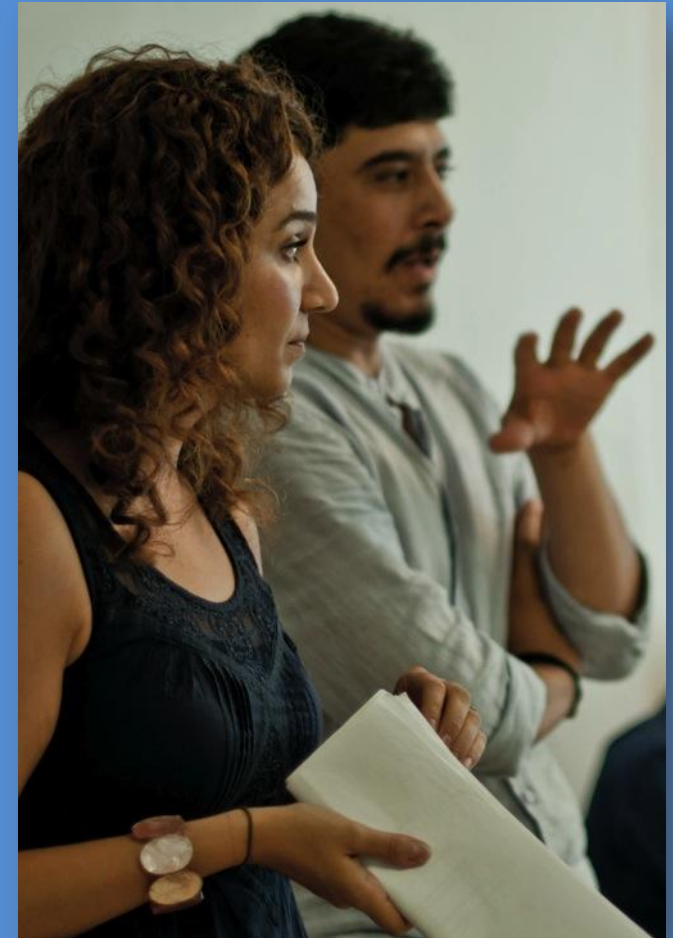
- Practical, every day, simple

Attitudes:

- Positive, realistic, responsibility

Values:

- Self Reliance, Individualism, Directness, Efficiency, etc.





Program Challenges

Time:

- Limited to 3 very long days. 1st day often follows 12-15 hour bus ride
- More than 4 months between training and departure in Turkey
- Interpretation slows the class
- Child care and interruptions

Diversity of the learner:

- Religion, language, age
- Education





In recognition of completion of an intensive three-day

Cultural Orientation

Course designed to provide U.S. – bound refugees with specific information and skills required for resettlement in the United States.

This certificate is presented to:

_____ on the

_____ day of _____, 2013 in Istanbul, Turkey

by:

_____ Trainer

_____ Head Of Cultural Orientation



Having completed the three day training program I have learned about:

- ✓ **Travel**
 - The departure process, airport regulations, and importance of documents.
 - My responsibility for repaying my travel loan.
- ✓ **Role of the Local Resettlement Agency**
 - The roles and responsibilities of the resettlement agency.
 - Assistance for me and my family which is limited in the United States.
 - Assistance for me and my family which will vary by location.
 - My responsibility for my own successful resettlement.
- ✓ **Housing**
 - Receiving decent, safe and sanitary housing.
 - My housing which may be different from my expectations.
 - My housing and that I have rights and responsibilities.
- ✓ **Rights and responsibilities**
 - Following the laws of the United States.
 - My responsibility for adjusting my immigration status in the United States.
 - My choices which may affect my immigration status.
- ✓ **Education**
 - Learning English which is important to successful adjustment to the United States.
 - Schooling which is required until the age of 16 for both boys and girls and is free in public schools.
 - Opportunities for education must be weighed against the need to work.
- ✓ **Employment**
 - The expectation to find work to support me and my family.
 - Speaking English will help me be successful in the United States.
 - Having rights and responsibilities in the workplace.
 - Manage my money.
- ✓ **Health**
 - Bringing with me medications I am currently taking.
 - Receiving health screenings and the possible need for immunizations upon arrival in the United States.
 - The United States having different health care systems depending on where I live.
 - Being responsible for my health and that of my family.
- ✓ **Cultural Adjustment**
 - Experiencing many cultural differences between my traditions and those in the United States.
 - Sometimes being happy, sad, and lonely because of these experiences.
 - Finding ways of dealing with my emotions including talking to friends and caseworkers.
 - My family values being affected by resettlement.



Thank You