

Mapping Community Characteristics for Enhancement of Recent Immigration Population Front End Support Systems

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Speaker's Background and Experiences

- **Interests - Agri-tourism, Community and Youth Entrepreneurship, Applied Economics**
- **Leadership –**
 - **Chair, Technical Advisory Committee, Northeast Regional Center for Rural Development**
 - **Past President for the Association for Small Business and Entrepreneurship (www.asbe.us)**
 - **Executive Board member with Invent Vermont, LLC (www.inventvermont.com)**
- **Teaching (every semester) –**
 - **Introduction to Community Entrepreneurship (120-140)**
 - **Strategic Planning (capstone course for community entrepreneurship major, 20-40)**
- **Funded Projects –**
 - **Multifunctional Farm Operation and Its Impacts on Small/Medium Sized Farms (USDA, AFRI)**
 - **Innovative Waste Management Strategies (USDA, Conservation Incentive Grant)**

My First Experience with The Immigrant Labor in the US

- **Between 1996 and 1998 at the Panhandle Research and Extension Center (University of Nebraska) in Scottsbluff, Nebraska**
- **Working in farms (sugar beets) and manufactories**
- **Characteristics of the immigrant labor from my own experience – hard working, average living condition, sustainable income**

Unique Situations in Vermont

(Articulate Community Characteristics)

- **People**
 - Who we are
 - What our spirit is
 - How we feel
 - How we treat others
- **Place**
 - Resource and limitation
 - Geographical location and relationship with surrounding areas
- **Prosperity**
 - Opportunities
 - Types of industries and employment
 - Tangible and intangible assets



Questions? Comments?

Vermont Immigration Statistics

(US Immigration Support www.usimmigrationsupport.org;
Federation for American Immigration Reform www.fairus.org)

- Vermont's immigrant population increased by 30.7% between 2000 and 2006.
- In 2005, housing authorities reported over 2,000 of Vermont households as crowded or severely crowded. Studies by the Urban Institute in 2001 indicate a rise in crowded housing often correlates with an increase in the number of immigrant residents.
- As of 2007, FAIR estimates the state's illegal alien population to be about 5,000 persons which equates to approximately 0.8% percent of the overall population.
- The annual fiscal cost to Vermont taxpayers for emergency medical care, education and incarceration projected by FAIR is currently \$5 million and is estimated to rise to \$8 million per year in 2010 and \$14 million per year in 2020.

Summary Demographic State Data (and Source)

Population (2008 CB est.):	621,270
Population (2000 Census):	608,827
Foreign-Born Population (2008 FAIR)	22,475
Foreign-Born Population (2000 Census):	23,245
Share Foreign-Born (2008 FAIR est.):	3.6%
Share Foreign-Born (2000):	3.8%
Immigrant Stock (2000 CB est.):	71,000
<i>Share Immigrant Stock (2000 est.):</i>	11.7%
Naturalized U.S. Citizens (2006 CB est.):	12,507
<i>Share Naturalized (2006):</i>	53.6%
Legal Immigrant Admission (DHS 1997-2006):	7,685
Refugee Admission (DHS 1997-2006):	2,319
Illegal Alien Population (2008 FAIR est.):	5,000
Projected 2050 Population - (2006 FAIR):	1,880,541

Challenges and Barriers for Immigrants in General and in Vermont

- Language and communication
- Basic technology applications
- Skills, education, and employment
- Culture
- Weather and climate
- Food and other dietary needs
- Transportation and healthcare
- Trauma from previous war and living in persecution

Organizations Assisting Immigrants and Refugee Resettlement in Vermont

- **Vermont Refugee Resettlement Program (Somali Bantu, Sudan)**
- **Association of Africans in Vermont**
- **Local churches**
- **Local libraries (language training, story telling and sharing, reading, cultural sharing, arts and crafts)**
- **Other non-profit organizations**



Questions? Comments?



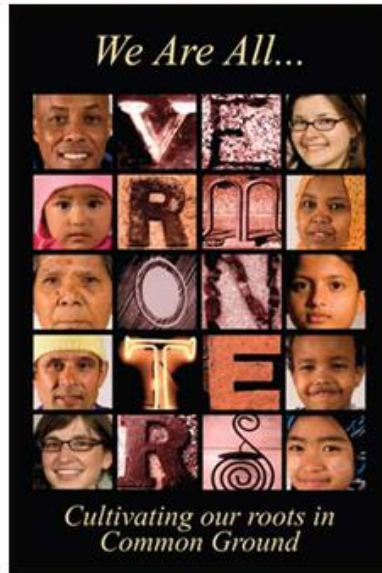
**Examples of Innovative and Successful Community
Programs in Vermont**
(matching community characteristics with the needs)

The Vermont Refugee Resettlement Program brings hope and support to immigrants. We act to defend human rights, promote self-sufficiency and education, and provide a range of services and programs.

What's happening at USCRI Vermont:

We Share Our World

An exhibit about former refugees now living in Vermont.



September 6 thru October 16, 2010
Scott Memorial Gallery in the Dibden Center for the Arts
Johnson State College
Gallery Hours are M-F 10 am to 6 pm
Saturday 10 am to 4 pm

September 15, 2010
3 pm-5:45 pm Reception with Ethnic Food
6 pm-7:30 pm Panel Discussion

Visitors will get a glimpse into the lives of new Americans who came as refugees from Bhutan, Burma, Iraq, and Somalia.

This exhibit is a collaboration between Vermont Refugee Resettlement Program (VRRP) and Johnson State College (JSC)

For more information call JSC at (802) 635-1469 or email lstavrand@uscrrt.org

Vermont Refugee Resettlement Program

We Share Our World

An exhibit about former refugees now living in Vermont

Movie and Dinner Series

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2009

Home Across Lands Event at Champlain College Home Across Lands

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BLOG ARCHIVE

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[Home Across Lands Event at Champlain College](#)

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ABOUT ME

[VERMONT REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT PROGRAM](#)

[VIEW MY COMPLETE PROFILE](#)



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Please join us for a discussion after the movie and/or a conversation over dinner with refugees who are starting new lives in Vermont. Learn about the struggles, triumphs and renewed sense of hope experienced by refugee families resettling in this country.

Sunday, September 27

Movie 4 pm

Discussion 5 pm

Alumni Auditorium

Champlain College

375 Maple Street, Burlington, VT

FREE and open to the public

Suggested Donation of \$15

RSVP lstavrاند@uscrvt.org

Dinner 6:30 pm

Parima's Restaurant

185 Pearl Street Burlington VT

Frank Lloyd Wright Room

\$30 Donation

RSVP lstavrاند@uscrvt.org

Proceeds benefit the Volunteer Department at the Vermont Refugee Resettlement Program. For more information, please contact Laurie Stavrand at 802-338-4627.

Learn more about the film *Home Across Lands* at <http://www.homeacrosslands.org/>

Janet S. Munt VNA Family Room

The VNA Family Room provides services to parents and their children from birth through five years including preschool, play groups, and parent education and support programs. The Family Room is located at 20 Allen Street (St. Joseph's School) in Burlington. Most of the families that participate in programs live in Burlington's Old North End.

All services are free to participants. Funding for these programs comes from state grants and contracts, VNA charitable care contributions, a federal fatherhood grant and private foundation grants, and support from individual donors and community organizations.

The Family Room Mission

The program's mission is to foster characteristics that are associated with strong families and child abuse prevention. These protective factors are:

1. Parent-child nurturance and attachment
2. Knowledge of parenting and child development
3. Parental resilience and ability to handle stress
4. Social connections
5. Parent support to access community resources

The Family Room's goal is to promote healthy social and emotional development in young children and enhance school readiness factors such as the child's ability to interact with others, and communicate effectively.

Calendars and Newsletters

You can download a monthly calendar of upcoming Family Room activities here:

- [December Family Room Calendar](#)

Want to hear more about the latest activities and events? Click on our monthly newsletter here:

- [This Month at the Family Room - December](#)

Family Room Programs

The Family Room provides information about community resources and partners with other social service agencies for more effective service delivery. The Family Room is part of the VNA Family and Children's Services division and works closely with the Family and Children's Services home-visitors to meet the needs of families. Family Room offers these weekly programs:



VISITING NURSE ASSOCIATION
FAMILY ROOM PROGRAM

Vermont State Conference on Migrant Farmworkers

Saturday, April 24th, 2010
McCardell Bicentennial Hall, Middlebury College
8:30am -4:00 pm

This conference will provide opportunities for individuals and communities to organize at the local level to help farms and farmworkers.



Sponsored by:

The Addison County Farmworkers Coalition
People of Addison County Together (PACT)
Champlain Valley Area Health Education
Center (AHEC)
Vermont Human Rights Commission
Open Door Clinic, Middlebury
Vermont Action for Peace

Middlebury College, Juntos
UVM Extension Migrant Education Program
Vermont Center for Crime Victim Services
St. Mary's Church of the Assumption,
Middlebury
Mexican Consulate of Boston
Vermont Farm Bureau

Vermont Movie on Migrant Workers at Cedar Circle Farm

Free film: "Silenced Voices" — an important new film about migrant farm labor in VT
When: 6 -7pm (25 minute film followed by a discussion with the film makers
Where: Cedar Circle Farm and Education Center
225 Pavillion Rd East Thetford VT
Come early to enjoy the Cafe and Farmstand which close at 6pm.

About Silenced Voices:
Migrant Farmworker José Obeth Santiz Cruz was killed in a farming accident last December in Vermont. The Vermont Migrant Farmworker Solidarity Project sent a delegation to Mexico to return his remains and document his family and community coming to terms with his death, sharing stories about the causes, effects, and their experiences of migration. Their stories draw attention to the conditions and economic policies that force migrants from their homes in Mexico and suggest a need for a new dialogue about the root causes of migration. Produced and directed by Gustavo Terán, Brendan O'Neill, and Sam Mayfield for the Vermont Migrant Farmworker Solidarity Project.
For more info, visit: <http://www.cedarcirclefarm.org/news/>



VT Migrant Farmworker Solidarity Project



Resources

- [VT Immigrant and Farmworker Rights Resources](#)
 - [For Educators](#)
 - [Farmworker and Immigrant Rights Organizations](#)
 - [Family Farming, Food Justice and Farmworker Rights](#)
 - [Root Causes of Migration: Globalization of Agriculture](#)
 - [Mexico/Español](#)



Questions? Comments?

Job Creation for Immigrants in Vermont

- **Microenterprise development assistance**
 - **Communication and finding the “right person to connect refugees with organizations.”**
 - **Farmers’ market**
 - **One World Market**

Key Issues for Future Planning and Policy Implications

- **What are our community characteristics?**
 - **People**
 - **Place**
 - **Prosperity**

Key Issues for Future Planning and Policy Implications

- Racism
- Education
- Poverty
- Healthcare
- Law enforcement
- Public safety
- Children
- Role of religion
- What we take for granted ≠ What others will understand
- Focus on value and benefit for the community by working with immigrants
- Create specific action plans to introduce immigrants to the community, and to introduce the community to immigrants

References

- <http://www.unl.edu/sdn/immigration/articles/summary.shtml>
- <http://www.usimmigrationsupport.org/vermont.html>
- http://www.fairus.org/site/PageNavigator/facts/state_data/
- [http://www.fairus.org/site/PageNavigator/facts/state_data VT](http://www.fairus.org/site/PageNavigator/facts/state_data_VT)
- <http://www.vnacares.org/health-care-services/family-childrens-services/family-room>
- <http://uscri.refugees.org/site/PageNavigator/Vermont/ServicesVermont>
- http://www.cedoburlington.org/business/refugee_resource_guide/busref_resguide_toc.htm
- <http://www.vtmigrantfarmworkersolidarity.org/node/45>
- <http://blog.vitalcommunities.org/index.php/2010/08/vermont-movie-on-migrant-workers-at-cedar-circle-farm/>

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