



**Refugee Advisory Council of Washington State**  
**Education, Training and Employment Programs for Refugees**  
**Hybrid Public Forum**  
**Thursday, August 29, 2024, 10:00 am to 12:30 PM**  
**Agenda**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Presenter/Moderator</b>
10:00 to 10:10	Welcome and Introductions	<b>Patricia Castaneda</b> - Refugee Advisory Council Chair - Executive Director, Manzanita House in Spokane
10:10 – 10:30	WA State Refugee Assistance Updates	<b>Sarah Peterson</b> State Refugee Coordinator / Chief <a href="#">Office of Refugee and Immigrant Assistance</a> Department of Social and Health Services
10:30 – 10:40	Health Updates	<b>Jasmine Matheson</b> State Refugee Health Coordinator Washington State Department of Health
10:40 – 11:10	Education Programs for Refugees	<b>LEP Pathway – ESL   ELA (EDU) Program</b> <b>Amy Diehr</b> , Director of Workforce Development, Tacoma Community House <b>Karen C. Lee</b> , Associate Dean of Instruction, Lake Washington Institute of Technology <b>Van Kuno</b> , Executive Director, Refugee & Immigrant Services Northwest
11:10 – 11:40	Employment and Training Programs for Refugees	<b>CLEVER Program:</b> <b>Linda Faaren</b> , Director of Puget Sound Welcome Back Center and Special ESOL Projects, Highline College <b>Mahfooz Arian</b> , Lead Employment Specialist, Diocese of Olympia, Refugee Resettlement Office <b>LEP Pathway Employment Program:</b> <b>Arthur Barhudarian</b> , Program Supervisor, TRAC Associates <b>Santa Tamsang</b> , Employment Programs Manager, World Relief Western WA
11:40 – 11:55	County Local Updates	<b>Galina Volchkova</b> Refugee Advisory Council Member, Snohomish County Executive Director, Housing Services, Volunteers of America Western WA
11:55 – 12:00	Announcements and closing	<b>Patricia Castaneda</b> - Refugee Advisory Council Chair - Executive Director, Manzanita House in Spokane
12:00 – 12:30	Networking and Connection	<b>Patricia Castaneda</b> - Refugee Advisory Council Chair - Executive Director, Manzanita House in Spokane