

# 2008 National Refugee and Immigrant Conference: Issues and Innovations



Thursday-Friday, September 25-26, 2008  
Holiday Inn Chicago-Mart Plaza  
Chicago, Illinois

***You will find this conference valuable if you are a...***

- state refugee coordinator
- RCSIG coordinator
- bilingual education coordinator
- resettlement worker
- social worker
- school teacher and administrator
- university student and faculty
- counselor
- healthcare professional
- refugee and immigrant services staff

This conference offers the opportunity to identify issues, emphasize best practices, and highlight innovations among groups and individuals assisting refugee and immigrant children and their families. The conference will include sessions on:

- Integration of Services: integrating services and networking among educators, counselors, and healthcare professionals to strengthen and improve responses to refugee and immigrant needs
- Creating Partnerships: creating partnerships between families and service providers, emphasizing involvement, awareness and understanding
- Multiple-risk Families: understanding and helping the most vulnerable: children with multiple risks from behavioral, emotional and health-related problems; effects of dislocation, including stress, suicide, gang violence and family disruptions
- PreK-12 Educational Issues: developing dialogues among teachers of refugee students on best practices for: integrating refugee children and their families into the American school system from PreK through elementary to high school; providing early intervention by serving refugee children in PreK programs; educating teenage refugee students without any prior school experience or with broken schooling; encouraging high school refugee students into career exploration and post-secondary education
- Adult Education
- Family Life Education: strengthening refugee and immigrant families and facilitating productive cultural adjustment
- Health Issues: health promotion, nutrition, mental health, women and children's health, and accessing services for the disabled
- Refugee Influxes: recent refugee influxes
- Jobs: development, placement and training
- Issues of citizenship and immigration

**Special Keynote Presenters:**

**Alex Kotlowitz**, author of *Never a City so Real*,  
a book that celebrates the diversity and soul of Chicago

**Heide Spruck Wrigley**, senior researcher with LiteracyWork International, who has been intensely involved with immigrants and refugees and the challenges of language learning

Sessions will be posted online at <http://www.thecenterweb.org/alrc/refugee.html> in September.

For further information, contact Lynn Osheff: [losheff@thecenterweb.org](mailto:losheff@thecenterweb.org) or 224.366.8632.

*This conference is a collaboration of:*

The Center/Adult Learning Resource Center  
Chicago Public Schools  
Heartland Health Outreach  
Illinois Department of Human Services  
Illinois Department of Public Health  
Illinois Governor's Office of New Americans Policy  
and Advocacy

Illinois Refugee Children School Impact Grant  
Illinois State Board of Education  
Interfaith Refugee and Immigration Ministries  
International Center on Response to Catastrophes  
at the University of Illinois/Chicago  
Jewish Child and Family Services  
Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago

**Hotel Accommodations:** Holiday Inn Chicago Mart Plaza  
350 North Orleans  
Chicago, IL 60654  
Phone: (312) 836-5000  
Fax: (312) 222-9508

A block of rooms has been reserved at the Holiday Inn Chicago Mart Plaza. Participants are requested to make their own reservations, either online at: [http://www.martplaza.com/events/detail.cfm?EVENT\\_ID=EV\\_20080521085143630242](http://www.martplaza.com/events/detail.cfm?EVENT_ID=EV_20080521085143630242) or by calling (312) 836-5000. Room rate: \$169.00 plus tax for single or double. In order to receive this special rate, mention reservation code **EIR** and identify yourself as an attendee of the “**Refugee and Immigrant Conference.**” **Reservations must be made by Friday, September 5, 2008.**

**Directions, Parking, and Parking Fees:**

From I-90/I-94 (Dan Ryan Expressway), West to Washington St. East, Exit #51C. Go five blocks to Franklin St. and turn left. Go three blocks and cross the bridge. Franklin St. becomes Orleans St. The hotel will be on the left side.

Parking is available at the hotel. The cost for overnight parking is \$25. For conference commuters, parking tickets can be validated for a discount rate of \$12 at the front desk any time during the day.





**Register early...space is limited!**  
**\*\* DUE WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 \*\***

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 September 25-26, 2008

**REGISTRATION FORM**

Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Organization Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address (if different) \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Telephone # (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Can we include your name and e-mail address in a list of participants? \_\_\_ yes \_\_\_ no

How did you hear about the conference? \_\_\_ TV \_\_\_ Radio \_\_\_ Listserv  
 \_\_\_ AED Director \_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please check box if this is your first Refugee and Immigrant conference.**

Full conference fee*:	\$150	<input type="checkbox"/>	T and F, September 25 and 26
One-day fee*:	\$ 80	<input type="checkbox"/>	Thursday, September 25
	\$ <u>80</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Friday, September 26
<i>*Fee includes continental breakfast and lunch.</i>			
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	_____	

I am enclosing a check payable to The Center/ALRC for: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

My institution is paying by purchase order (PO): # \_\_\_\_\_

Total fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_

***Payment by check or PO must accompany this registration form.***

Mail form and check to:  
**The Center/Adult Learning Resource Center**  
**P. O. Box 2401**  
**Bedford Park, IL 60499-2401**

*For questions regarding registration, call Tatiana Davidson (224) 366-8622.*