## Challenges Facing Immigrant Communities and Role of Agencies Understandings of challenges facing immigrant communities and how service agencies can help them to overcome these challenges.

### **Training overview**

This conference has been developed for anyone working in a state, local or federal government capacity working with immigrant in the U.S. and abroad. This training session will detail the challenges facing immigrant communities including language and culture barriers, law enforcement, social services, health and other social services. The goal of the training is to highlight the daunting challenges facing immigrant communities and the help needed by them to beat these challenges. The training will provide information to social service providers on the basis for planning the services they give to the new immigrant communities like health and humans services, housing and other social services. By attending this session, you will be privy to a great deal of information that will help you to improve services you provide to the immigrant communities. Whether you are working with immigrant communities in local, state or federal level, you will find this session very informative.

#### In this session YOU WILL

- Explore challenges facing immigrant communities in their daily lives.
- Understand how these challenges impact their lives and how agencies can help them overcoming with these challenge.
- Learn barriers and obstacles of integration for the immigrant communities with the general public.
- Explore issues that are important to consider when designing programs for the immigrant communities.
- Recognize misconceptions and cultural barriers that face immigrant communities upon arrival to the United States and what is our role to cover the gap.
- Explore how to approach and effectively serve to the immigrant communities.
- Learn important things that healthcare professionals, law enforcement officers, attorneys, social workers and other public servants should know about immigrant communities in order to serve them better.
- Explore common mistakes made by agencies in dealing with the new Americans and how to avoid them.
- Explore ways for facilitating immigrants to quickly integrate into their new communities and be productive, self sufficient and adhesive members of our society.
- Get answers to all your questions about recent arrivals and their needs.

### Who Should Attend?

The training will be beneficial to anyone interested in learning more about cultural barriers that affect the lives of new immigrants, obstacles of their integration into the new communities, and how social service providers address these problems. It is highly recommended to those who work with new immigrants, and their families, including social workers, law enforcement officers, attorneys, healthcare professionals, media staff and psychologists.

#### About the Speaker

Abdi Elmi is founder and director of AGE Associates, a multi-ethnic training and consulting organization. AGE Associates provides diversity training and consulting to various organizations in health and Human services, law enforcement, public schools and other social services. Abdi provided consulting services to many projects run by international organizations including WHO, UNICEF and UNISOM. He lived and extensively traveled to the Middle East and many African countries. His areas of expertise are diversity trainings, culture and competence, exploring Islamic and Muslim cultures, exploring African cultures and evaluation of translation/interpreting in Arabic and Somali. Mr. Elmi has got a Masters degree in Health and Human Services Administration and speaks fluent Somali, Arabic and English. He can be reached at <u>director@ageassociate.com</u>

Duration: 3 hoursCEU: 3 CreditsRegistration fee: \$49

Price : \$1199 half day, \$2499 Full day

To register online please click <u>here</u>

# What participants said about our trainings?

I thought the presentation was very interesting. You covered a lot of ground in a relatively short period of time. I appreciate that you took questions throughout the presentation, and let people feel comfortable asking about anything. I have witnessed in other cultural competency-types of trainings that people are afraid to ask something and look bad, or risk offending someone. It was a very useful 3 hours for me, and I definitely learned a lot. It could easily have been a 4-hour training, and then the pace could have slowed down a bit. It felt like a lot of new information in rapid succession.

Thank you so much for sharing this information with us, and I hope to see you at another training soon!

# Sarah Senseman, MPH

"Training really comes to life when a trainer can tell stories about his material. It was very helpful to hear some of your stories about East African immigrants and some of the ways their culture has clashed with U.S. native culture. Those stories really bring our cultural differences to light and show us how we should not rush to judge people from other cultures"

# **Cathy Woodbury**

# **Staff Development Specialist**

"It reinforced and reminded me that recent immigrants will soon be integrated into this society and frictions/problems will resolve themselves. History bears this to be true".

# **Police officer**

Anoka Police Department, Minnesota.