



# County of San Diego

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**BARBARA JIMÉNEZ**  
COMMUNITY OPERATIONS OFFICER

## County of San Diego Task Force to Support Afghan Evacuees in San Diego

**Minutes | Virtual Meeting (Zoom Webinar)**  
**Monday, December 6, 2021 | 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting called to order by Barbara Jiménez at 1:00 PM
  
2. **Welcome & Introductions:**
  - Meeting was simultaneously interpreted through multiple languages (Arabic, Dari, and Pashto) through live interpretation.
  - Barbara Jiménez, Community Operations Officer for the Department of Homeless Solutions & Equitable Communities for the County of San Diego, provided the purpose of the meeting which was to convene a region-wide group of organizations, cities, and other groups who are providing support and preparing for Afghan Evacuee arrivals in San Diego.
  - Barbara Jiménez welcomed all the community partners providing reports later in the meeting.
  
3. **Public Communication:** Members of the public addressed the Task Force; each speaker was allowed one minute for comment.
  - **Matthew Shillingburg:** La Jolla Golden Triangle League and the Veteran's Association of North County
  - **Yama Meerzada:** Roghtoon Telehealth Group
  - **Mumtaz Momand:** Deputy Director, Afghan Community Cultural Center
  - **Jennifer Campbell:** Commissioner for Los Angeles County Veteran Affairs
  - **Homayra Yusufi:** Partnership for the Advancement of New Americans
  - **Kumayl Yusuf:** Massoud Foundation
  - **Aleena Jun:** CAIR San Diego
  - **Valerie Nash:** San Diego County Refugee Coalition
  - **Hajar Rochdi:** Islamic Center of San Diego and Kind Hearts
  - **Douglas Bennett:** Mubarak Center of El Cajon
  - **Amanda Urena:** Counselor, San Diego Unified School District

- **Shawn Azizi:** Azizi Foundation
- **Mahava Alami:** Program Manager for Survivors of Torture International
- **Shady Monemzadeh:** FEMA Region 9
- **Fraidoon Hashemi:** Founder of Afghan Community Culture Center
- **Besma Coda:** Project Manager, San Ysidro Health
- **Matthew Hoeg:** Outreach and Education Coordinator, CSA San Diego
- **Riannila Jamilah Granza:** ICNAR Relief San Diego Chapter
- **Sally Fimbres-Rumpf:** Representative for Health Development Services
- **Camellia Mortezaadeh:** Rady Children's Hospital
- **Corrine Hanson:** La Maestra Community Health Centers

#### 4. **Reports of Community Partners Serving Afghan Refugees and Overview of Next Steps/Continued Collaboration Regarding Afghan Refugee Resettlement**

- The following community partners provided information about their respective organizations and any services, programs, or connections they make for Afghan refugee:
  - **Nadine Topozada:** Director of Refugee and Immigrant Services, Catholic Charities Diocese of San Diego
  - **Donna Duvin:** Executive Director, International Rescue Committee
  - **Etleva Bejko:** Director of Refugee and Immigration Services, Jewish Family Service of San Diego
  - **Vince DiMaggio:** Assistant City Manager, City of El Cajon
  - **Farhat Popal:** Immigrant Affairs Manager, City of San Diego
  - **Prisci Quijada:** County Refugee Health Coordinator, County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency, Public Health Services
- The County of San Diego's next steps include forming working groups to address priority areas and working with existing groups to develop a region wide plan. The meeting provided a space for the following:
  - Public Communication
  - Updates and reports from stakeholders including: Resettlement Agencies, the Cities of El Cajon and San Diego, and the County Refugee Health Coordinator
- Attendees were encouraged to [e-mail](#) or call the Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs (619.338.2799) with any questions or if they were interested in participating in the working groups.
- There was a total of 95 attendees, representing local Resettlement Agencies, Ethnic-Based Community Organizations, local non-profit organizations, volunteer groups, cities, government offices, community members, and other entities.

#### 5. **Adjournment**

- Meeting adjourned by Barbara Jiménez at 2:04 PM.