

Newcomer Program Chelsea Police Department 2011 Accomplishments

- **January 2011** – “Public Safety” meet and greet at the CPD for Somali Bantu refugee families. Topics covered included: laws, reporting crime, children, gangs and personal safety. Officers answered questions and distributed resource bags containing community and police contact information.
- **February 2011** – Presentations for ESL classes by Officer Sammy Mojica at the Intergenerational Literacy Program serving newcomers to Chelsea from Asia, Africa and Latin America.
- **March 2011** – Police Station tour given to Somali Bantu community members. Tour given by Officer Sammy Mojica.
- **April 2011 – July 2011** – Advocate continued to meet with local groups to better understand the newcomer community and practices for helping them. Advocate cut back hours and search for new advocate began.
- **August 2011** – Organized National Night Out in collaboration with local vendors and community organizations to raise crime and drug prevention awareness in Chelsea.
- **September 2011** – Visit by the Vera Institute of Justice on Engaging Police in Immigrant Communities. Tour of Chelsea and Police Department. Meeting with Superior Officers of Community Services Unit. Focus group with Spanish speaking officers, resident officers and school resource officers. Meeting with representative from Domestic Violence Unit. Also involved Chelsea Collaborative, Centro Latino and Harbor Cov.
- **October 2011** – New Advocate hired.
- **November 2011** – Newcomer Advocate becomes familiar with Chelsea community. Meetings with the faces of local organizations, MGH and local resettlement agencies.
- **November 2011** – Met with an Iraqi refugee family in Chelsea, discussed their experiences as a refugee of war and life afterwards in a new country.
- **November 2011** – Worked with resident officer Emilio Rodriguez to explore a broken camera at the Group homes on Exeter Street where an Iraqi family lives.
- **December 2011** – Produced and distributed bulletin throughout the Department about recently arrived group of refugees from Eritrea.
- **December 2011** – Produced “What to Expect by Police” pamphlet in Tigrinya, an ethnic language spoken by Eritrean newcomers and distributed to Eritrean community.
- **December 2011** – Public Safety Workshop held at the police station for new Eritrean refugees. Collaborated with the Refugee Health Program at MGH, the International Institute of New England and the Eritrean Community Center. Presentations were given by Sergeant Miguel Sanchez, Patrolmen David Rizzuto and Officer Sammy Mojica. Topics covered included: personal safety, when to call the police, what to do when people you do not recognize come to your home, walking safety, how to avoid being targeted by local criminals, and how to identify police officers. Sammy Mojica also gave a tour of the Police Department afterwards.

- **December 2011** – Began serving as a mentor to an 11th grade Muslim student from Uganda at Chelsea High School.
- **January 2012** – Worked with Officer Jason Farden, Detective Rosie Medina and Harbor Cov to help an Iraqi woman with extremely limited English fleeing a Domestic Violence situation find shelter.
- **January 2012** – Organized Game Night with Community Service Division helping to connect students at Chelsea High School, many of whom are newcomers with the Police Department. Important opportunity for officers to connect with and get to know youth in the community in a friendly environment.

Newcomer Program Chelsea Police Department 2012 Goals

- Continued police officer presentations for ESL classes at Centro Latino, Bunker Hill Community College and the Intergenerational Literacy Program.
- Involve an increasing number of police officers in community events in order to connect a growing percent of the department with refugees, immigrants and the diverse cultural make up of the community.
- Hold cultural awareness trainings for police officers at the CPD in collaboration with MIRA beginning in February 2012 extending through May 2012, entitled the ABCs of Newcomers, with information about laws, experiences and the cultures and customs of new arrivals to Chelsea.
- Hold Domestic Violence workshop for women of the Bhutanese community and possibly others in collaboration with the MGH Refugee Health Program.
- Conduct Refugee Awareness workshop for Team Leaders of the REACH program at Chelsea High School to help them better serve refugee students.
- Work with local vendors and community organizations to plan the annual August National Night Out.
- Prepare a picnic and celebration for World Refugee Day in late June.
- Extend outreach to the Somali community.
- Check in regularly with the Eritrean community.
- Plan a CPD sponsored Block Party bringing together the diverse cultural groups that make up Chelsea and the Police Department.
- Meet with local service providers to try and enhance cohesion and unity among Iraqi refugees in Chelsea.
- Maintain communication with resettlement agencies and the MGH Refugee Health program to update Police Officers about newcomers to Chelsea, and plan Public Safety Workshop for those newcomers.