



SEACM's mission is to welcome refugees and immigrants of all nationalities and assist them in becoming healthy, productive members of our community.

2315 Placer Street, Redding, California 96001 • A 501(c)(3) non-profit organization • (530) 241-4802

Playhouse Fund Raiser a Success

Patrons gathered on Thursday, May 25th at Riverfront Playhouse to watch the play "Charlie's Aunt," a buyout, fund raiser for SEACM. A raffle was held and appetizers served during intermission. SEACM thanks you for helping us raise almost \$1,400 in funds!

Thankful Immigrant

We wanted to share a note that Director Alice McFadden recently received from a thankful immigrant: Dear Alicia,

I don't know if you remember me, but you helped me with my husband's paper work. My name is xxx. I am related to xxx-xxx. Well, when I came in I didn't have much money and I asked you if I could send it to you later. I'm so sorry it's taken me this long. This weather has really messed up our working season. Thank God I'm finally earning a little more. I wasn't sure how much to send you but here's \$100. Thank you so much for your help and I hope God blesses you many more years.

Sincerely, xxxxx

Her name is withheld for privacy reasons...

The Many Hats of Director Alice

Most would agree that SEACM's Director Alice McFadden is an invaluable asset to the community, refugees, and immigrants. She is bi-lingual in Spanish, certified in immigration protocol and legalities, has developed important connections with public and private agencies, and provides assistance to immigrants and refugees free of charge through the SEACM ministry. She provides services through scheduled appointments that cover such needs as applications for Family Unity, N-400 Citizenship, Green Card renewals, DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) forms and notary assistance.



Immigrants and refugees have the option of procuring these types of services through attorneys or paralegals at quite an expense. Also, in rural northern California there are few qualified attorneys or paralegals specializing in immigration law and citizenship protocol.

Alice has developed a reputation in the community as the "go-to" person when an agency has questions about immigration or refugee issues. Some of the agencies she works with are Public Health, Social Services, the Sheriff's Office and Police Department, School Districts, Congressman Doug La Malfa's office, Northern Valley Catholic Social Services, and numerous northern California hospitals.

Alice works part-time as SEACM's director and is our only salaried employee. On her own time, she volunteers her expertise helping local Hispanic women with medical needs and issues. We are blessed to have Alice working for SEACM as our director and want to thank her for her dedication, service and expertise! • • •

Board of Directors

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Raheel Hussain - *Member-at-large*

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Margery Stockwell - *Member-at-large*

Website: seacmredding.org

Your Giving Makes a Difference

Many, many thanks for your continued support. Immigrants and refugees need our prayers and support, now more than ever.

Your giving helps support areas such as the Director's position, citizenship resource materials, ongoing education and training, and administrative costs.

Please use the **enclosed envelope** to mail a donation today. Your gifts are a blessing to us and to the people we serve. God bless you.



From the Desk of Director Alice...

We are filling out many more applications for **Citizenship** and the whole process is taking almost 10 months instead of 2 to 3 months as in past years. If a client meets the residency requirements they began by filling out a 20 page application....the **N-400**. The form requests basic biographical information...jobs, addresses and trips out of the country for the last 5 years, information on your children and marital history. The rest of the forms addresses your affiliations, your potential criminal activity, and ends with 6 questions pledging your allegiance to the USA. The application with a payment of \$725 is sent off to the USCIS (United States Citizenship and Immigration Service) Phoenix Lockbox. In just a couple of weeks the client receives a receipt notice and an appointment for fingerprints and pictures at the Application Support Center (ASC) in West Sacramento. Then the waiting begins.

Applicants who applied last December are receiving interviews in September at the Sacramento USCIS office. There are three parts to the interview. There is a review of the application with an immigration officer. The applicant needs also to read a sentence, write a dictated sentence, and answer correctly 6 out of 10 of the 100 questions on civics, geography and history of the USA. If all three elements of the interview are passed then the Oath Ceremony is scheduled.

Congratulations to one of our directors, Raheel Hussain, who recently became an American citizen after quite a lengthy process. Raheel is an engineer at CH2M Hill, an international engineering firm, with an office in Redding. He brings a unique immigration perspective to our board and we are delighted to have him as a director.

Tip of the Day – A comprehensive website for immigration information is **Immigration Advocates Network**, a nonprofit resource center. They have podcasts, webinars, and post the latest news about immigration. They also have a legal directory. Take a look at www.immigrationadvocates.org.

Mark Your Calendars...Playhouse Buyout Thursday, December 7, 2017

SEACM has reserved a Christmas season buyout from Riverfront Playhouse on Thursday, December 7, 2017. The play will be "A Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens. Purchase of tickets to the play would make a wonderful Christmas gift to friends and family. Delicious appetizers will be served and a super raffle will be held.