



## Immigration Task Force

Wednesday, August 21, 10:00am-11:00am

City Council Chambers, 318 Dorney Plaza

### Agenda

Mayor's Update

Strategic Plan Update

Communications: Joy Brown

Police: Chief Mathias

Health System: Dr. Bill Kose, BVHS\* pending confirmation

Workgroup Time: Please fill out the service provider form and return to Jaclynn by Friday, August 30<sup>th</sup>.

### Contacts

Mayor Murny, [mayor@findlayohio.gov](mailto:mayor@findlayohio.gov)

Jaclynn Hohman, Mayor's Office, [jhohman@findlayohio.gov](mailto:jhohman@findlayohio.gov)

Zach Thomas, CCE/ADAMHS, [Zachary.thomas@findlay.edu](mailto:Zachary.thomas@findlay.edu)

### Events

Head to [findlaylibrary.org/events](http://findlaylibrary.org/events) to access the English class schedule.

*For all other community events head to [visitfindlay.com/events](http://visitfindlay.com/events).*



## MINUTES

Mayor Muryn welcomed the group and gave general updates based on the Strategic Plan (resource guides, translation, ESL classes, etc). Muryn reminded the group that the City of Findlay is not bringing individuals here and is not paying for their housing, food, transportation, or anything else. She briefly touched on her conversation with the Governor's office and mentioned that the state is working on improving traffic safety. Muryn reminded the task force that the ultimate goal is helping individuals to better understand the ways of our community and help them to learn English so that they are able to be self-sufficient contributing members of our community. Discussions are taking place with community partners about the needs of different organizations specifically related to translation costs. She stated that roughly 1,000 immigrants are in our community and reassured the group that the decline in population and large amount of vacant housing is what allowed Springfield to grow so much. Muryn told the group that she will be speaking with local human resource offices regarding cultural education for employees as well as to address healthcare needs.

Joy Brown gave an update on the communications plan. She is researching a list of different stories to educate the community about the immigration process, cultural differences, human interest stories, etc.

Dr. William Kose gave an update regarding health care in the community. He reported that translation service costs are up. The healthcare system is discussing a possible clinic or certain hours for non-English speakers to attend where a translator will be present. Healthcare is very different in Haiti and it is difficult for individuals to sign up for healthcare or understand the information when it is provided in English. Concerns were brought forward from attendees regarding holding employers accountable.

Chief James Mathias gave an update regarding what the Police department is experiencing. He said that they are focused on finding ways to educate the immigrant population and enforcement. He reported that they are not seeing violent crimes occur but rather traffic issues. If someone has a concern in the community they are doing their best to address it immediately but make sure that there is education involved (ex. No littering). Mathias explained that if someone commits a felony that Border Control will place an Ice Hold on the individual. They are only deported if they are convicted of committing a felony and that is up to Border Patrol, not local Police. Mathias reminded the group to please contact the Police first if they or any immigrants are experiencing issues. Concerns were raised about how domestic disputes are handled. Mathias stated that they are handled the same as any other U.S. citizen case and they are unable to press charges if the individuals do not want to speak with law enforcement.



Jaclynn Hohman reminded the group to send her common phrases that would be helpful to have translation. She gave out the form for people to fill out (Attachment A) and return to her so that she can work on an FAQ document to be given to newcomers. Jaclynn told the group to please reach out with any questions and thanked them for the work they are doing for the community.

The meeting concluded.



**ATTACHMENT A**

**SERVICE PROVIDER FORM**

**Organization:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Service Area:**  Findlay  Hancock County  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please describe what services you provide that are available to non-U.S. citizens:**

---

---

---

---

**What do you currently use for translation services?**

---

---

---

---

**What are the FAQs that you receive? This information will help us put together a comprehensive list for organizations to turn to.**

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_