

Ted Strickland  
Governor

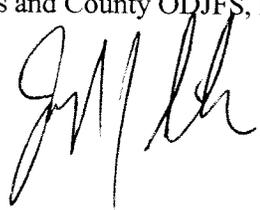


Helen E. Jones-Kelley, J.D.  
Director

30 East Broad Street Columbus, Ohio 43215-3414  
jfs.ohio.gov

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** ODJFS Deputy Directors and County ODJFS, PCSA and CSEA Directors

**FROM:** Joseph J. Silver, Chief  
Bureau of Civil Rights 

**DATE:** April 7, 2008

**SUBJECT:** Statewide Cultural Diversity Conference: May 14-15, 2008

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The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services in partnership with the Ohio Statewide Cultural Diversity Committee will hold a two-day Cultural Diversity Conference on Wednesday, May 14 and Thursday, May 15, 2008, at the Riffe Conference Center at 77 South High Street, 31<sup>st</sup> Floor, Columbus, Ohio. This two-day conference will offer you a unique opportunity to learn about Ohio's cultural diverse communities, and our efforts in addressing their needs and concerns.

As Ohio's population becomes more diverse, it is essential that social and other service provider agencies keep pace by developing skills and strategies to respond to the needs of the families we serve. In Ohio, and in the rest of the nation, our demographics are changing every day. New opportunities for our growth come with the arrival of new immigrants and their specific needs. It is important that we all join in the effort to promote awareness, understanding, and competence when serving all Ohio families.

ODJFS will cover the training fees. County agencies are asked to cover their staff overnight and travel expenditures. Although no specific arrangements have been made, for hotel accommodations you may contact the following hotels in the downtown area. The Hyatt on Capitol Square, 75 E. State Street, Columbus, at 614 228-1234 and Doubletree Suites, 50 South Front Street, Columbus at 614 228-4600. They have government rates on a first come first served basis.

With this memorandum we are including an agenda and registration form. We are asking that you return this form no later than **May 9, 2008**. Registrations received after this date, will be considered based on space availability.

Please send your registration form by mail to the Bureau of Civil Rights, Cultural & LEP Section, 30 E. Broad Street, 37<sup>th</sup> Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215, or fax it to (614) 752-6381. If you have any questions about this training, please contact our office at 614 644-2703 or e-mail Julia Arbin Carbonell at [ARBINJ@ODJFS.STATE.OH.US](mailto:ARBINJ@ODJFS.STATE.OH.US)

cc: Brenda Gerhardstein  
Helen Jones-Kelley

Ohio Department of Job and Family Services  
Bureau of Civil Rights  
Cultural Diversity: "Here and Now" Conference

AGENDA

Riffe Conference Center  
77 South High Street – 31<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
May 14, 15, 2008

**Day One Workshops:** May 14, 2008

9:00 - 9:30 a.m. Registration

9:30 - 10:00 a.m. Welcoming Remarks – Joe Silver  
Key Note Speaker – Frances Frazier

10:00 – 11:45 a.m. Workshops

- Immigration Patterns: A Nation of Immigrants *31<sup>st</sup> Floor*
- Somalis: Understanding their diversity, values and traditions - *31<sup>st</sup> Floor*
- Islam: Removing the Mystery – *31<sup>st</sup> Floor*
- GLBT: A Legal Perspective– *31<sup>st</sup> Floor*

11:45 – Noon Q & A

Noon – 1:30 p.m. Lunch On Your Own

1:30 – 3:00 p.m. Workshops

- Immigration Patterns: A Nation of Immigrants – *31<sup>st</sup> Floor*
- Somalia: Understanding their diversity, values and traditions - *31<sup>st</sup> Floor*
- Islam: Removing the Mystery – *31<sup>st</sup> Floor*
- GLBT: A Legal Perspective – *31<sup>st</sup> Floor*

*Request for seven hours of continuing education credits (ceu's) have been submitted for this day of the program. Approval is pending.*

ODJFS Bureau of Civil Rights  
Ohio Statewide Cultural Diversity Committee Day  
Cultural Diversity: "Here and Now" Conference

AGENDA

Riffe Conference Center  
77 South High Street – 31<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
May 14, 15, 2008

**Day Two Workshops:** May 15, 2008

9:00 - 9:30 a.m. Registration

9:30 - 10:00 a.m. Welcoming Remarks – Joe Silver & Angie Martinez  
Key Note Speaker – Helen Jones-Kelley, Director  
Ohio Department of Job and Family Services

10:00 – 11:45 a.m. Workshops

- Defining & Exploring Diversity within the Workplace – *31<sup>st</sup> Floor*
- Establishing or Revitalizing Your Diversity Committee - *31<sup>st</sup> Floor*
- Diversity Community Experience - *31<sup>st</sup> Floor*
- The Culture of Foster Care - *31<sup>st</sup> Floor*

11:45 – Noon Q & A

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- Defining & Exploring Diversity within the Workplace – *31<sup>st</sup> Floor*
- Establishing or Revitalizing Your Diversity Committee - *31<sup>st</sup> Floor*
- Diversity Community Experience - *31<sup>st</sup> Floor*
- The Culture of Foster Care - *31<sup>st</sup> Floor*

## WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION

1. **A Nation of Immigrants and Its Immigration Patterns** - This country is often called a Country of Immigrants. It was founded by immigrants, and immigrants continue to form an integral part of its landscape. This workshop will look at the patterns of immigration, including the current pattern of immigration, and address some of the immigration issues impacting the nation today. Presenter: Mark Heller, Senior Attorney, ABLE
2. **Somalis: Understanding their diversity, values and traditions** - Somali refugees have been part of this nation's new immigrant community since the mid 1990's. This workshop will help participants understand Somali beliefs, values and traditions and how this new immigrant community is integrating into today's multicultural America. Presenter: Abdin Farah, Columbus Community Relations Commission
3. **Islam: Removing the Mystery** – Islam is an ancient religion that has intersected with Judaism and Christianity for centuries. This workshop will introduce participants to the complexity and history of Islam, as well as some of the Islamic intellectual traditions that have affected the West. Presenter: Abukar Arman
4. **Sexual Orientation and Gender Identification** - The State of Ohio issued an Executive Order which established a policy against discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity. This workshop will provide understanding of the protected class under Ohio's Executive Order 10S. Presenter: Keith McNeil, Director of Operations/Regional Counsel, the Ohio Civil Rights Commission.
5. **Defining & Exploring Cultural Diversity within the Workplace** – Participants will define and explore diversity by learning to identify and examine their own stereotypes as they relate to the workplace and consumers. They will explore the impact of cultural influences on team workplace behavior, learn and practice effective techniques for handling cross-cultural conflict in the changing work environment and community. Presenters: Ellen M. Berts, Training Officer, Cuyahoga Department of Senior and Adult Services and Angie Martinez, Bilingual Case Manager, Lorain County Children Services Board.
6. **Diversifying Your Diversity Committee** - Participants will learn how to establish a functioning, viable and informative Diversity Committee that will get positive results. Participants will be given information and pointers on how to light a new fire under their committee to get it back up and running with positive results. Presenter: Ed Seybold, Statewide Diversity Committee Scribe - Presenter
7. **Diversity Community Experience** - Participants will be taken out of their norms and into two different cultures. During this activity, participants will be asked to visit and participate in the different cultures to experience the nuances of that culture. Presenter: Richard Smith - Cuyahoga County CSEA
8. **The Culture of Foster Care** - Participants will experience the life of children in foster care, and their ride on the Adoption Train, which was in existence from 1854 until 1929. Participants will learn how to interact act with clients who have gone through the system, and. understand their feelings of mistrust. Presenter: Lindy Lucas – Trumbull County JFS

OHIO DEPARTMENT OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES  
BUREAU OF CIVIL RIGHTS  
REGISTRATION FORM

Cultural Diversity: "Here and Now" Conference  
May 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 2008

Riffe Tower Conference Center  
77 South High Street, 31<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Agency Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Agency Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: OH Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please print clearly*

**LODGING AND MEALS WILL BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF EACH COUNTY  
AGENCY**

No arrangements have been made, however, for hotel accommodations in downtown  
Columbus you may call:

The Hyatt at Capital Square, 75 East State Street  
(614) 228-1234

or

The Doubletree Suites Hotel, 50 South Front Street  
(Connected to the Riffe Tower)  
(614) 228-4600

Send Registration Form to:

Julia Arbin Carbonell

Ohio Department of Job and Family Services  
Bureau of Civil Rights' Cultural Diversity Section  
30 East Broad Street - 37<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
(614) 387-0310

or

Fax Registration to:  
Julia Arbin Carbonell at (614) 752-6381

***PLEASE RETURN YOUR WORKSHOPS SELECTION FORM WITH YOUR  
REGISTRATION!***

**WORKSHOP SELECTION**  
**PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM WITH YOUR REGISTRATION**

**Day One**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Morning Workshops:** May 14, 2008 (Select one)

10:00 – 11:45 a.m. Workshops

- Immigration Patterns: A Nation of Immigrants *31<sup>St</sup> Floor*
- Somalis: Understanding their diversity, values and traditions - *31<sup>St</sup> Floor*
- Islam: Removing the Mystery – *31<sup>St</sup> Floor*
- GLBT: A Legal Perspective– *31<sup>St</sup> Floor*

**Day One – Afternoon Workshops:** May 14, 2008 (Select One)

1:30 – 3:00 p.m. Workshops

- Immigration Patterns: A Nation of Immigrants – *31<sup>St</sup> Floor*
- Somalia: Understanding their diversity, values and traditions - *31<sup>St</sup> Floor*
- Islam: Removing the Mystery – *31<sup>St</sup> Floor*
- GLBT: A Legal Perspective – *31<sup>St</sup> Floor*

**Day Two**

**Morning Workshops:** May 15, 2008 (Select One)

10:00 – 11:45 a.m. Workshops

- Defining & Exploring Diversity within the Workplace – *31<sup>St</sup> Floor*
- Establishing or Revitalizing Your Diversity Committee - *31<sup>St</sup> Floor*
- Diversity Community Experience - *31<sup>St</sup> Floor*
- The Culture of Foster Care - *31<sup>St</sup> Floor*

**Day Two**

**Afternoon Workshops:** May 15, 2008 (Select One)

1:30 – 3:00 p.m. Workshops

- Defining & Exploring Diversity within the Workplace – *31<sup>St</sup> Floor*
- Establishing or Revitalizing Your Diversity Committee - *31<sup>St</sup> Floor*
- Diversity Community Experience - *31<sup>St</sup> Floor*
- The Culture of Foster Care - *31<sup>St</sup> Floor*

*Please return your selection of workshops with your Registration Form.  
Gracias!*