

NFI Board meeting notes

March 26, 2024

Online

Participants: There were 11 NFI Board members present: Darci Asche, Fowzia Adde, Reginald Tarr, Nidal Omar, Crista McCandless, Monica Soto, Aimable Magaju, Iuliia Kravchuk, Johanna Fajardo, Olga Mooney, and Dave Jenkins.

NFI members absent 3

CE unit staff: Agnes Mason, Nada Soliman, Alicia Belay and Luisa Hoyos.

Meeting minutes:

1. Welcome and Introductions: everyone present at the meeting takes about 2-3 minutes to introduce themselves.
2. Luisa informs the Board that the Board needs a Chair. Anyone who would like to be considered can apply.
3. Luisa informs that the Board has a total budget of 20,000 USD for the 2024 year, and the Board members can apply for this money to do projects in their communities.
4. Luisa informs everyone about the CE strategic plan and surveys we would like to conduct with community leaders to find out about the communities' health needs and how the CE unit could help support the communities in meeting these needs.
5. Luisa asks the Board members about the events planned in their communities. Each member shares the projects. The members invite each other to their events and agree to send out flyers/ invitations.
 - *Williston: Soccer Fest Event, May 5. Held by United Dreams*
 - *Dickinson: Kwibuka 3 "Commemoration of the 1994 Genocide Against Tutsi in Rwanda", April 27. Held by Rwandan Community North Dakota.*
 - *Bismarck: Know my culture: Indonesia, April 11. Held by North Dakota Asian-American Arts and Cultural Initiative.*

- *Bismarck: 3rd Annual Asian American Cultural Expo, May 11. Held by the North Dakota Asian-American Arts and Cultural Initiative.*
 - *Fargo: Asian Night Market, May 24.*
 - *Fargo: Iftar event, April 4. Held by New Roots Midwest.*
6. Board members share concerns about problems/issues in their communities, including drug overdoses, too few resources for immigrant communities, especially food, medical (women's health, prenatal care), legal, rental problems, and rental assistance, especially in smaller towns, diet in schools (increase in diabetes), acclimatization to the weather to avoid frostbites.
 7. Board members share legal resources: [Carranza Immigration Law, PLLC](http://Carranza-Immigration-Law.com) (Carranza-law.com)
 8. One member recommends concentrating on a specific topic at each meeting instead of discussing many, and others agree with this idea.
 9. One member suggests creating a group so that board members can share resources/ information.
 10. The meeting adjourned. Luisa informed the group that she will send out a survey to establish the best date for the in-person meeting in Fargo in August/ September.

The next meetings will be on May 28, July 30, September 24, and November 26.