School Mental Health Virtual Learning Series
July 2020-August 2021

Supporting Newcomer (Immigrant, and Refugee) Youth in Schools
August 4, 2021

Cultural Responsiveness and Equity Specialty Track
National Center for School Mental Health
Facilitators

Dana Cunningham, PhD
She/her/hers

Patterson, Brittany PhD
She/her/hers
After this Webinar

• Slides and recording will be posted on SchoolMentalHealth.org - Cultural Responsiveness & Equity

• Register for upcoming webinars at SchoolMentalHealth.org – Connect > Webinars
  • NEW WEBINAR SERIES STARTING IN THE FALL!
Chat Box, Q&A

- Use chat box for sharing resources, comments, and responding to speaker
- Ask questions with the Q&A
- Introduce yourself in chat!
School Mental Health Webinar Series

Description
The Central East MHTTC in collaboration with the National Center for School Mental Health is hosting a school mental health webinar series with a focus on advancing high quality, sustainable school mental health from a multi-tiered system of support, trauma sensitive, and culturally responsive and equitable lens.

Objectives
• Gain increased awareness of high quality, sustainable multi-tiered system of school mental health supports and services
• Support trauma-informed systems in schools
• Discover the impacts of social determinants of health on student academic and social-emotional-behavioral success
• Learn to provide more culturally responsive and equitable services and supports
• Hear perspectives on school mental health from school, district and state levels
• Obtain insight into how youth, families, schools and communities can best work together to address student mental health needs
Commitment

- Racial and social justice lens
- Cultural responsiveness and equity
- Developing and modeling equitable and anti-racist policies and practices
- Learn, heal, grow together
Introduce Yourself

Please type your responses in the chat box:

• Name, role, location

• Why is this topic important for the population you work with?
Meet the Panel
Saida M. Abdi, PhD, LICSW

My lenses:
- Refugee/Immigrant
- African
- Muslim
- Cisgender Woman
- Abled
- Middle Class
- Multi-lingual
Rebecca Ford-Paz, PhD  
(she/her/ella)

My lenses

- White
- Culturally Jewish and Protestant, non-practicing
- Cisgender woman
- Straight
- Abled
- Middle class
- Bilingual (Spanish/English)
- Descendent of refugees
Sonia Rodrigues-Marto, MA, LPC, ACS
(she/her/ella)

My lenses:
• Cisgender woman
• Straight
• Spiritual
• Abled
• Middle class
• Trilingual (Spanish/Portuguese/English)
• Descendent of immigrants
Bianca Vargas-Ocasio, LSW
(she/her/ella)

My lenses
• Latina
• Christian
• Cisgender woman
• Abled
• Middle class
• Bilingual (Spanish/English)
Sensitive Content
Definitions

- **Newcomer** - Persons who have come to the United States as children, adolescents, or young adults.
- **Immigrant** - Foreign-born non-citizens who choose to leave their countries of origin with the intention of residing permanently in new country.
- **Refugee** - A person located outside the US who has been forced to flee his or her country of origin.
- **Asylum seeker** - Someone who flees their own country and seeks sanctuary in another country and applies for refugee/asylum status upon arrival to the new country.
- **Undocumented status** - Foreign-born non-citizen residing in the U.S., having either entered without authorization or overstayed their Visa.
- **Unaccompanied minor** - Child under the age of 18 who has no lawful immigration status in the United States and who enters without a parent or legal guardian.
Who are Newcomers and why is it important to identify them?
We know that Newcomer youth are diverse. What should school staff and providers do to best prepare themselves to support newcomer youth?
Participant Reflections:
Type one thing into the chat: a takeaway, a question, or a thought!
Many Newcomer youth have experienced trauma. How can school staff and providers support students in a trauma-informed way?
What barriers prevent family engagement and how can school staff and providers effectively engage families?
Participant reflections
Type one thing into the chat: a takeaway, a question, or a thought!
What are some effective interventions that school staff and providers can implement to support newcomer youth?
How can school staff and providers collaborate with communities and organizations to support Newcomer youth?
Participant reflections
Type one thing into the chat: a takeaway, a question, or a thought!
What is one action step you would like participants to commit to today?
Participants: What is one action step you can commit to today to support Newcomer youth?
Resources

• [Illinois Coalition for Immigrant Mental Health Resources For Schools & Educators](#)

• [Resources to support mental health of asylum seekers](#):

• [Needs and Joys of our (Im)migrant Students, Families, and Community Partners: Exploring and Expanding our School Mental Health Practice](#)

• [Parent Involvement in School: Engaging Immigrant Parents](#)
Resources

• US Dept of Education: Newcomer Toolkit
• Bridging Refugee Youth & Children’s Services
• Cultural Orientation Resource Center:
• Colorin Colorado – Guide for Engaging ELL Families
• The Immigrant Family Learning Center
• Refugee and Immigrant Core Stressors Toolkit (harvard.edu)
NCTSN Resources

- Child, Youth, and Families Who Experience Migration-Related Trauma and Family Separation
- Understanding the Mental Health Needs of Unaccompanied Children in the United States
- Psychological First Aid for Unaccompanied Children
- Trauma-Informed Care for Unaccompanied Immigrant Youth Podcast Series
- A Socio-Culturally, Linguistically-Responsive, and Trauma-Informed Approach to Mental Health Interpretation
- NCTSN Resources Related to Traumatic Separation and Refugee and Immigrant Trauma
- Directory of NCTSN Centers and Affiliate Members Serving Immigrant and Refugee Populations
- NCTSN Unaccompanied Alien Children (UAC) Supplement Funding Report
- Trauma-Informed Care: Understanding and Addressing the Needs of Unaccompanied Children Webinar Series
- Childhood Traumatic Grief Webinar Series
Thank You

• Panelists
• NCSMH schoolmentalhealth.org
• Central East MHTTC (managed by the Danya Institute)
  https://mhttcnetwork.org/centers/central-east-mhttc/home
• Cultural Responsiveness and Equity Specialty Track
  CREtrack@som.umaryland.edu