



City of Bowling Green International Communities Advisory Council

The City of Bowling Green International Communities Advisory Council is being established to advise the Community Services Specialist/International Communities Liaison regarding the needs of immigrant and international residents in Bowling Green. The Advisory Council will represent members of our diverse communities and identify issues of concern, important changes in needs of the immigrant and international community and general ideas for improving the City's mission of "strengthening our vibrant community by focusing on quality of life, service delivery, fiscal responsibility, public safety, neighborhood revitalization, visionary leadership, and economic development."

Members

The Advisory Council will be comprised of members of the immigrant and international communities, who are recognized as leaders within their own cultural and ethnic groups. As well as representatives of community organization and agencies that work with the immigrant and international communities.

Membership Terms

Advisory Council members, recommended by members of the international and immigrant community and appointed by the City of Bowling Green's Neighborhood and Community Services Department, commit to serving on the Advisory Council without compensation for a term of one year. After this one-year term, membership may be renewed. Any member who misses two or more bimonthly (every other month) meetings in one year without just cause may be removed from the Advisory Council.

Members will collectively identify issues and make recommendations to the Community Services Specialist/International Communities Liaison for improving outreach and service delivery of city programs and services to immigrants and internationals. They agree to serve as a channel for two-way communications between the City of Bowling Green and the Immigrant and International Community. They will:

- Obtain input from and identify service issues of immigrant and international residents
- Communicate contributions and advances to the City's mission by immigrant and international communities to the Advisory Council
- Work to develop recommendations for the Community Services Specialist/International Communities Liaison to address issues of concern
- Receive and disseminate, to respective cultural and ethnic group, beneficial community information shared during Council meetings.

Officers

The officers of the Advisory Council will be two Co-Chairs, one Co-Chair position will be held by the Community Services Specialist/International Communities Liaison, and one of whom must be an immigrant or international. They will preside at meetings and provide direction to the Council. They will assist in planning agendas for the bimonthly meetings by collecting and conveying agenda items proposed by the Advisory Council.

Structure

The Community Services Specialist/International Communities Liaison calls bimonthly (every other month) meetings of the Advisory Council. In the interim the Advisory Council may hold committee meetings to gather information about various service issues and concerns, work with the Community Services Specialist/International Communities Liaison and other community members to address them, and develop recommendations. To gain greater insight into the issues facing the immigrant and international community and develop recommendations, Advisory Council members may invite and encourage other community members to participate in these Committee meetings.

Committees

At present, there will be five standing committees of the Council; and members must actively participate in at least one committee:

- The Interpretation and Translation/Cultural Competency Committee** - works to improve the City's capacity to serve individuals with Limited English Proficiency and works to develop and provide immigrant-led cultural competency training for City staff and contracted providers.
- The Economic Development Committee** – works to improve opportunities for refugees and immigrants to find jobs, and supports business and entrepreneurial skill development, growth, and success.
- The Education & Youth Committee** - works to expand existing youth support and career development programs to serve the specific needs of immigrant and refugee youth.
- Community Improvement Committee** – works to support the development of neighborhoods organization among refugee and immigrant communities, and improves opportunities for community involvement.
- The Family Support Committee** - works to improve culturally appropriate prevention and intervention services for children and families.

Application to Join the City of Bowling Green's International Communities Advisory Council

Thank you for your interest in the City of Bowling Green's International Communities Advisory Council. Please fill out the application below and submit it to Ms. Leyda Becker, City of Bowling Green, 1017 College Street, Bowling Green, KY 42101

1. Name: _____

2. State your employer, position and title currently held, if any, including professional position and any public office. If you are employed in the home, please share with us what you do.

3. Address: _____
City: _____ Zip: _____
Phone Number: _____ E-mail: _____

4. Nationality: _____

5. Language(s) Spoken: _____

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

6. The City of Bowling Green's International Communities Advisory Council focuses on involvement with and issues related to the Immigrant and Refugee Communities in the Bowling Green City area. Why would you like to join?

7. Do you have any involvement in the community? Are any of the organizations in which you are involved concerned with Immigrant and Refugee affairs? If yes, what are the organizations and how are you involved?

8. Are there any issues important to you here in the community that you feel can be addressed by the City's International Communities Advisory Council?

9. Please check the committees you are interested in participating in:

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Signature

Date