



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Arab American and Chaldean Council (ACC)

Office of the President - Haifa Fakhouri, Ph.D.

ACC awarded Federal Grant to assist refugees with job placement

Detroit, MI - May 27, 2010 ACC, the premier non-profit human service organization providing services to the Middle Eastern and mainstream communities in Southeast Michigan, was recently awarded a Federal Grant from the U.S. Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration to provide employment training and job placement services to Iraqi refugees and other dislocated workers residing in the Detroit metropolitan area. The program, Classroom Training-Literacy and Remediation Skills Towards Self-Sufficiency, addresses the needs of this target population in detail to ensure their integration into American society.

Many refugees in this country are living in despair and frustration, as it is very difficult to find a job due to the combination of limited English language proficiency and lack of employability skills. The trauma of being uprooted and adjusting to a vastly different culture impedes these refugees in accessing and deriving benefits from basic health, counseling, and employment training services.

In order to address these needs, the program consists of two major components: English as a Second Language (ESL)/Vocational ESL training and Employability Training. In addition to these components the program will provide health prevention education and counseling services to meet the needs of clients of with war trauma, injury and illness.

As a result of these efforts, clients will gain the language and employment skills needed to successfully enter the job market.

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ACC is the premier non-profit human service organization providing services to the Middle Eastern and mainstream communities in Southeast Michigan. Furthermore, ACC provides better opportunities to enable newcomers to adjust to their new environment. As a bridge of understanding, ACC maximizes the skills, resources and expertise of the community to:

- Build cooperation and understanding
- Raise the level of individuals' well-being
- Increase cross-cultural understanding through education
- Deliver human services, counseling and opportunities
- Gear community members towards achievement
- Empower through employment training and placement

Website: <http://www.myacc.org>

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