



**Bridging
County &
Community
Since 1957**



**October /
November
2008**

**County of
Santa Clara
Mission
Statement**

The mission of the County of Santa Clara is to build and maintain a healthy and safe community for our residents.

**Acting County
Executive**

Gary A. Graves

**Office of
Human
Relations**

Human Relations Commission and OHR's IRIS Program begin Cultural Proficiency Trainings

On Wednesday, November 12th the Human Relations Commission's Social Issues Committee in concert with the Office of Human Relations' Immigrant Relations and Integration Services (IRIS) hosted its first of four new cultural proficiency trainings for 2008. For information on future cultural proficiency events, contact Milina Jovanovic at (408) 792-2342.



Russian Dance Troupe

Published Study Finds Mediation Produces More Beneficial Outcomes than Court: Saves Money to Participants and County



For 31 years, the County of Santa Clara's Dispute Resolution & Ombuds Program (DRP) has been extolling the emotional benefits of mediated agreements; that is to say, parties who reach agreement of their own design and accord with the assistance of a professional neutral, are more content and satisfied than with those judgments forced upon them by judges and arbitrators. This figure not only emanates from a common sense

understanding of the dynamics of choice versus force, but is quantified in the satisfaction rates tracked by the Program for last year's resolutions.

Teresa Castellanos,
Interim Director & IRIS Program
(408) 792-2301
(408) 792-2306

Brohne Lawhorne, J.D.,
Dispute Resolution and Ombuds Program
(408) 792-2330

Delorme McKee-Stovall,
Network for a Hate Free Community
(408) 792-2304

Mary Jane Solis,
Human Relations Commission
(408) 792-2310

Raji Bains,
Youth Task Force
(408) 792-2315

Donna Ruiz,
OHR Newsletter Technical Editor
(408) 792-2307

Noemi Alvarado,
OHR Newsletter Mailing List & Subscription Manager
(408) 792-2316

OHR Links

[Programs and Contacts](#)

[Human Relations Commission](#)

[Volunteer Opportunities](#)

[Our Mission](#)

[OHR Annual Report](#)

Related Links

[Click here to read more.](#)

Hate Violence on the Rise...



Hate Violence on the Rise Hate Violence is on the rise in Santa Clara County, California and across the United States. According to the State Attorney General's Office hate violence increased 9.2% between 2006 and 2007. Although Pan African's continue to be the most vulnerable population; hate violence directed toward immigrants, particularly Latinos and South Asians also increased during this period.

[Click here to read more.](#)

Communicating with Community Partners during a Public Health Emergency Event

Disasters such as wildfires, hurricanes and earthquakes have demonstrated the importance and value of pre-event emergency planning and preparedness for both government agencies and community organizations alike.



The Santa Clara County Public Health Department has partnered with the Santa Clara County Office of Human Relations, Social Services Agency and CADRE to host a community partner training around risk communications during a medical/health emergency, such as Pandemic Flu. The purpose is to increase understanding of how emergency risk communications works and fits into overall emergency response efforts. The training is aimed at managers within organizations that work with different community groups, particularly vulnerable populations, and who are responsible for public communications during an emergency.

[Click here to read more.](#)

New GCIR Report Predicts More Than Half Million Immigrant Voters in Santa Clara County in 2012

SCCGOV

County of Santa Clara Homepage

Board of Supervisors
Your Elected Officials

SCCDRPS
Dispute Resolution Program Services

ImmigrantInfo
Addressing the needs of the immigrant community

Network for a Hate-Free Community
Taking action against Hate in our community

Grantmakers Concerned with Refugees and Immigrants (GCIR) published a new report that examines the integration potential of California's immigrants and their children. It is well known that California is the



most likely destination for immigrants coming to the U.S. The immigrant population in our state is close to 10 million and represents 27.2 percent of all residents. Yet, most studies rarely examine how effectively newcomers become integrated into the economy, society, and civic processes. Grantmakers Concerned with Immigrants and Refugees created a program called California Immigrant Integration Initiative and conducted this study in order to deepen our general understanding of the full potential of comprehensive strategies for immigrant integration.

[Click here to read more.](#)

IRIS to Celebrate the 3rd Annual Beacon of Light Awards



The United States has a deep-rooted history as a nation of immigrants. OHR/IRIS recognizes that Silicon Valley's success as an economic leader of the world is to a great extent the result of the labor of immigrants who have contributed countless hours of work, their own capital, and increased productivity. Immigrants make this valley significant in the global economy. For this reason The Beacon of Light Awards are held annually to recognize the contributions of this

heroic community. In this context, the statue of liberty has long been a symbol of welcoming to all immigrant communities into US society.

[Click here to read more.](#)



Calendar of Events

December 3, 2008 (10 am - 3:30 pm)

Talk to Me, Please

Santa Clara County Medical Association

Communicating with Community Partners During a Public Health
Emergency Event

For flyer, click [here](#).

December 13, 2008 (9:00 am - 1:00 pm)

**Make a World of Difference: Healing each other; Healing
the Earth** with Keynote Speaker: Dr. Musimbi Kanyoro

Santa Clara University, Santa Clara CA

For flyer, click [here](#).

Date: December 5, 2008 (5:30 - 8:00 pm)

Beacon of Light Awards

County Center at Charcot, 2310 N. First Street

For flyer, click [here](#).

Date: November 14, 2008 (9:00 am - 2:00 pm)

Adult Services Resource Faire & Senior Forum

Santa Clara Convention Center, Santa Clara, CA

For flyer, click [here](#).

Open Monday through Friday each week

Second Harvest Food Bank

Free Food for your Family 211

For flyer, click [here](#).

January 21 (5:30 - 7:30 pm)

Cultural Proficiency Training Session 2: will focus on **Silicon
Valley Environment Injustice** at the Joyce Ellington Library
491 E. Empire Street in San Jose, CA

Date: February 20 (12:00 noon - 1:00 pm)

Culture Proficiency Training Session 3: **Culture of the
Philippines**

Office of Human Relations, 2310 N. 1st Street, Suite 104
San Jose, CA

February 26, 2009 (7:30 - 9:30 am)

Save the Date for the Human Relations Awards Breakfast

Wyndham Hotel, North First Street, San Jose, CA
(details to follow)