



The NIÑO Project: Refugee Owned Child Care Businesses

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Project Objectives:

The goals and objectives of the NIÑO project are to assist refugees in becoming economically self-sufficient and increase home-based child care options for refugee families.

In the NIÑO Project's first fiscal year, 17 Boise refugees successfully opened their home-based child care businesses.

Statistics for 2011 – 2012

- 39 participants enrolled in the NIÑO Project.
- 17 people were fully licensed by the City of Boise or the State of Idaho.
- 52 children are currently being cared for in refugee family child care facilities
- 32 parents are working that have children in a refugee child care business
- 4 enrolled participants are waiting for licensing inspections
- 3 enrolled participants are waiting to move to a home that will allow child care
- 4 persons are waiting new provider orientation
- 143 home visits were completed in the fiscal year

Project Challenges

- Apartment complexes
- Navigating the Idaho Child Care Program
- Cultural differences

Training requirements

- Initial 8 hours child care business training
- Initial 4 hours child related training
- Minimum 14 hours Idaho STARS or Boise City approved training
- 4 hours Idaho Child Program Training
- 6 to 8 hours CPR/First Aid training

Community Partners

- Central District Health
- Idaho AEYC
- Boise City
- Resettlement Agencies
- IdahoSTARS
- Idaho Office for Refugees
- Various Community Organizations

Populations Represented in the Program

- Ethnic Somali
- Somali-Bantu
- Rwandan
- Congolese
- Burmese
- Bhutanese
- Columbian
- Togolese

Open Forum Panel Discussion – Refugee Child Care Business Owners

Notes: