

Program Topic: Transportation

Title: Public Transportation Week: Lectures, Field Trip, and Quiz

(Plan provided by Catholic Charities, Louisville, KY, and further enhanced by the Cultural Orientation Resource Center)

Priority topics to address

- Public transportation options available
- How to use the public transportation available
- Practice using public transportation to get to specific destinations
- Street safety

Target audience

- Newly arrived refugees
- Refugees who do not yet understand the public transit system

Number of attendees

10-20 participants

Length of orientation

Four sessions over the course of one week
The first 3 sessions are 30 minutes long
The fourth session is longer, incorporating a field trip
Sessions can be combined with other topics in longer orientation sessions

Needs assessment

During the first session, identify familiarity and gaps regarding public transportation through group discussion.

Addressing the topics

Session 1

- Conduct an icebreaker to allow participants to introduce themselves and get to know each other. (For ideas: <http://www.cal.org/co/domestic/toolkit/tools/icebreakers.html>.)
- Identify orientation needs of participants by asking what they know about public transportation and traffic laws. Then ask participants what they want to know. Write this on a Parking Lot (<http://www.cal.org/co/domestic/toolkit/tools/methods.pdf>) to check that all material is addressed before the sessions end.
- Show participants the city map and bus schedules. Explain bus schedules, routes, and connections with other buses, as well as fares, bus passes, the process of purchasing a ticket, and using transfers. Have participants role play different parts of the process.

Session 2

- Conduct an icebreaker. (For ideas: <http://www.cal.org/co/domestic/toolkit/tools/icebreakers.html>.)
- Conduct more involved role plays, giving participants ample opportunity to practice each of the steps in the process. Incorporate pedestrian safety into the topics.

Session 3

- Using the public transportation map, conduct a field trip with participants. Practice which buses should be taken from Point A (e.g. a family's housing complex) to Point B (e.g. the resettlement agency, the doctor's office, etc.).

This document was developed with funding from the Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration, United States Department of State, but does not necessarily represent the policy of that agency and the reader should not assume endorsement by the federal government.

Session 4

- Participants share their experiences of the program with a partner. Bring the large group together and ask for highlights.
- Review the material previously covered.
- Have participants take an oral quiz to demonstrate their understanding of the course material.
- After the quiz, review the correct answers with the class.

Additional Notes

This topic addresses public transportation. If addressing additional transportation options, consider including topics such as driving and traffic laws (including insurance, child safety seats, etc.), emergency situations, and street safety.

Resources required

- Instructional space
- Flipchart, markers, flipchart stand
- City maps
- Quiz (see sample included)
- Public transportation maps and schedules
- Bus passes
- Sample transfer tickets

Sample Transportation Quiz

1. How much is the adult cash bus fare?
2. Where can you buy a monthly pass and how much does it cost?
3. What should you do in case of any kind of emergency?
4. How do you tell the bus driver you want to get off?
5. How do you use a bus pass? (Where do you put your pass to show it?)

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