

## **COMMITTEE AGENDA TOPICS**

### **I. Subject: Immigrant Integration Resolution**

Action: On August 26<sup>th</sup>, Mayor Kinsey and Councilmember Howard requested that the Committee consider a resolution to establish a task force to research, prioritize and recommend policies that facilitate the ability of Charlotte's immigrant population to contribute to the local community. At this meeting, staff will provide answers to Committee questions from its October 17<sup>th</sup> meeting and provide a framework for appointing potential task force members. If ready, the Committee may make a recommendation to the full Council for consideration at a future business meeting.

## **COMMITTEE INFORMATION**

---

Present: James Mitchell, David Howard, Billy Maddalon and LaWana Mayfield  
Absent: Patrick Cannon and Warren Cooksey  
Time: 12:00 Noon – 12:50 p.m.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

---

1. Immigrant Integration Task Force Suggested Framework for Mayor & Council appointments
2. Immigration: Legal and Illegal Executive Summary
3. Charlotte International Cabinet 2011 Trade Service Professionals
4. Memo from Mayor Kinsey & David Howard
5. Resolution on Creating an Inter-agency Task Force

## **DISCUSSION HIGHLIGHTS**

---

Chairman Mitchell opened the meeting and asked everyone to introduce themselves and turned the meeting over to Mr. Kimble.

Kimble: Only one item on your agenda today, a follow-up from a great discussion last time. Brad and Alexis are here to give you an update on the action which you directed us to take which is to frame this up and make a recommendation back to you. If you are ready today, after further discussion, we would like for you to make a recommendation to the full Council and if you do that we think November 25<sup>th</sup> would be a good date to bring that back to the full Council, but that is up to this Committee.

Mitchell: Brad, I would say this, LaWana and I have already gotten an e-mail from Channel 9 about this topic so whichever is comfortable interviewing with Channel 9, I will yield to staff.

## **I. Immigrant Integration Resolution**

Richardson: This is a follow-up and what we have provided for you today are a couple of things. We sent two attachments to you earlier. This is the 2001 and the 2007 Mayor's Task Force Immigration and the second thing you requested was a list of the International Organizations Review. There are a couple other things attached to your agenda package today and one thing we heard loud and clear was to answer the question about the Task Force. Would it be a City appointed only a task force the Mayor and Councilmember Howard recommendation stated or should we consider a joint resolution with the County? Toward the end of the meeting, we felt we heard you say that would take some time and would like to go forward and let the City appoint all members as the Mayor and Councilmember Howard recommended. We took the opportunity to put together as the first attachment behind your agenda a potential framework of how we might consider a member. We wanted to make sure that it was inclusive, that it represented most of the major immigrant population groups in Charlotte that included documentation from the County certainly, but also some non-profit agencies and immigrant populations. That is what we have attempted to do so I would ask for your feedback today on that. If you are willing to go with that framework or a modified form, we would be happy as the sponsors along with the Charlotte International Cabinet to accumulate names that you

might send our way and bring to you at a later date a slate of nominees for you to vote on in a Council meeting. What we are asking today is further conversation about the concept of the task force; we can talk about questions related to that if you have them, but specifically the framework of the membership, how you might appoint those and we are looking forward to a Council discussion and pass a recommendation to the Council.

Mitchell: Brad, since you brought that up, Committee and Mayor, let's go ahead and give staff some direction. I asked the Mayor if we wanted to go ahead and get this done now under her administration and she said yes and I told her I was very supportive of that. David, I know it was your idea to kind of let's move it forward. LaWana, are you okay with the 25? Mayor do you want to start it off or do you want to get comments from the Committee?

Mayor: No, go ahead.

Howard: I want to make sure that we are clear about what we are saying to them as to what their charge is. Is that just in the write-up or is that going to come from the resolution?

Gordon: From the resolution.

Howard: Do you feel like that is sufficient?

Gordon: I do. One of the reasons I think that it is sufficient is that the last immigration study looked at the other aspects such as health and public safety. It looked at how illegal and legal immigration affected our economy. The recommendations focused more on the advocacy side than on services. Whether they are here for two years as expatriates or looking to settle in Charlotte for generations, we want to make sure that we have a welcoming community and that they become a part of that community, not just living in Charlotte, but part of our community. I think that is the best charge at this time.

Mayfield: We have on here refugees resettlement agency. Is that a specific?

Gordon: There are three of them; Neighborhood Good Samaritan Center, Carolina Refugee Resettlement, and Catholic Social Services.

Mayfield: We are asking out of those three for them to decide on one person?

Gordon: For them to decide on one person.

Mayfield: I don't think that is a good idea. I say that because those three organizations do not necessarily work together. They are three individual organizations so when we break out one individual representing the Latin American Coalition, one from the Southeast Asian Coalition; I just think that the way we broke this down we are really not going to hit what we have on the back of this sheet of listing our top foreign-born population. You look at also Haitian Heritage, yes we have this diverse community, but how often do we see our Asian, our Haitian, our refugees from other places come together at an event? If the voices aren't at the table, I think this is an opportunity for us to drill down a little more to say even the ones; the nationalities that are represented that are either more different franchise, those are the ones that we should be looking at to make sure they have a voice. We have a very active Asian community here. We have a very active through the Latin American Chamber, but we have some communities that are either refugee or undocumented communities and getting away from that whole word of illegal since people are not illegal, actions are. But there is a way for us to really make sure that the voices that are not heard in some of these other rooms are represented here.

Richardson: I will respond to that. As we lay this out, you will see the very bottom we were trying to live within the balance of a 25-member taskforce. We have two at-large, which are open seats; we were thinking citizens in the community that may not meet one of these criteria and also I will point out

one more fact; for instance, the very first line item Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, we listed two there an administrator and a teacher. At your pleasure, and if I'm hearing you correctly, you might decide to have one representative from each of three resettlement agencies. You can either expand the membership to 26 or 27 or 28 or eliminate one of the two from CMS. We are open to your wishes on that.

Gordon: I wanted to touch on that idea of voice. During all the different talks with the Americas Society/Council of the Americas one of the biggest things we talked about was the need to give newcomers a voice. The Consul General of Mexico in Atlanta pointed out that this is one of the most difficult things to do as many immigrants have become shadows without a voice. After the Cabinet heard about the Americas Society/Council of the Americas discussions, the Cabinet wanted to hold a wider discussion with the stakeholders of this topic. It would be a chance to have more voices heard from a wider group. This way people from larger community groups can be invited, like the Haitian-American organization, all three refugee organizations and other. Actually we have a list of 120 out of an actual organization that are in the packet that we are going to invite to that. I can talk a little bit about when that meeting will be. It is going to be on the 20<sup>th</sup>. All that information will be given to this group and on top of that Mayor Kinsey wanted to have a very personal discussion with actual immigrants, not representatives of immigrants, but immigrants themselves. That group has acted truly on their own experiences and helped enrich the gathering of information from the public that can help lend real life experiences to the debate. This is an important part of making sure that we give people who are often not heard a voice in this dialogue.

Kinsey: That is exactly why I wanted to let you, LaWana know I share some of your concerns as to how you can have an effective study group or meeting but I guess Billy and I are very lucky because our District 1 has more of the international community than any other District so when I have interacted with them, the restaurant owner or just somebody working, they are the people that I want to meet with. Tracy, how many did we identify?

Montrose: Through your meeting?

Kinsey: Yes.

Montrose: Your meeting was about 20 individuals and then for our meeting on November 20<sup>th</sup> we will have about 100 individuals.

Kinsey: The reason I wanted the smaller groups of about 100 was I wanted to hear from people who had nothing to do with some of the larger organizations. All this will feedback into the whole project. I hope that is okay with everybody and of course you are welcome to come and hear along with me about those issues.

Howard: Another twist on what you responded to Ms. Mayfield's comment is if we try to get everybody there are a couple of places where we could have that. You've got one spot for the two hospital systems and that seems like a tug of war to me. I'm not sure how we are going to deal with, but everybody gets invited to the conversation. At some point, we do have to narrow it down. I'm open to it, but I'm comfortable with the way they did it too. I don't know if we can get everybody at the table. We've got a big glaring one with the two hospitals and I'm sure that is because of indigent care and Carolina probably does more of it, but I would bet you Novant wants to be at the table. That is going to be difficult but it is like every other committee that we do. We try to get representatives from the industry, not necessarily from everybody involved with it.

Mayfield: Right and that is why my challenge was to drill down, not say for the big ten, the big ten have a voice. Those are the organizations that are out there and everyone knows about; there are a number of communities that aren't highly represented and that is why I was saying try to drill this down a little so that those organizations that aren't as known and as organized are the ones that have opportunity to at least have a voice at the table because we know a lot about the other organizations and how active

they are in the community but there are so many others that are not represented in this phase so that is why I was encouraging if there is a way for us to drill it down a little more then that might be helpful. Then if it is not, that is okay.

Howard: I think I'm okay with us changing this around but we also should request of this Committee to have a public input process as well as a requirement of whatever they are doing. Maybe that is a way to get at that, and we will leave it up to them how many ways they do it but the charge from Council would be to do public input and make it convenient for the populations that we are talking about.

Richardson: The existing resolution stipulates that the taskforce meetings shall periodically invite public comment.

Gordon: Maybe in the charge that you give to the taskforce that they identify maybe the smaller voices and say we really want you to look at that and invite them to the table. That would be a great idea to help grow the opinions and the information that we are gathering but without growing the actual number of seats on the taskforce itself.

Howard: You make a good point. Maybe part of the charge, for lack of a better word, I'm coming up with the word census and it is not a census as much as an inventory of the assets in the groups that we have that is part of this. Maybe the taskforce will come back with the fact that we need to make sure that we have a resource guide or website or something. Having some inventory of what Charlotte has to offer is kind of what I heard and making sure they are invited to the table when they can be. At the end of the day what we want to do is make sure that we are taking full advantage and Tracy has the e-mail with Jess George.

Montrose: I forwarded it to all of you.

Howard: It is kind of the national group that has been part of this and what they are trying to accomplish. We want to know that Charlotte is doing a good job; we want the population to know that Charlotte is doing a good job and we want to send the message to the world that we are doing a good job. How do we get it there is the goal?

Mitchell: So staff if I'm hearing all the discussion, 25 seems to be a good number. Do you want to wait on a full recommendation or do you want us to give you a recommendation based on the size of the board?

Richardson: There are two things we'd like to know. One is does the Committee support the resolution as written? We talked about the charge and I think we've covered those two bases. Does the Committee feel comfortable with the framework for make-up of the taskforce? The third component is a little bit logistical, but as staff begins to help put this together, we asked questions about the appointments, how they are made. We have in the resolution 25 members appointed by Council. Clarify in that the Mayor selects from the slate the Chair and the Vice Chair. Clarify that with the intent or would it be that the Mayor has a certain number of the committee that she would appoint and the Council do the others. As it reads now, the Council will appoint 25 and of the 25, the Mayor would select a Chair and Vice Chair. If you confirm that is what you mean.

Kimble: They have a choice 1/3 to 2/3 choice, the Mayor has eight and the Council has 17.

Howard: I'm wondering if we do it in another way altogether. Organizations that are identified make them give us somebody, just like we do when the County has an appointment, the School Board has an appointment and the Chamber has an appointment; tell them to recommend somebody so we at least eliminate the ones where we specify an agency. Then we appoint the rest and I think we leave it where the Mayor does the Chair and the Vice Chair.

Mitchell: Since we have the Mayor here, are you okay with that?

Kinsey: Sure.

Mitchell: I just want to make sure this is not political appointments by us and that we show our true intentions about doing good will in the community so each organization can nominate someone. I think that will help us out tremendously and it sends the right message we are trying to convey. Could someone make a motion on the process of 25 appointees on the taskforce so when Novant sends a name in all the Council has to do is bless the name?

Howard: That is one of the situations where we have a problem because right now it is set up to just be a health industry person. The ones that would matter would be schools, health, Sheriff, Social Services; the majority of these are not industry, they are specific organizations so they could recommend somebody. There are a few on here that we left open that we would need to pick somebody.

Mitchell: Which ones for example?

Howard: Immigration Law – that is broad, that is not an organization. Hospitality and housing that is broad. Refugee agency, we just went through that one that is broad. The rest of these are specific groups.

Mitchell: So we have Refugee Resettlement Agency; Carolina and Novant; Hospitality and Immigration Law. Then the two at-large representatives.

Howard: It is going to be confusing for Council?

Mitchell: I was thinking how we simplify.

Howard: Just explain to them that they get to nominate four people for those areas. We only have four appointments to the Committee in those areas.

Mitchell: As the words of Councilmember Cooksey if he were here, why are you going against our standard procedure which is of the 25 we would appoint 18 and the Mayor would appoint seven?

Kimble: Seventeen and eight would be one-third/two-thirds.

Richardson: It is interesting that the worksheet lines out; the heading is agency or subject matter. That is where I think you picked up the difference; there are several agencies where they could nominate a person; the Council could appoint but there are some other ones such as the healthcare sector; Immigration Law sector, by my count that is seven if you include the two at-large seats, perhaps those the Mayor could appoint and that may be a good way to break it down. The Immigration Law the healthcare sector, Refugee Resettlement and hospitality/food service industry, by my count that is seven of the 25 or more subjective an agency can't just appoint one and recommend one so we could do seven for the Mayor.

Howard: That is the easiest way to make this go fast.

Mitchell: I don't want to give this to Council and then we have more discussion about the appointment process. If we can stay close to the 17 and eight and in this case, the Mayor can appoint seven.

Richardson: Council will receive recommendations from these agencies and then the Mayor will appoint seven of the subject matter experts and the following 18 will be appointed by Council.

Mitchell: Right, I like that and then we still allow the Mayor to make the appointments. LaWana you don't seem comfortable, are you okay?

Mayfield: As long as we get the update on it I'm good.

Howard: Update is another thing we should talk about in the charge. We don't want this to be open ended in a permanent Committee. How long did the last Committee have?

Richardson: The resolution calls for a report back to you of its findings and recommendations within one year of the first meeting.

Howard: Whoever wrote that resolution was smart and they should know that. Reporting back quarterly; written? Something so we can know what is going on.

Richardson: We can come back to the Committee quarterly if you like.

Mitchell: I'm trying to eliminate as much discussion on the floor on November 25<sup>th</sup>, so the more we can be specific and be direct. Do you want to send it back to ED, so we can specify quarterly updates back to Economic Development Committee?

*VOTE: Motion was made by Mr. Howard, seconded by Ms. Mayfield to pass the resolution and ask the agencies to make nominations. Council will make 18 appointments and the Mayor will make seven. Staff will report back to the Economic Development Committee on a quarterly basis for a year. The vote was unanimous (Mitchell, Howard, Mayfield, Maddalon). Cannon and Cooksey were absent for the vote.*

Kimble: In addition, the Mayor appoints the Chair and the Vice Chair, correct?

Howard: Everybody around this table and probably in this room know that this whole international conversation is important to me. Probably the first of several things I will be bringing to Council about and I just wanted to say

publicly that I'm happy to have you guys as part of the City staff officially and I'm looking forward to working with you guys to take the community in a whole new direction when it comes to positioning Charlotte to be a global player.

Mitchell: When you talk to the media please get the date when the Mayor is going to have her meetings. I think it is great that we start letting the community know. I will have Allison of Channel 9 call you Brad or Alexis.

Kinsey: I really appreciate what Alexis has done with Tracy. It has been a pleasure the little bit of time I've spent with you on this. Thank you for helping on this. I'm excited about it.

## **II. Next Meeting: November 21<sup>st</sup> at 12:00 Noon, Room CH-14.**

Kimble: You will get a major update on where we stand at that moment in time. The update today might be different to the update we will give them.

Mitchell: So in the words from the last meeting are we dating, married, pregnant?

Kimble: We are better than dating. Clearly the issue is going to be and it always will be about the money. The question is going to be how to frame the gap that they will have and what are the opportunities and possibilities to help fill that funding gap? How much is it; how would you go about analyzing and then meeting that gap?

Howard: Did you all see the e-mail we got from Bob Hagemann before we came in?

Mitchell: Yes I did.

Howard: So we are getting sued by Carolina Theatre? One of the things I want to make sure is that we don't let things just go on and on and on like we did with the Carolina Theatre. We should learn lessons from that so we don't have that happen again because when that money goes hard people want it back; I don't care what they say.

Kimble: In this case you have one person interested. I know you did when you did Carolina Theatre originally and that could very well happen again if you have others who want to jump in later.

Howard: Especially after they see how much the City will participate.

Kimble: Well, we don't know what the policymakers would view as the right amount of participation or to work with you directly to see where your comfort level is.

Maddalon: I think it is fair to say it is going to be a substantial ask. I've done the math backwards and forward and I don't see any other way. It will be a big ask and this group is going to have to decide whether or not we are willing to carry that water.

Mitchell: Is it close to \$20 million?

Maddalon: Oh, I don't know. It is a big number. If they do what they say they are going to do unless they've got access to equity that we are not aware of.

Kimble: We will just frame it this way. It is one of the largest assemblages of property inside of Charlotte that you may face in a long time so it is very, very important and then you have to decide how important.

Howard: I did the last one – 100 acres, Bright Walk.

Mitchell: Bright Walk that was 100 acres? Wow! I didn't know Bright Walk was that big. So this is 88 acres?

Kimble: On November 21<sup>st</sup>, we plan on having staff update you with Studio Charlotte in the room. They won't make the presentation; we will make the presentation, but they will be here in case you have any questions.

Mitchell: Let me suggest this to staff. I know it is extra work but I think it will be a helpful part of the discussion. Can you look at our schedule and we have a Council meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup>; if you are in a position, can you spend ten or 15 minutes with each ED Committee Member? I think the one on one prior because I think we are going to get attention and a lot of media and I want the Committee Members to be very comfortable and sometimes we guard our words when we see the media in here, but this is very important and I would like for us to get it right so I would like for the Committee Members, if you are in a position to brief us on the 18<sup>th</sup>. Is that okay Committee Members?

Howard: Are we talking about some action from Council?

Kimble: No, we will not be ready for any action so this is simply a new committee would be constituted that will receive that. We are not near the point where we could make a recommendation to you for you to make a recommendation to Council.

Maddalon: And it is not because of staff. The message as we would recall the message to the Eastland Group was that if you are smart you will get everything consummated and get it in front of this group before we go away because after the new group comes in there is a terrific education process that has to take place and you don't know where that is going to go. They just haven't been able to get there. Staff has done nothing but go forward; they are just not able to get where they need to be in time for us to be able to handle it.

Howard: In the tradition of a new Council, they don't like big projects in the first couple months.

Kimble: Remember this was a six-month due diligence so it was already scheduled to go to March or April.

Maddalon: Well it puts the new Republican members of the Council in a bad spot because one of the first votes they are going to have to cast is going to be spending a lot of money on something and that is never well received.

Mitchell: With that said, thank you Mr. Howard because I was under a different impression, so don't worry about the one on one with us. If there is no action required, we will listen to it like everybody else.

Maddalon: The only benefit I might see in that is that we might ask more intelligent questions if we had the one on one. It is not a little bit of information. The project itself is not all that complex but my guess is what Pat is going to present has some nuances to it that they may or may not be prepared to discuss so our questions might be more intelligent if we have a little bit of a preview.

Mitchell: With that said, Mayor and staff would it be a nice thing to do; we are talking about November 21<sup>st</sup> right now, how many new people do we have? Invite Vi and the two Republicans to this meeting?

Mayfield: You've got Al and Greg.

Mitchell: Oh yeah, Al and Greg. So Mayor and staff is it okay?

Kinsey: Yeah, anybody can come.

Mitchell: I will invite them because I think it would be helpful. To your point they are going to be new and they need to hear it now so they start thinking

and Billy is right that is a major decision, how are you going to fund a project with 88 acres.

Kinsey: You might let them know we are not near a decision yet, it is just information only.

Kimble: Just an update.

Mitchell: Can you all help me do the letter? The key word said that I sound intelligent.

Richardson: You would like a meeting the week of the 18<sup>th</sup> to ask intelligent questions or not?

Mitchell: No, I don't think so. I think having them there is starting to build a relationship with them so okay we know about this project now.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

**Economic Development Council Committee**

Thursday, November 7, 2013 at 12:00pm

Room CH-14

Committee Members: James Mitchell, Chair  
Patrick Cannon, Vice Chair  
Warren Cooksey  
David Howard  
Billy Maddalon  
LaWana Mayfield

Staff Resource: Ron Kimble, Deputy City Manager

---

**AGENDA**

**I. IMMIGRANT INTEGRATION RESOLUTION - 60 minutes**

*Staff: Brad Richardson & Alexis Gordon, Neighborhood & Business Services*

Action: On August 26<sup>th</sup>, Mayor Kinsey and Councilmember Howard requested that the Committee consider a resolution to establish a task force to research, prioritize and recommend policies that facilitate the ability of Charlotte's immigrant population to contribute to the local community. At this meeting, staff will provide answers to Committee questions from its October 17<sup>th</sup> meeting and provide a framework for appointing potential task force members. If ready, the Committee may make a recommendation to the full Council for consideration at a future business meeting.

**Attachments:** 2007 Mayor's Immigration Task Force Report  
List of international organizations in Charlotte

**II. NEXT MEETING DATE: Thursday, November 21, 2013 at Noon, Room CH-14**

- Eastland Mall Update



**Immigrant Integration Task Force  
Suggested Framework for Mayor & Council Appointments**

*\*Chair & Vice Chair to be appointed by the Mayor*

#	Agency or Subject Matter	Notes
2	Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools	Administrator & Teacher
1	Mecklenburg County Health Department	
1	Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office	
1	Department of Social Services	
1	Charlotte-Mecklenburg Community Relations Committee	
2	Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department	Administrator & Officer
1	Central Piedmont Community College	
1	City of Charlotte Code Enforcement	
1	Hospitality/Food Service Industry	
2	Immigration Law	Business & Individual
1	Carolinas HealthCare System or Novant Health	
1	Consul General of Mexico	
1	Refugee Resettlement Agency	
1	Mecklenburg Ministries	
1	United Way	
1	Latin American Coalition	
1	Southeast Asian Coalition	
1	Charlotte Chamber of Commerce	
1	International House	
1	Charlotte International Cabinet	
2	At-large	
25	Total	

### Top Foreign Born Populations in Charlotte

<b>Latin America</b>	Mexico	25,586
	Caribbean	9,488
	El Salvador	7,088
	Colombia	2,277
	Brazil	1,029
<b>Eastern Asia</b>	China	2,372
	Korea	2,325
<b>South Central Asia</b>	India	10,808
	Vietnam	6,808
<b>Western Europe</b>	Germany	2,547
	UK	2,509
<b>Eastern Europe</b>	Russia	1,032
<b>Middle East/North Africa</b>		2,028
<b>Eastern Africa</b>		12,529
<b>Western Africa</b>		6,252
<b>Middle &amp; Southern Africa</b>		2,445

Source: 2012 US Census - American Community Survey



**Immigration: Legal and Illegal**  
*Local Perspective – Charlotte, North Carolina*

**Executive Summary**  
*Presented by the Mayor's Immigration Study Commission*

January 2007



**CHARLOTTE.**

## **The Mayor's Immigration Study Commission**

The Study Commission was created by Charlotte, NC Mayor Patrick McCrory based upon a visit to San Diego, CA as a member of the Homeland Security Advisory Council. During that visit, seeing firsthand the immigration and Homeland Security border protection issues, he found a community that was struggling with the charged and complex issue of immigration. The Mayor understood it would not be long before Charlotte would be confronted with the impact of the changing immigration landscape. The impacts of legal and illegal immigration are clearly at Charlotte's doorstep. While immigration issues are not easily addressed by local government, the need to work from facts and data, rather than emotions, will help governments at all levels to better address immigration policy. Recognizing that informal policies are being implemented, Mayor McCrory has chosen to openly discuss, through the Study Commission, the many facets of immigration (legal and illegal) believing that formal action is needed by elected officials at all levels.

The 28-member Mayor's Immigration Study Commission was charged:

To analyze the impact of immigration on Charlotte's (and region) quality of life, public safety, and economic opportunities.

This executive summary highlights the findings of the full Commission report with a concentrated look at not only the impact of illegal immigration, but the recommendations that facilitate the implementation of public policy by local, state, and federal elected officials.

## Executive Summary

The United States has an estimated 11 million illegal immigrants in the country. In 2004, 202,842 were deported and one million left voluntarily. In 2005, 1.1 million people became legal permanent residents or green card holders; 16,715 were issued to people in North Carolina. Charlotte, North Carolina is the first known City in the nation to take an in-depth study of the impacts of legal and illegal immigration in the four areas of public safety, economic development/workforce, education, and healthcare.

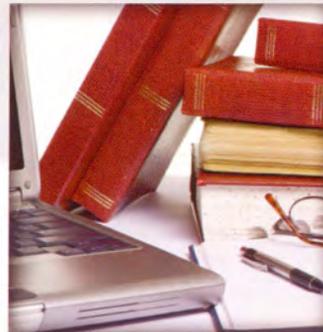
Immigration was once thought of as just a border state issue, but North Carolina has the ninth most illegal immigrants in the United States with 350,000. Mecklenburg County (Charlotte) is estimated to have 58,000 illegal immigrants, the largest population in North Carolina.



**Public Safety**



**Economic Development/  
Workforce**



**Education**



**Healthcare**

Highlights of the report's findings and data gathered include:

## **Public Safety**

- Immigration enforcement is a federal responsibility, yet a 1996 amendment to the Immigration and Naturalization Act, known as 287 (g), allows state and local law enforcement to train with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and subsequently be authorized to identify, process, and detain immigration offenders during regular, daily law enforcement activity.
- The Mecklenburg County, NC Sheriff's Office is one of the first Sheriff Department's to participate in the 287 (g) program and is the only Sheriff's Office in the nation to check the immigration status of every arrestee brought to the jail. During the first seven months (May 2006 – November 2006) of immigration enforcement, the Mecklenburg County Sheriff has processed 1,986 arrestees not born in the United States, began deportation (removal) proceedings for 935; 68 of which had previously been deported and returned unlawfully, while 55 had outstanding warrants for failing to leave the country after being ordered to do so by the federal Immigration Court. All deportation policies and processes are dictated by federal law and coordinated by ICE.
- Charlotte is home to 1,800 known gang members. Five of the City's more than 100 known gangs specifically recruit foreign nationals or illegal immigrants of Latino heritage. These gangs recruit people from the countries of El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras, and one gang consists of Mexican nationals exclusively. The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department works with federal agencies and participates in GangNET to track gang members through a searchable database. Since 2003, GangNET and cooperation with regional and federal law enforcement has led to the deportation of more than 150 gang members from Charlotte.

## ***Economic Development/Workforce***

- Charlotte's population has grown by 20% during the past 10 years and has added more than 155,000 new jobs. In November 2006, the city's unemployment rate was 4.1% spurring a demand for workers in all job sectors.
- In 2005 the U.S. provided work visas and temporary visa status (known as non-immigrant visas, including tourist travelers) to 4.6 million temporary visitors for business, 883,000 temporary workers/trainees and families, and 455,350 intracompany transferees and families. North Carolina had the 20th highest number of non-immigrant admissions in 2005.
- In Fiscal Year 2006, ICE arrested 718 individuals on criminal charges in worksite investigations and apprehended another 3,667 illegal workers on immigration violations, more than a three-fold increase over 2005.
- In 2006, ICE announced the Mutual Agreement between Government and Employers (IMAGE) program to assist employers in targeted sectors to develop a more secure and stable workforce and to enhance fraudulent document awareness through education and training.
- The Kenan Study at UNC-Chapel Hill highlighted that Hispanics annually contribute about \$756 million in taxes (direct and indirect) while costing the state of North Carolina about \$817 million annually for K-12 education (\$467 million), health care (\$299 million), and corrections (\$51 million) for a net cost to the state of about \$61 million.
- The U.S. Chamber of Commerce has identified Immigration legislation as a priority in the 2006 -07 congress focusing on (1) border security and visa policies and procedures are reasonable and carried out efficiently, (2) comprehensive immigration reform takes into account the current and future need for essential workers, and (3) the United States continues to attract the best and the brightest from around the world.

## **Education**

- The current policy of not determining citizenship status of students in Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, and all school districts across the country, stems from the 1982 Supreme Court ruling in the case Plyler v. Doe.
- Every year across the United States, roughly 65,000 illegal immigrant students under the age of 21, who have lived in this country for at least five years or longer, will graduate from high school. Of the 65,000, only 5 to 10 percent will go onto college, compared with 75% of their legal classmates.
- Nine states allow illegal immigrant students to obtain in-state tuition.
- During the 2005 – 06 Academic Year, 564,766 foreign students studied in the United States, comprising 3.9% of total enrollment in U.S. colleges and universities. The State of North Carolina ranked 18th with 9,507 foreign students in 05 – 06.
- Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools consists of students from 130 countries, speaking 94 native languages. In 2006, CMS enrolled 13,307 in the Limited English Proficiency program (9,000 are Spanish speaking), addressing those who have limited to no English speaking skills. The school system has identified that 19,307 students are from families where English is not the native language. CMS estimates that the cost per pupil to educate a student in CMS is \$8,198.

## **Healthcare**

- The Federal Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act of 1986 mandates that hospitals must treat and stabilize anyone who seeks emergency care, regardless of income, insurance, or immigration status. In 1993, the utilization rate of hospitals and clinics by illegal immigrants (29%) was more than twice the rate of the overall US population (11%).
- 41 million Americans lack basic health insurance. One out of every four uninsured people in the U.S, approximately 10 million, are legal immigrants. North Carolina has 1.3 million residents with no health insurance.
- In 2001, public funds covered 85% of the \$34 - \$38 billion shortfall in unreimbursed expenses incurred by the uninsured. In 2005, the cost for the uninsured in North Carolina was \$1.4 billion.
- In 2005, the State's Medicaid Manager reported that North Carolina illegal immigrants cost the state \$52.8 million in Medicaid payments, up from \$25.8 million in 2000.
- In 2004, it is estimated that 300,000 babies of illegal immigrants were born in the United States.
- NC state law requires that each child present adequate immunization records by the 30th day of attendance or the student will be excluded from school.
- Carolinas Healthcare System has determined that it takes 17.6% longer to care for a Spanish speaking patient than it does to care for an English speaking patient.

## Recommendations

The Study Commission worked by consensus to identify 26 recommendations for elected officials to enact. Consensus was not reached on four of the recommendations and the alternative opinions are noted in the full report. The four recommendations without consensus are noted with an asterisk ( \* ).

### *Public Safety*

**Housing** – Develop and clarify fire and safety codes of the local governments regarding the number of people allowed to reside in one dwelling, to address personal and fire safety concerns within the community.

- \* **Crime Suspects Status Policy** – 1) Develop a policy that local law enforcement will determine the immigration status of all arrestees, with help from an ICE pilot program that shares their immigration fingerprint database with state and local agencies. 2) Support a dedicated state funding stream, and additional federal and local funding, for local law enforcement to participate in the 287 (g) program with ICE. Consensus was not reached by the Commission for this recommendation.

**Immigration Court** – Support the request for an Immigration Court in Charlotte presently being considered by the U.S. Department of Justice.

**Increase Jail Space** – 1) Increase jail space and immigration detention space in Mecklenburg County. 2) Provide additional transportation resources associated with the detention process for illegal immigrant prosecution and deportations.

**Prosecution** – Support the full prosecution of Illegal Immigrants who commit local and state crimes, without the possibility of deportation, so the criminals will serve time for their crime prior to any removal (deportation) proceedings.

- \* **Driving While Intoxicated** – Support federal legislation proposal to make first-time Driving While Intoxicated (DWI) offense a deportable offense for illegal immigrants. Consensus was not reached by the Commission for this recommendation.

## Recommendations

### **Public Safety** *(continued)*

**Gang Tracking** – Require police departments to track gang members, particularly those who are foreign born, and the number of members who are deported for criminal activity. Support federal legislation to make gang membership a deportable offense.

**Police Training on Immigration Issues** – 1) Implement programs for Police Departments to train all police officers on the facets of immigration policies and enforcement, including working with DHS – ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) to understand the deportation process and which crimes are deportable. 2) Incorporate a training and community awareness DVD on the Federal 287 (g) program to outline how immigration status can be determined for illegal immigrants who are arrested. 3) Utilize Training Academy/programs to ensure department personnel understand department policies related to immigration-issues.

**Language Pay Incentive for Emergency Responders** – Fund pay incentives for law enforcement, other emergency responders, and Department of Social Services Social Workers who are bilingual or complete classes in a pertinent foreign language.

## **Recommendations**

### **Economic Development/Workforce**

**Secure Borders and Secure Labor Force** – Revise current immigration laws and policies to address the country’s need for secure borders and a secure labor force to continue economic growth. Adopt comprehensive legislation that 1) addresses and improves border security, 2) increases the number of professional temporary and permanent employment-based visas to assure that this country remains on the forefront of global competitiveness.

- A. *Increase funding for DHS Agencies and identify and implement new technologies to assure proper identification of individuals entering the US at the Port of Entry.* Through the use of biometrics, individuals who arrive in the U.S. are now being processed through US – Visit. This technology must be implemented at all air, sea and land ports of entry.
- B. *Increase the annual number of Legal (permanent and temporary) visas authorized and issued to better serve the needs of the changing American workforce and economy.* All temporary and permanent work-related visa caps, including H1B (temporary professional workers), H2A (temporary seasonal workers for Agriculture), H2B (temporary non-agricultural workers), and permanent employment-based immigrant visas be increased.
- C. *Hire more retired DHS (formerly INS) employees temporarily to help process the paperwork for the current backlog.* This will help expedite the approval or denial of visa requests and will eliminate the potential risk of many immigrants to become illegal.
- \* D. *Create a program to enable immigrant workers who have contributed to the American economy through employment to earn a pathway to lawful status; Create a new Guest Worker Temporary Visa program.* America’s demographics and the retirement of the baby boom predict job shortages in many workforce classifications. The current unemployment rate is around 4.2 percent and the Agriculture and Health-Care professions are already seeing labor shortages. Consensus was not reached by the Commission for this recommendation.

**Employee Verification** – Support development of an accurate employment eligibility verification program that encourages businesses to participate.

**Language** – Recognize that English is the primary language of business and the workplace and promote the need for workplace safety manuals to be available in multiple languages.

## Recommendations

### *Education*

**H-1 Visa Category Quota** – Increase the quota or allocation for H-1 (professional workers) categories.

**Employment of Spouses of Visa Holders** – Allow the spouses of H1 visa holders (known as H-4s) to work in the United States to meet the shortages in the workforce. This work visa should expire along with the spouse's H1 visa.

- \* **In-State College Tuition** – Illegal immigrant children enrolled in North Carolina public schools, prior to age 16 and who qualify academically, should be allowed to establish residency in the state (through visa status or other) for tuition purposes. Consensus was not reached by the Commission for this recommendation.

### *Healthcare*

**Bilingual Professionals** – Promote the importance of, and accept, diversity in order to attract bilingual professionals who can add to the workforce, particularly in healthcare.

**Health Education and Disease Prevention** – Strengthen the primary care initiatives of the local healthcare community, especially the Mecklenburg County Health Department, for both legal and illegal immigrants by adding more human resources and services.

**Uninsured** – Address, in a substantive manner, the issues of the lack of health insurance and lack of government support for the uninsured working poor, of which the immigrant population is a significant part.

**Communicable Diseases** – All immigration actions or policies should include provisions to guard against communicable diseases and provide access to preventive care services for the immigrant population.

## Recommendations

### *General*

**Communication** – Increase communication between local levels of government and federal representatives to highlight needs at the local level related to immigration policy changes. Encourage public at-large to communicate with their elected officials, particularly at the federal level, regarding immigration issues and concerns.

**Public Contracts** – Ensure all contracts and projects of the City, County and State that utilize taxpayer funds do not support the employment of illegal immigrants. All contracts and construction projects should include a provision that employers will take specific steps to ensure the legal status of the workforce. Such projects could include, but not be limited to, County contracted landscaping work, the City's NASCAR Hall of Fame, and the State's efforts to build new prisons. Through this effort, local governments should also encourage local businesses to require verification of legal status in contracts.

**Department of Motor Vehicles Voter Registration** – Study the impact of "Motor Voter" registration to determine if illegal immigrants are registering to vote, which is a violation of U.S. immigration law.

## The Mayor's Immigration Study Commission

### Commission Members:

- Alan Gordon, *Study Commission Chair*, Alan Gordon Immigration Law
- Francisco Alvarado, Alvacor Construction
- Dr. John Baker, Carolinas Healthcare System
- Wayne Cooper, *Honorary Consul*, Mexico
- Steve Gennett, Carolinas Associated General Contractors
- Peter Gilchrist, Mecklenburg County District Attorney
- Dr. Maha Gingrich, Central Piedmont Community College
- Richard Gottlieb, DHS – Citizenship and Immigration Services
- Jake Jacobsen, Mecklenburg County Department of Social Services
- Jeff Jordan, DHS – Immigration and Customs Enforcement
- Ray Kaptejna, DHS – Customs and Border Protection
- Dr. Joan Lorden, University of North Carolina at Charlotte
- Dr. Wynn Mabry, Mecklenburg County Health Department
- Wilson McCrory, Davidson College Student
- Dr. Kathy Meads, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools
- Maudia Melendez, Jesus Ministries
- Scott Moroney, Carolinas Healthcare System
- Mayor Kim Phillips, Town of Huntersville, NC
- Jim Pendergraph, Mecklenburg County Sheriff
- Phyllis Primm, Rodgers Builders
- Willie Ratchford, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Community Relations Committee
- Stephen Rosenburgh, US Land Investments, Inc.
- Carlos E. Sanchez, AT&T North Carolina and Charlotte Chamber of Commerce
- Darrel Stephens, *Chief*, Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department
- Elizabeth Thurbee, Catholic Social Services
- Alice Torres, U.S. Rep. Sue Myrick's Office
- Amy Vance, Novant Healthcare
- Hal Weatherman, U.S. Rep. Sue Myrick's Office



**Alan Gordon**  
Immigration & Naturalization Law

**Mayor's Immigration Study Commission**  
**Alan Gordon, Attorney**  
**Chairman**

1018 East Blvd., Suite 7  
Charlotte, NC USA 28203  
T 704 332 2555  
[www.greencards.com](http://www.greencards.com)

**The Mayor's Immigration Study Commission**

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center  
600 East Fourth Street  
Charlotte, NC 28202  
704.336.2241

[www.charmeck.org/Department/Mayor/immigrationstudy](http://www.charmeck.org/Department/Mayor/immigrationstudy)



The Charlotte International Cabinet (CIC) promotes Charlotte as an international city and serves as a resource to foster international relationships, highlighting Charlotte's eight sister city partnerships. The Cabinet serves as the City's first point of contact for the international communities and businesses in Charlotte. It works as a consultant to elected officials and City staff on local activities of international scope and is a reflection of our community's changing face.

The CIC was created through the merger of the Mayor's International Cabinet and Charlotte Sister Cities. The CIC meets six times a year and serves as an open forum to international issues the

city is facing and to update members on all ongoing Cabinet activities. These meetings are open to the public and interested members of the community are encouraged to attend.

The CIC is the primary resource for information on international organizations and activities in the Charlotte area. The information found on the following pages is updated by the Cabinet as new information becomes available. The Cabinet makes this information available as a service to the community and to raise the visibility of Charlotte's diverse and culturally rich community. The Charlotte International Cabinet and the Charlotte Chamber do not specifically endorse the work or programs of any listed organization.

### Charlotte International Cabinet

Chairperson: Dr. Maha Gingrich  
 Executive Director: Sharon Reed  
 Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center  
 600 East Fourth Street, Charlotte NC 28202  
 704-336-2174  
 sreed@charlottenc.gov  
 www.CharlotteInternational.org

## ADVOCACY

### Boy Scouts of America — Latino Outreach

Community: Latino  
 Languages: Spanish, English  
 1410 E. 7th St., Charlotte, NC 28204  
 Justin Lewter, Exploring/Scoutreach Director  
 P: (704) 342-9321  
 www.mccscouting.org

### Caribbean Cultural Initiative

Community: Caribbean  
 P.O. Box 42089, Charlotte, NC 28215  
 Linda L. Brown, President P: (704) 573-1594

### Carolina Refugee Resettlement Agency, Inc.

Community: Refugees  
 Languages: Somali, Burmese, Chin, Vietnamese, Montagard dialects  
 5007 Monroe Rd., Ste. 101, Charlotte, NC 28205  
 Karen Brodsky, Community Relations Coordinator  
 P: (704) 535-8803  
 www.hias.org

### Catholic Social Services

Community: Catholic  
 Languages: English, Spanish  
 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203  
 Elizabeth Thurbee, Executive Director  
 P: (704) 370-6299  
 www.cssnc.org

### Catholic Social Services — Refugee Resettlement Office

Community: Refugees, Asylees  
 Languages: English, Spanish  
 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203  
 Ciria Ponce, Director P: (704) 370-3277  
 www.cssnc.org/refugee

### Charlotte International Women's Club

Languages: Spanish, Creole, French, German, English  
 15105 John J. Delaney Dr., Ste. 245  
 Charlotte, NC 28277  
 Ximena Uribe, President P: (704) 246-7619

### Diversity Council of the Carolinas

P.O. Box 32093, Charlotte, NC 28232  
 Nancy Caudle P: (704) 338-1888  
 www.c-dcc.org

### Diversity Den

Community: Haitian  
 Languages: Creole, French  
 160 Concord Commons, Ste. D1, Concord, NC 28027  
 Joyce Saint-Cyr, Owner P: (704) 792-2233  
 www.diversityden.com

### Latin American Coalition, Inc.

Community: Latino  
 Languages: Spanish, English  
 4949-B Albermarle Rd., Charlotte, NC 28205  
 Tony Arreaza, Operations Manager P: (704) 531-3848  
 www.latinamericancoalition.org

### Latin American Women's Association

Community: Latino  
 Languages: Spanish, English  
 7810 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., Ste. 300  
 Charlotte, NC 28277  
 Violeta Moser P: (704) 552-1003  
 www.lawanc.org

### Mi Casa Su Casa

Community: Latino  
 6030 Albemarle Rd., Charlotte, NC 28212  
 Cristina La Paz, Executive Director P: (704) 536-9845  
 www.micasasucasaactr.org

### Middle East Council of the Carolinas

Community: African/Middle Eastern  
 Languages: Arabic, Farsi, French, Turkish  
 International House c/o MECC  
 322 Hawthorne Ln., Charlotte, NC 28204  
 Mohammad Ismail P: (704) 904-9751

### Mothering Across Continents

15105-D John J. Delaney Dr., Ste. 146  
 Charlotte, NC 28277  
 Patricia Shafer P: (704) 607-0098  
 www.motheringacrosscontinents.org

### Programa Confianza (Mecklenburg County Women's Commission)

Community: Latino  
 Languages: Spanish, English  
 Hal Marshall Building, 700 N. Tryon St.  
 Charlotte, NC 28202  
 Nancy Torres P: (704) 336-3210  
 www.co.mecklenburg.nc.us/cowomcom

### Refugee Support Service of the Carolinas, Inc.

Community: Post Resettlement of Refugees  
 Languages: Spanish, Some Jarai  
 3515 School House Ln., Charlotte, NC 28226  
 Rachel Humphries, Executive Director  
 P: (704) 458-3245  
 www.refugeesupportservices.org

### Solomon House — Hispanic Outreach

Community: Latino  
 200 S. Main St., Huntersville, NC 28078  
 Cathy Hasty, Hispanic Outreach Specialist  
 P: (704) 875-7727

### UNISAL— Camara de Comercio de Las Americas

Community: Latino/Salvadorean  
 Languages: Spanish, English  
 101 W. Sugar Creek Rd., Charlotte, NC 28213  
 Ana Miriam Carpio-Vazquez, President  
 P: (704) 521-6166  
 www.unisal.org

**ARTS****Ballet Folklorico Las Americas**

Community: La tino  
516 E. 15th St., Charlotte, NC 28206  
Brendo Giraldo, President P: (704) 619-2282  
www.lasamericasstudio.com

**IFE Cultural Arts Center, Inc.**

Community: African/Middle Eastern  
P.O. Box 29525, Charlotte, NC 28229-9525  
Obakunle Akinlana P: (704) 241-0319  
www.igunnukointernational.com

**Indian Performing Arts Association of Charlotte (IPAAC)**

Community: African/Middle Eastern  
Languages: English, Hindi, Bengali, Gujrati, Marathi, Tamil, Telgu  
P.O. Box 78676, Charlotte, NC 28271-7038  
Jitendra Jain, President P: (704)364-0984  
www.ipaac.org

**Pacific Arts Troupe**

Community: Chinese  
Languages: English, Chinese  
10310 Hollybrook Dr., Charlotte, NC 28277  
Jaye Li, President P: (704) 907-9094  
www.pacificarttroupe.org

**Rince na h'Eireann Irish Dance School**

Community: Other European  
450 Crompton St., Charlotte, NC 28273  
Sandra Connick, President P: (704) 553-1194  
www.rincenaheireann.com

**Spanish Center**

Community: Latino  
1836 Watlington Dr., Charlotte, NC 28270  
Victor Manuel Guzman, President P: (704) 221 5690

**BUSINESS****Austro American Council of NC & SC**

250 N. Main St., P.O. Box 987, Mount Holly, NC 28120  
Robert Friedl P: (704) 827-7246

**British American Business Council of North Carolina, Inc.**

Community: British, American  
Languages: English  
c/o World Affairs Council of Charlotte  
9201 University City Blvd., UNC Charlotte, 227 CHHS  
Charlotte, NC 28223  
R. Scott Mercer, Managing Director P: (704) 374-8406  
www.babcnc.com

**Carolinas Asian-American Chamber of Commerce (CAACC)**

Community: Asian  
Languages: English  
Kings Tower, 1339 Baxter St., Ste. 200  
Charlotte, NC 28204  
Jian Zhang, President P: (704) 540-6808  
www.caacc.com

**Charlotte Regional Partnership — International**

Languages: English, German  
550 S. Caldwell St., Ste. 760, Charlotte, NC 28202  
Ronnie Bryant, President & CEO P: (704) 347-8942  
www.charlotteusa.com

**Cross Cultural Resources Inc.**

Community: Refugee  
Languages: Arabic, Bhutan, Chin, French, Hindi, Jalai, Kawali, Nepali, Russian, Spanish, Vietnamese  
P.O. Box 18305, Charlotte, NC 28218  
Abdullah Sheikh, Executive Director P: (704) 469-5638  
www.ccrlanguages.com

**French-American Chamber of Commerce of North Carolina Inc. (FACCNC)**

Community: French  
Languages: English, French  
P.O. Box 12328, Charlotte, NC 28220  
Gretchen Carson, Executive Director P: (704) 225-3910  
www.faccnc.com

**German American Chamber of Commerce — NC Chapter (GACC South)**

Community: German  
Languages: German, English, Spanish, Italian, French  
2700 Collins Rd., Ste. 102, Charlotte, NC 28211  
Klaus Becker, President P: (704) 442-7030  
www.gaccsouth.com

**Italy America Chamber of Commerce of the Carolinas (IACCC)**

Community: Other European  
Languages: Italian, English  
1900 S. Blvd., Ste. 302, Charlotte, NC 28203  
Claudio Carpano, President

**Latin American Chamber of Commerce of Charlotte**

Community: Latino  
1112 Charlottetowne Ave., Ste. 205  
Charlotte, NC 28204  
Astrid Chirinos, Executive Director P: (704) 343-2525  
lacccharlotte.com

**Latino Center for Leadership and Family Development**

Community: Latino  
Languages: English, Spanish  
328 W. Carson Blvd., Charlotte, NC 28203  
Lawrence Otarola, Executive Director  
P: (888) 326-2870  
www.latinocenter.net

**Latino Community Credit Union — Cooperativa Comunitaria Latina de Crédito**

Community: Latino  
Languages: Spanish, English  
4801 E. Independence Blvd., Ste. 103  
Charlotte, NC 28212  
Oscar Saveedra, Branch Manager P: (704) 531-0201  
www.cooperativalatina.org

**Mongolian National Chamber of Commerce**

10440 Landon St., Charlotte, NC 28215  
Khudree Agvaanlvsan, Representative in NC  
P: (704) 975-1151  
www.mongolchamber.mn/en

**North Carolina World Trade Association — Charlotte**

9904 Clarke's View Pl. NW, Concord, NC 28027  
Mike McNamara, Administrative Management Services  
P: (704) 968-3166  
www.cwta.org

**Swedish American Chamber of the Carolinas**

Community: Scandanavian  
Languages: Swedish, English  
P.O. Box 18443, Raleigh, NC 27619-8443  
Thomas Swanson, President P: (919) 412-4229  
www.saccofnc.org

**Swiss American Chamber of Commerce**

2208 Houston Branch Rd., Charlotte, NC 28270  
Heinz Roth P: (704) 292-1237

**CULTURAL****Alemannia Society of Charlotte**

Community: German  
Languages: German, French, Italian, Spanish, English  
Waldhorn Restaurant  
12101 Lancaster Highway, Pineville, NC 28220-1932  
Brigitte Hartenstein, President P: (704) 823-0322  
www.alemanniasociety.org

**Alliance Française of Charlotte**

Community: French  
Languages: French, English  
P.O. Box 220106, Charlotte, NC 28222-0106  
Virginie Stewart, President P: (704) 321-5528  
www.afcharlotte.org

**American Turkish Association of North Carolina at Charlotte**

Community: Turkish  
Languages: Turkish, English  
P.O. Box 38832, Charlotte, NC 28278  
Ertunga C. Ozelkan, President  
www.CharlotteTurks.org

**Armenian Cultural Association of the Carolinas**

Community: Other European  
Languages: Armenian, Russian, French, Arabic, English  
5000 Quail Canyon, Charlotte, NC 28226  
Lena Kupelian Neau, Chairman P: (704) 287-8955

**Association des Ivoiriens de la Caroline**

12418 Dixie Ann Dr., Charlotte, NC 28262  
Ibrahima Diallo, President P: (704) 492-9168

**Austrian Culture Society**

Community: Other European  
Languages: German, English  
6810 Alanbrook Rd., Charlotte, NC 28215  
Dr. Hans Plotseneder, President  
www.austrianculturesociety.org

**BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir**

Matthews, NC 28105  
P: (888) 227-3881  
bapscharities.org

**Bosnian Group**

Community: Other European  
 Languages: Bosnian  
 UNC-Charlotte  
 9201 University City Blvd., Charlotte, NC 28223-0001  
 Mirsad Hadzikadic  
 Former Dean-College of Information Technology  
 P: (704) 687-8379

**British Ladies Club**

Community: British  
 Debbie Townley P: (704) 541-9670

**Catawba Valley Scottish Society**

Community: Scottish  
 Languages: English  
 P.O. Box 1009, Huntersville, NC 28070-1009  
 Ed McLean, Executive Director P: (704) 875-3113  
 www.ruralhill.net

**Charlotte Asian Heritage Association**

Community: Asian  
 127 N. Tryon St., Ste. 250, Charlotte, NC 28202  
 Garry Bhojwani, Founder & President  
 P: (704) 333-2462  
 www.gandhiparkcharlotte.com

**Charlotte Dragon Boat Association (CDBA)**

4700 Carson's Pond Rd., Charlotte, NC 28226  
 John Chen, Chairman, Founder P: (704) 540-6808  
 www.charlottedragonboat.org

**Charlotte St. Patrick's Day Parade Foundation Inc.**

Community: Irish  
 Languages: English  
 P.O. Box 471322, Charlotte, NC 28247  
 Linda Dyer Hart, Executive Director P: (803) 802-1678  
 www.charlottestpatsday.com

**Charlotte Taiwanese American Association**

Community: Taiwanese  
 Languages: Chinese, Taiwanese, English  
 1025 Thomsby Ln., Matthews, NC 28105  
 David Wu, Chairman P: (704) 807-8143  
 www.charlottetaiwan.org

**Chilenos**

Community: Latino  
 1999 Ebenezer Rd., Rockhill, SC 29732  
 Carmen Woschkolup P: (803) 327-9935

**Chinese American Association of Charlotte**

Community: Asian  
 Languages: English, Chinese  
 138 Indian Trail Rd., Mooresville, NC 28117  
 Angel Liu, Community Affairs Contact  
 P: (704) 904-3806  
 www.charlottechinese.com

**Christopher Columbus Italian Club of Charlotte**

Community: Italian  
 Languages: Italian, English  
 c/o 3 Hickory Nut Ln., Lake Wylie, SC 29710  
 Stephanie Cavano, Ambassador P: (803) 831-5658  
 italian-club-charlotte.org

**Congolese Community of Charlotte**

Charlotte, NC  
 Alain Ngisulu, President

**Ethiopian Community of Charlotte and Surrounding Areas**

Community: Ethiopian  
 Languages: Amharic, English  
 11527 Tavernay Pkwy., Charlotte, NC 28262  
 Tekle Ayano, President P: (980) 343-6629

**Filipino American Community of the Carolinas, Inc.**

Community: Other Asian  
 Languages: Filipino, Spanish, Ilocano, Pampango,  
 Bicolano, Cebuano, Ilongo  
 11029 Stonepath Ln., Charlotte, NC 28277  
 Dell Amor, President P: (704) 302-1581  
 facc-charlotte.com

**Friends of Scandinavia**

Community: Scandinavian  
 Languages: Norwegian, Swedish, Finn, Danish  
 221 W. 11th St., Charlotte, NC 28202  
 Anne Ovstegard, President P: (704) 376-2436

**Genius of Africa**

Community: African/North African  
 Languages: English, Hausa, Yoruba, Igbo (Ibo), Fulani  
 1800 Camden Rd., Ste. 107, #111  
 Charlotte, NC 28203  
 Barbara Taylor, Director of Events/ Board Secretary  
 P: (704) 608-0331  
 www.geniusofafrica.org

**German-American Club of Charlotte**

Community: German  
 Languages: German, English  
 P.O. Box 470421, Charlotte, NC 28247  
 Wolfgang Meier-Rottmann, President  
 P: (704) 779-4835

**Global Culture and Education Society**

Languages: English, Chinese  
 P.O. Box 364, Cornelius, NC 28031  
 Qian Wang, President P: (704) 728-2679  
 charlottechineseschool.org

**Grupo Painalli**

Community: Latino  
 1362 Foxrun Dr., Charlotte, NC 28212  
 Alejandro Galvez, Co-Founder P: (704) 351-1815

**Haitian Heritage & Friends of Haiti**

Community: Haitian  
 5502 Bentgrass Run Dr., Charlotte, NC 28269  
 Sabine Guerrier, Executive Director  
 P: (704) 890-9903  
 www.hhfoh.org

**Haitian-American Association of the Carolinas**

Community: Caribbean  
 P.O. Box 42376, Charlotte, NC 28215  
 Luiguy Massanga, President P: (704) 618-4149  
 www.haac1804.org

**Harvey B. Gantt Center for African-American Arts + Culture**

Community: African  
 551 S. Tryon St., Charlotte, NC 28202  
 Carolyn Mints, Senior Director of Operations  
 P: (704) 374-1565 Ex. 32  
 www.ganttcenter.org

**Hmong Community of Charlotte, Inc.**

Community: Other Asian  
 6010 Beaver Dam Ln., Charlotte, NC 28227  
 Chue Lue Vang P: (704) 545-8264

**Indian Association of Charlotte**

Community: Indian  
 3212 Devon Croft Ln., Charlotte, NC 28269-9746  
 Lal Vishin, President P: 704-545-3727  
 www.indiafestival.net

**Indonesian American Association of the Carolinas**

Community: Indonesian  
 9731 Clifton Meadow Dr., Mathews, NC 28105  
 Robbynson H. Suy, President  
 www.iaaotc.org

**Jamaican American Cultural Association (JACA)**

Community: Caribbean  
 Languages: Jamaican  
 12006 Willoughby Run Dr., Charlotte, NC 28277  
 Gaynor Russell, President P: (704) 544-3296  
 www.JACA1.com

**Japanese Association in Charlotte**

Community: Japanese  
 Languages: Japanese  
 322 Hawthorne Ln., Charlotte, NC 28204  
 Fumiko Symonds P: (704) 333-2775  
 www.geocities.jp/jaclttest

**Jewish Community Center Charlotte**

5007 Providence Rd., Charlotte, NC 28226  
 Berman Philip, Director P: (704) 366-5007  
 www.charlottejcc.org

**Korean Association**

Community: Korean  
 Languages: Korean, English  
 11600 Idlewild Rd., Matthews, NC 28105  
 Jim Kyung Kim, President P: (704) 615-3846  
 www.charlottekoreans.com

**La Casa del Ecuatoriano**

Community: Latino  
 Languages: Spanish, English  
 1101 Tyvola Rd., Ste. 110, Charlotte, NC 28217  
 Aracelly J. Pacheco, Director P: (704) 586-0463

**Lao-American Association of North Carolina, Charlotte**

Community: Other Asian  
 Languages: Lao  
 7726 Konsler Dr., Charlotte, NC 28214  
 Amala Siharatha, President P: (704) 533-2634  
 laoamericanassociation.webs.com

**Liberian Association of Charlotte**

Community: African/Middle Eastern  
 1941 Bentley Pl., Charlotte, NC 28205  
 Lafayette Diggs P: (704) 537-6300

**Maha's Dances of India**

4724 Buckminster Ct., Charlotte, NC 28269  
 Dr. Maha Gingrich P: (704) 549-8428

**Metrolina Native American Association**

Languages: English and some Navajo  
 8001 N. Tryon St., Charlotte, NC 28262  
 Kara D. Jones, WIA Director P: (704) 926-1524  
 www.metrolinanativeamericans.com

**Metrolina Phoenician Club**

Community: Middle Eastern  
 Languages: Arabic, English, French  
 P.O. Box 49327, Charlotte, NC 28277  
 Roger Soudir P: (704) 236-4994  
[www.phoenicianclub.org](http://www.phoenicianclub.org)

**Middle East Council of the Carolinas**

322 Hawthorne Ln., Charlotte, NC 28204  
 Chris George, President P: (704) 966-6258  
[www.middleeastcouncilnc.org](http://www.middleeastcouncilnc.org)

**National Society Daughters of the British Empire**

Community: British  
 10819 Jordan Rae Ln., Charlotte, NC 28277-0400  
 Debbie Reicht, Member P: (704) 540-8606

**Nigerian Community of Charlotte**

Community: African  
 Languages: English, Hausa, Igbo, Yoruba  
 P.O. Box 560395, Charlotte, NC 28256  
 Peter Awute, Secretary P: (704) 890-4365  
[nccweb.org](http://nccweb.org)

**Parachutes International Productions/Promotions Organization**

Languages: English, French, Creole  
 3307 Dalecrest Dr., Charlotte, NC 28269  
 Patrice Fermly P: (704) 456-2227

**Polish-American Cultural Society**

Community: Other European  
 Languages: Polish, English  
 2613 Silkstream Ln., Charlotte, NC 28262  
 Juliusz Bujalski P: (704) 549-8555

**Romanian Society for Cultural Exchange, Charlotte**

Elena Caragiu, President  
[www.romcec.org](http://www.romcec.org)

**Scandinavian American General Assembly of the Carolinas (SAGA), Inc.**

Community: Scandinavian  
 4064 Ancestry Cir., Weddington, NC 28104  
 Sanna-Majja Tucker P: 704 996 3731  
[www.scandinavianconnection.org](http://www.scandinavianconnection.org)

**South Africans in Charlotte**

Dianne Stewart, Organizer P: (704) 777-4842  
[www.southafricansincharlotte.org](http://www.southafricansincharlotte.org)

**Suomi-Finland Club of Charlotte**

Community: Scandinavian  
 Languages: Finnish, English  
 9017 Arrington Pl., Charlotte, NC 28277  
 Leena Salokannel-Azar, President P: (704) 752-7820

**Taiwanese-American Association of Greater Charlotte**

2901 Plantation Rd., Charlotte, NC 28270  
 David Wu P: (704) 488-1004

**Universal Vedic Cultural and Education Foundation**

4626 Narayan St., Charlotte, NC 28227  
 Nimish Bhatt P: (704) 491-1168  
[www.uvcef.org](http://www.uvcef.org)

**Vietnamese Association**

5500 Executive Center Dr., Ste. 108  
 Charlotte, NC 28212  
 Peter Tran, President P: (704) 846-9552

**EDUCATION****Belmont Abbey College — Centre for Global Commerce**

Community: Catholic  
 Languages: English, Spanish  
 100 Belmont-Mt. Holly Rd., Belmont, NC 28012  
 James Giermanski, Director P: (704) 825-6218  
[www.belmontabbeycollege.edu/academics/global-commerce](http://www.belmontabbeycollege.edu/academics/global-commerce)

**British American School of Charlotte**

7000 Endhaven Ln., Charlotte, NC 28277  
 Adam Stevens, Headmaster P: (704) 341-3236  
[www.britishschoolofcharlotte.com](http://www.britishschoolofcharlotte.com)

**Carolina International School**

Community: Emphasis on Sister Cities  
 Languages: English, Spanish  
 8810 Hickory Ridge Rd., Harrisburg, NC 28075  
 Carole Forbes, Director P: (704) 455-3847  
[www.carolinainternationalschool.org](http://www.carolinainternationalschool.org)

**Central Avenue Bilingual Preschool**

Community: Latino  
 Languages: Spanish, English  
 4019 Central Ave., Charlotte, NC 28205  
 Barbara Cantisano, Director P: (704) 535-8080  
[www.bilingualpreschool.org](http://www.bilingualpreschool.org)

**Charlotte Chinese Academy**

Community: Chinese  
 P.O. Box 78314, Charlotte, NC 28271  
 Sha Sha Liu, Principal P: (704) 701-6894  
[www.charlottechineseacademy.org](http://www.charlottechineseacademy.org)

**Charlotte Chinese School**

Community: Chinese  
 P.O. Box 470314, Charlotte, NC 28247  
 Tim Lee, Principal P: (704) 544-9375  
[www.charlottechineseschool.com](http://www.charlottechineseschool.com)

**Charlotte Country Day School**

Languages: English, Chinese, French, German, Latin, Spanish  
 1440 Carmel Rd., Charlotte, NC 28226  
 Millie Cox, Director of International Studies  
 P: (704) 943-4566  
[www.charlottecountrypday.org/international-studies](http://www.charlottecountrypday.org/international-studies)

**CMS - English as a Second Language (ESL) Program**

700 Marsh Rd., Charlotte, NC 28209  
 Katherine Meads  
 Executive Director ESL Student Education  
 P: (980) 343-2649  
[www.cms.k12.nc.us/cmsdepartments/ci/esl](http://www.cms.k12.nc.us/cmsdepartments/ci/esl)

**CMS - Global Studies Program**

Languages: English, Spanish  
 700 E. Stonewall St., Walton Plaza, Ste. 506  
 Charlotte, NC 28202  
 Kelly Price, Director of Global Studies & World Languages  
 P: (980) 343-0481  
[www.cms.k12.nc.us/cmsdepartments/ci/GlobalStudies](http://www.cms.k12.nc.us/cmsdepartments/ci/GlobalStudies)

**Collinswood Dual Language Academy**

Languages: English, Spanish  
 4000 Applegate Rd., Charlotte, NC 28209  
 Maria Petrea, Principal P: (980) 343-5820  
[pages.cms.k12.nc.us/collinswood/welcome](http://pages.cms.k12.nc.us/collinswood/welcome)

**Confucius Institute of Pfeiffer University**

Community: Chinese  
 4701 Park Rd., Charlotte, NC 28209  
 Emily Neal, Secretary to the Director P: (704) 879-1659  
[www.pfeifferci.org](http://www.pfeifferci.org)

**CPCC — International Services**

1201 Elizabeth Ave., Charlotte, NC 28204  
 Dotty Holley, International Student Advisor  
 P: (704) 330-6456  
[www.cpcc.edu](http://www.cpcc.edu)

**Daughters of Penelope**

105 Kuralt House Ct., Charlotte, NC 28210  
 Irene Politis, President P: (704) 552-9068  
[www.district3ahepa.com/Chapters/Ch.002/ch02](http://www.district3ahepa.com/Chapters/Ch.002/ch02)

**Dean Rusk International Studies Program — Davidson College**

P.O. Box 7148, Davidson, NC 28035  
 Dr. Christopher Alexander, Director  
 P: (704) 894-2440  
[www.davidson.edu/international](http://www.davidson.edu/international)

**Deutsche Schule Charlotte — German Language School**

Community: German  
 Languages: German, English  
 P.O. Box 472671, Charlotte, NC 28226  
 Sigrid Belluz, Principal P: (704) 502-6330  
[www.dsclt.com](http://www.dsclt.com)

**ELS Language Center in Association with Queens University**

Languages: Staff Members - Spanish, French, German and English; Students - French, Spanish, Portuguese, Japanese, Korean, Vietnamese, Chinese, Turkish, Arabic  
 5200 Park Rd., Ste. 213, Charlotte, NC 28209  
 Rodney Neese, Director P: (704) 527-4172  
[www.els.edu](http://www.els.edu)

**European School of Music**

2613 Silkstream Ln., Charlotte, NC 28262  
 Juliusz Bujalski, Director P: (704) 549-8555  
[www.euromusicschool.com](http://www.euromusicschool.com)

**Finnish School of Charlotte — Charlotten Suomikoulu**

Community: Scandinavian  
 4064 Ancestry Cir., Matthews, NC 28104  
 Jonna Roppo, Executive Director  
[www.scandinavianconnection.org](http://www.scandinavianconnection.org)

**Friendship Force**

204 Hillside Dr., Monroe, NC 28112  
 Karen Perry, President P: (704) 282-2419  
[www.friendshipforcecharlotte.com](http://www.friendshipforcecharlotte.com)

**Hispanic Scholarship Fund**

Community: Latino  
 Languages: Spanish, English  
 10130 Mallard Creek Rd., Ste. 300, Charlotte, NC 28262  
 Pat Martinez, Regional Development Director  
 P: (704) 944-3590  
[www.hsf.net](http://www.hsf.net)

**International Teacher Exchange Services**

P.O. Box 67051, Charlotte, NC 28226  
 Rory McNicholas P: (704) 817-9742  
 www.itesonline.com

**Japanese Language School - Saturday School**

Community: Other Asian  
 Languages: Japanese, English  
 322 Hawthorne Ln., Charlotte, NC 28204  
 Teruyoshi Ogano, Principal P: (704) 333-2775  
 jisc.web.infoseek.co.jp

**Johnson C. Smith University — International Studies**

100 Beaties Ford Rd., Charlotte, NC 28216  
 Adelheid Eubanks, International Studies  
 P: (704) 378-1000  
 www.jcsu.edu

**Korean School - Saturday School**

Community: Korean  
 1339 Baxter St., Ste. 200, Charlotte, NC 28204  
 Ki-Hyun Chun P: (704) 332-5656

**Lake Norman Language School**

Community: All  
 Languages: German, French, English  
 118 Pine Ridge Dr., Huntersville, NC 28078  
 Angela Jakeway, Owner & Teacher  
 P: (704) 995-9868

**Language Academy of the Carolinas, Inc.**

Community: Latino  
 Languages: English, Various  
 P.O. Box 5672, Charlotte, NC 28299  
 Craig Snyder, President P: (704) 548-0048  
 www.carolinalanguage.com

**Oaklawn Language Academy**

Languages: English, Spanish, French  
 1810 Oaklawn Ave., Charlotte, NC 28216  
 Patty Moreira-Garcia, Principal P: (980) 343-0400  
 pages.cms.k12.nc.us/oaklawn

**Pfeiffer University-Academy of International Business Studies**

Languages: English, German  
 4701 Park Rd., Charlotte, NC 28209  
 Ulrich Froehlich, Dean of Intl. Business Studies  
 P: (704) 945-7306  
 www.pfeiffer.edu

**Queens University-John Belk International Program**

1900 Selwyn Ave., Charlotte, NC 28274  
 Eric J. Lien, Director P: (704) 337-2531  
 www.queens.edu/international

**Smith Academy of International Languages (K-8)**

Languages: English, French, German, Chinese (Mandarin),  
 Japanese, Spanish  
 1600 Tyvola Rd., Charlotte, NC 28210  
 Ynez Olshausen, Principal P: (980) 343-5815  
 www.cms.k12.nc.us/allschools/smith

**Socrates Academy**

3909 Weddington Rd., Matthews, NC 28105  
 Larry Peroulas, President of Board of Directors  
 P: (704) 321-1711  
 www.socratesacademy.us

**Solomon House**

Languages: English, Spanish  
 200 S. Main St., Huntersville, NC 28078  
 Abraya Johnson P: (704) 875-7727  
 thesolomonhouse.org

**Svenska Skolan i Charlotte (Swedish School)**

Community: Scandinavian  
 Languages: Swedish, English  
 1808 Tanglebriar Ct., Weddington, NC 28104  
 Ingrid L'Hommedieu P: (704) 321-0089  
 www.swedishschoolofcharlotte.com/english

**UNC-Charlotte- Office of International Programs**

2nd Floor, College of Health & Human Services Bldg.  
 9201 University City Blvd., Charlotte, NC 28223-0001  
 Mary B. Zink, Administrative Assistant  
 P: (704) 687-7755  
 www.oip.uncc.edu

**West Mecklenburg High School Academy of International Languages**

7400 Tuckaseegee Rd., Charlotte, NC 28214  
 Karen Baber, Lead Teacher P: (980) 343-6080  
 pages.cms.k12.nc.us/westmeck

**FOREIGN CONSULATES****Consulate of Canada**

Languages: English, French  
 3737 Glenwood Ave., Ste. 100, Raleigh, NC 27612  
 Ben Gailor P: (704) 573-1824  
 geo.international.gc.ca/can-am/raleigh/menu-en

**Consulate of Mexico**

336 E. Six Forks Rd., Raleigh, NC 27609  
 Carlos F. Vizcarra P: (919) 754-0046  
 portal.sre.gob.mx/raleigh

**Honorary Consul Belize**

1135 Military Cutoff Rd., Ste. 203, Wilmington, NC 28405  
 Edward L. Paul P: (910) 256-6689

**Honorary Consul Albania**

130 Sandhurst Pl., Southern Pines, NC 28387  
 David B. Funderburk P: (910) 692-8291

**Honorary Consul Canada**

Community: Canadian  
 Languages: English, French, German, Spanish  
 212 S. Tryon St., Ste. 325, Charlotte, NC 28281  
 Dana M. Hicks P: (704) 333-7790  
 www.connect2canada.com

**Honorary Consul Cyprus**

250 Memorial Dr., Ste. 1974, Jacksonville, NC 28546  
 Takey Crist P: (910) 353-4970

**Honorary Consul Federal Republic of Germany**

Community: German  
 Languages: German, English, Portuguese, Spanish  
 1910 Abbott St., Ste. 201, Charlotte, NC 28203  
 Kurt G. Waldthausen P: (704) 372-2172  
 www.germany.info

**Honorary Consul France**

Community: French  
 Languages: French, English  
 220 N. Tryon St., Charlotte, NC 28202  
 Laura M. Wellman P: (704) 973-4962

**Honorary Consul Guatemala**

Community: Latino  
 201 S. Dotger Ave., Charlotte, NC 28207  
 Steven Kropp P: (704) 333-5958

**Honorary Consul Italy**

1704 East Blvd., Ste. 101, Charlotte, NC 28203  
 Claudio Carpano P: (704) 373-2867

**Honorary Consul Lebanon**

2501 Blue Ridge Rd., Ste. 150, Raleigh, NC 27607  
 Ghassan El-Diri P: (919) 863-4306

**Honorary Consul Mexico**

Community: Latino  
 Languages: Spanish, English  
 P.O. Box 19627, Charlotte, NC 28219  
 Wayne Cooper P: (704) 394-2190

**Honorary Consul Moldova**

P.O. Box 969, Hickory, NC 28603  
 Florin Pindic Blaj P: (828) 396-2220

**Honorary Consul Namibia**

503 Kent Rd., Greenville, NC 27858  
 Peter Romary P: (252) 413-6151

**Honorary Consul Netherlands**

Community: Other European  
 5504 Commercial Ave., Ste. 100, Raleigh, NC 27612  
 Gerard Ter Wee P: (919) 645-1100  
 www.netherlands-embassy.org

**Honorary Consul Nicaragua**

Community: Latino  
 Languages: Spanish, English  
 5205 Monroe Rd., Ste. C, Charlotte, NC 28205  
 Gilberto Bergman P: (704) 537-1230

**Honorary Consul Poland**

P.O. Box 7112, Raleigh, NC 27695  
 Alvin M. Fountain II P: (919) 637-7069

**Honorary Consul Portugal**

110 Blackford Ct., Durham, NC 27712  
 Maria Lewis P: (919) 471-3634

**Honorary Consul Sweden**

Community: Other European  
 940 NW Cary Pkwy., Ste. 102-A, Cary, NC 27513  
 Magnus Natt Och Dag P: (919) 531-0062  
 www.swedenabroad.com

**Honorary Consul Switzerland**

Community: Other European  
 Languages: Swiss, English  
 2208 Houston Branch Rd., Charlotte, NC 28270  
 Heinz Roth P: (704) 292-1237

**Honorary Consul United Kingdom**

Community: British  
 330 S. Tryon St., Charlotte, NC 28202  
 Michael Teden, OBE P: (704) 332-0002  
 www.ukinusa.fco.gov.uk

**HEALTH****The Martial Arts For Life Foundation**

Languages: English  
6417 Cameron Forest Ln., Apt. 1 C, Charlotte, NC 28210  
Sherman Tse, Founder, Trainer, Martial Arts Consultant  
P: (704) 458-5993  
www.themartialartsforlife.com

**INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS****A Place of Hopes, Inc.**

Community: African  
Languages: English  
P.O. Box 3341, Huntersville, NC 28070  
Abong Ngranui-Fankam, Co-Founder  
P: (980) 230-6511  
www.placeofhopes.org

**African Cultural Exchange, Inc.**

Community: African  
7313 Mossborough Ct., Charlotte, NC 28227  
Erica Adams, Executive Director P: (704) 566-9542

**Charlotte International Cabinet**

Languages: Varies by staff  
600 E. Fourth St., 1st Floor, Charlotte, NC 28202  
Sharon Reed, Executive Director P: (704) 336-2174  
www.CharlotteInternational.org

**CIC — Charlotte Sister Cities Program**

Community: All  
Languages: German, Spanish, Russian, Polish, English  
600 E. Fourth St., Charlotte, NC 28202  
Sharon Reed, Executive Director P: (704) 336-2174  
www.CharlotteInternational.org

**International House**

Languages: French, Italian, Spanish, Serbian, Romanian,  
Russian, Brazilian, Portugese, Japanese, German  
322 Hawthorne Ln., Charlotte, NC 28204  
Lara Printz P: (704) 333-8099  
www.ihclt.org

**United Nations Association —  
Central Piedmont Chapter**

UNC Charlotte  
9201 University City Blvd., Charlotte, NC 28223  
Cindy Combs, President P: (704) 687-4529  
www.sco.uncc.edu/modelun

**World Affairs Council of Charlotte**

Community: All  
9210 University City Blvd., 227 CHHS Building  
Charlotte, NC 28223  
L.J. Stambuk, Executive Director P: (704) 687-7762  
www.charlotteworld.org

**World Affairs Council of Charlotte —  
Magellan Society**

9210 University City Blvd., 227 CHHS Building  
Charlotte, NC 28223  
Lauren Branson, Program and Membership Manager  
P: (704) 687-7758  
www.charlotteworld.org

**LOCAL/STATE GOVERNMENT****Charlotte Douglas International Airport**

P.O. Box 19066, Charlotte, NC 28219  
Haley Gentry, Public Affairs Manager  
P: (704) 359-4000  
www.charlotteairport.com

**Mecklenburg County Department of Social  
Services- Spanish Hotline**

301 Billingsley Rd., Charlotte, NC 28211  
P: (704) 336-3000  
www.charmeck.org/Departments/DSS/documents

**Minority, Women and Small Business  
Enterprise Program**

3205 Freedom Dr., Ste. 101, Charlotte, NC 28208  
Teresa H. McDow, MWSBE Program Coordinator  
P: (704) 336-6186  
www.charmeck.org/Departments/MWSBE

**NC Office of the Governer — Hispanic/  
Latino Affairs**

Community: Latino  
20301 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699  
Gabriela Zabala, Special Bilingual Assistant  
P: (919) 733-5361

**NC State Ports Authority — Charlotte  
Intermodel Terminal**

P.O. Box 9002, Wilmington, NC 28402  
Glenn Carlson, Chief Commercial Officer  
P: (910) 763-1621  
www.ncports.com

**North Carolina Consular Corps**

Charlotte, NC  
Catherine Hansen, Executive Director, Chief of Protocol  
www.northcarolinaconsularcorps.org

**MEDIA****Asian Herald**

Community: Other Asian  
Languages: Korean, Vietnamese, Japanese, Chinese  
1339 Baxter St., Ste. 200, Charlotte, NC 28204  
Andrea Lee, Managing Director P: (704) 334-3450  
www.chungroup.com

**El Progreso Hispano**

Community: Latino  
Languages: Spanish, English  
756 Tyvola Rd., Ste. 102, Charlotte, NC 28217  
Jose Herrera, President P: (704) 529-6728  
www.elprogresohispano.com

**La Noticia — The Spanish-Language Newspaper**

Community: Latino  
Languages: Spanish, English  
5936 Monroe Rd., Charlotte, NC 28212  
Hilda H. Gurdian, Publisher & CEO  
www.lanoticia.com

**La Verdad de America**

Community: Latino  
Languages: Spanish, English  
P.O. Box 44066, Charlotte, NC 28215  
Philip Oropeza, Editor P: (704) 293-7554  
www.laverdaddeamerica.com

**Mi Gente**

Community: Latino  
Languages: Spanish  
4726 Kimmerly Glen Ln., Ste. B, Charlotte, NC 28215  
Maria Pavas, General Manager P: (704) 405-5243  
www.migenteweb.com

**Que Pasa Media (Newspaper & Radio)**

Community: Latino  
Languages: English, Spanish  
7508 E. Independence Blvd., Ste. 109  
Charlotte, NC 28227  
Julio Suarez P: (704) 319-5044  
quepasamedia.com

**Radio Lider — WNOW 1030-AM**

Community: Latino  
4321-E Stuart Andrew Blvd., Charlotte, NC 28217  
P: (704) 665-9355  
www.wnow-am.com/wnow-am

**Saathe Magazine & Nazari Television**

Community: South Asian  
Languages: English, Hindi, Gujarati  
P.O. Box 11468, Charlotte, NC 28220  
Divakar Shukla, President P: (704) 527-7570  
www.saathee.com

**RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS****Agape Chinese Baptist Church**

Community: Chinese  
Languages: Chinese, English  
1500 Suther Rd., Charlotte, NC 28213  
Edmond H. Chan, Pastor P: (704) 497-6116  
www.agapechinese.net

**Ahmadiyya Muslim Community**

Community: African/Middle Eastern  
Languages: English, Urdu, Hindi, Bengali, Arabic  
11205 Hambright Rd., Huntersville, NC 28078  
Nadeem Faizi, President P: (704) 296-2607  
www.charlottejamaat.com

**Bethany Korean Presbyterian Church**

Community: Korean  
Languages: Korean  
1805 E. 7th St., Charlotte, NC 28204  
John Lim, Pastor P: (704) 375-3501

**Cambodian Buddhist Temple**

Community: Other Asian  
Languages: Cambodian  
219 Owen Blvd., Charlotte, NC 28213  
Manary Tan P: (704) 596-6628

**Catholic Parish of St. Vincent de Paul**

Community: Catholic  
Languages: English, Spanish  
6828 Old Reid Rd., Charlotte, NC 28210  
Mark Lawlor, Pastor P: (704) 554-7088  
www.stvincentdepaulchurch.com

**Catholic Pastoral Center — Hispanic Ministry**

Community: Catholic  
Languages: English, Spanish  
1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203  
Andrea Inkrott, Director P: (704) 370-3289  
www.charlottediocese.org

**Centre International De La Foi en Christ (CIFC)**

Community: Haitian  
 Languages: Creole, French, English  
 4469 Hobbs Hill Dr., Charlotte, NC 28215  
 Joseph V. Youance, Pastor & Founder P: (704) 536-4877  
 www.cifcnet.org

**Charlotte Chinese Baptist Church**

Community: Chinese  
 Languages: Chinese, English  
 7225 Pence Rd., Charlotte, NC 28215  
 Steven Wang, Pastor P: (704) 536-6700  
 www.cbcnc.org

**Charlotte Hmong Alliance Church**

1750 Thriftwood Dr., Charlotte, NC 28208  
 Jeremiah Yang P: (704) 394-0520

**Charlotte Korean Seventh-Day Adventist Church**

Community: Korean  
 3120 Sam Newell Rd., Matthews, NC 28105  
 Ray Chung, Pastor P: (704) 849-7787

**Charlotte True Buddhist Society**

Community: Other Asian  
 5909 Monroe Rd., Charlotte, NC 28212  
 Pauline Lee, Director of Temple P: (704) 567-2000

**Charlotte's First Baptist Korean Mission**

Community: Korean  
 Languages: Korean  
 301 S. Davidson St., Charlotte, NC 28231  
 Eul Kee Chung, Pastor P: (704) 332-9930

**Christian Association for the Social Progress (ACPS), Inc.**

Community: African/Middle Eastern  
 P.O. Box 790081, 2641 A, Charlotte, NC 28206  
 Robert Shutsha, Minister P: (704) 765-5003

**Christian Solidarity International**

Languages: English, German  
 1323 Queens Rd., Ste. 307, Charlotte, NC 28207  
 Cindy Castano P: (704) 334-0285  
 www.csi-int.org

**Charlotte Vietnamese Baptist Church**

Community: Vietnamese  
 Languages: Vietnamese, English  
 4301 Howie Cir., Charlotte, NC 28205  
 Paul Hung Nguyen, Pastor P: (704) 347-4748

**Diocese of Charlotte**

Community: Catholic  
 Languages: English, Spanish  
 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203  
 Peter J. Jugis, Bishop P: (704) 370-6299  
 www.charlottediocese.org

**Filipino Ministry and Diocese of Charlotte**

Community: Filipino  
 Languages: Tagalog, English  
 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203  
 Cris V. Villapando, Director of Faith Formation Programs  
 P: (704) 370-3246

**First Hmong United Methodist**

Community: Other Asian  
 Hickory Grove United Methodist Church  
 6401 Hickory Grove Rd., Charlotte, NC 28215  
 Cher Lue Vang, Pastor P: (704) 575-9329

**First Korean Presbyterian**

Community: Korean  
 6930 Wallace Rd., Charlotte, NC 28212  
 Seung Tae Lee, Pastor P: (704) 531-2552  
 www.charlottekoreans.com

**First Slavic Baptist Church**

7600 Plott Rd., Charlotte, NC 28262  
 Michael Pisarskiy P: (704) 604-4870

**Friendly Arab Baptist Mission of Charlotte**

Community: African/Middle Eastern  
 4855 Albemarle Rd., Charlotte, NC 28205  
 Jadd Boulos, Pastor P: (704) 537-5101  
 www.ehbc.info

**German Church of Charlotte**

Community: German  
 Languages: German, English  
 P.O. Box 240024, Charlotte, NC 28224  
 Enrico Leicht, Pastor P: (704) 488-5530  
 www.germanchurch.org

**Hindu Center**

Community: Indian  
 7400 City View Dr., Charlotte, NC 28212  
 Indradevn Mishra, Custodian P: (704) 607-8412  
 www.hcdt.org

**Hispanic Baptist Church La Voz de la Esperanza**

Community: Latino  
 Languages: Spanish, English  
 7122 Robinson Church Rd., Charlotte, NC 28215  
 Angela Hernandez P: (704) 537-7133

**Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral**

Community: Other European  
 Languages: Greek, English  
 600 East Blvd., Charlotte, NC 28203  
 Helen Karras, Secretary/Office Manager  
 P: (704) 334-4771  
 web.htgo.org/htgoc/default

**Huntersville Ministerio Latino**

201 N. Old Statesville Rd., Huntersville, NC 28078  
 Christopher Harbin  
 Associate Pastor for Ministerio Latino  
 P: (704) 875-6581  
 www.fbc-h.org/get-connected/ministerio-latino

**Iglesia Bautista La Voz de La Esperanza**

7122 Robinson Church Rd., Charlotte, NC 28215  
 P: (704) 537-7133  
 www.ministerioslavoz.com

**Iglesia Cristiana Bautista Luz Y Vida**

1451 Briar Creek Rd., Charlotte, NC 28205  
 Eligio Najera, Pastor P: (704) 536-8901  
 briarcreekchurch.org

**Islamic Center of Charlotte**

1700 Progress Ln., Charlotte, NC 28205  
 A.J. Lamti P: (704) 537-9399

**Islamic Society of Greater Charlotte**

Community: African/Middle Eastern  
 Languages: Arabic, English  
 7025 The Plaza, Charlotte, NC 28215  
 Khalid Choudhery, Secretary of Finance  
 P: (704) 536-2016

**Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte**

5007 Providence Rd., Ste. 101, Charlotte, NC 28226  
 Susan J. Worrel, Executive Director P: (704) 944-6760  
 www.jewishcharlotte.org

**Korean Baptist Church of Charlotte**

1015 S. Trade St., Matthews, NC 28105  
 Peter Cha, Pastor P: (704) 849-2661  
 www.church.com

**Korean Central Baptist Church**

Community: Korean  
 8823 Albermarle Rd., Charlotte, NC 28227  
 Kwang Sun Cho, Pastor P: (704) 567-1565

**Korean Global Mission Church**

Community: Korean  
 1329 Stallings Rd., Matthews, NC 28104  
 Dennis Kim, Reverend P: (704) 821-6637

**Korean Presbyterian Church**

Community: Korean  
 Languages: Korean, English  
 701 Scaleybark Rd., Charlotte, NC 28209  
 Junwon Kwang, Pastor P: (704) 529-0900

**Lutheran - NC Synod**

1988 Lutheran Synod Dr., Salisbury, NC 28144  
 P: (704) 633-4861  
 www.nclutheran.org

**Masjid Ash-Shaheed (Mosque of the Witness)**

Community: Islamic  
 Languages: Arabic, English  
 P.O. Box 16720, Charlotte, NC 28297-6720  
 A. Abdulla Hilal, Secretary P: (704) 598-4274  
 www.ashshaheed.com

**Montagnard Alliance**

Community: Other Asian  
 3119 Westerwood Dr., Charlotte, NC 28214  
 Ma Giao Gilpam, Reverend P: (704) 393-7159

**Muslim Women of the Carolinas**

P.O. Box 42066, Charlotte, NC 28215  
 Wakeelah B. Salahuddin P: (704) 241-4191

**Nativity of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church**

Community: Other European  
 Languages: Russian, English  
 P.O. Box 2268, Davidson, NC 28036  
 William S. Mills, Father P: (704) 596-8252  
 www.holyvirgin.net

**Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church**

Community: Latino  
 6212 Tuckaseegee Rd., Charlotte, NC 28214  
 Luis Wolf P: (704) 391-3732

**Phat Hue Buddhist Temple**

11502 Idlewild Rd., Matthews, NC 28105  
 Phafue Tsch P: (704) 321-9098

**Premiere Église Hattienne de la Grâce**

Community: Haitian  
 Languages: Creole, French  
 2835 W. Sugar Creek Rd., Charlotte, NC 28262  
 Saint Fleur Surin P: (704) 491-1976

**Romanian Baptist Church**

Community: Other European  
8918 Arbor Creek Dr., Charlotte, NC 28269  
Livius Percy, Pastor P: (704) 948-5293

**SaRang Church (Pentecostal Holiness)**

Community: Korean  
Languages: Korean  
331 W. Sugar Creek Rd., Charlotte, NC 28213  
Joseph Chung, Pastor P: (704) 598-5255

**Sikh Heritage Society of Greater Charlotte**

Community: Indian  
Languages: Punjabi, English  
1760 Stoney Creek Ln., Charlotte, NC 28262  
Inderjeet Singh Rajpal, Treasurer P: (704) 302-1069  
www.gurdwaracharlotte.com

**St. John Lee Korean Catholic Church**

Community: Korean  
7110 Robinson Church Rd., Charlotte, NC 28215  
Jaehee Lee, Reverend P: (704) 536-3973  
www.charlottekoreancatholic.com

**St. Joseph Vietnamese Catholic Church**

Community: Vietnamese  
4929 Sandy Porter Rd., Charlotte, NC 28273  
Henry Tan Le P: (704) 965-4671

**St. Sarkis Armenian Church of Charlotte**

Community: Other European  
Languages: Armenian, Russian, French, Arabic, English  
7000 Park Rd., Charlotte, NC 28210  
Diane Tudor P: (704) 556-7575  
www.saintsarkis.net

**St. Vincent de Paul — Spanish Mass**

Community: Latino  
Languages: English, Spanish  
6828 Old Reid Rd., Charlotte, NC 28210  
Mark Lawlor, Pastor P: (704) 554-7088  
www.stvincentdepaulchurch.com

**Swaminareyon Temple**

Community: Indian  
4100 Margaret Wallace Rd., Matthews, NC 28105  
Nilesh Patel P: (704) 573-0805

**Telecommunio Haiti, Inc.**

Community: Haitian  
Languages: Creole, French  
3901 Rose Lake Dr., Charlotte, NC 28217-2836  
Luiguy J. Massanga P: (704) 329-0710

**Temple Israel**

Community: Jewish (Conservative)  
Languages: Hebrew, English  
4901 Providence Rd., Charlotte, NC 28226  
Murray Ezring, Rabbi P: (704) 362-2796  
www.templeisraelinc.com

**Temple Israel**

Community: Jewish (Reform)  
Languages: Hebrew, English  
5101 Providence Rd., Charlotte, NC 28226  
Sara Schreiber P: (704) 366-1948  
www.beth-el.com

**Vietnamese Alliance Church of Charlotte**

Community: Vietnamese  
5829 The Plaza, Charlotte, NC 28215  
Nam Nguyen P: (704) 566-0806

**Vietnamese Buddhist Temple**

Community: Vietnamese  
6510 Lake Dr., Charlotte, NC 28215  
Trang Ngo Surlis P: (704) 588-4346

**Vietnamese Christian Assembly of God**

Community: Vietnamese  
4525 E. W.T. Harris Blvd., Charlotte, NC 28215  
Timothy Tran P: (704) 568-9522

**SPORTS****Charlotte Lions Cricket Club**

2816 Ivy Wood Dr., Monroe, NC 28110  
P.K. Patel, President P: (704) 254-2573

**Strikers Soccer Center (Scottish Soccer)**

Community: British  
Languages: English  
11725 Alexanderana Rd., Huntersville, NC 28078  
Ian Steedman, CEO P: (704) 948-6697  
www.strikersoccer.com

**U.S. GOVERNMENT****Charlotte US Export Assistance Center**

521 E. Morehead St., Ste. 435, Charlotte, NC 28202  
Greg Sizemore, Director P: (704) 333-4886  
www.buyusa.gov/northcarolina

**Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)**

3700 Arco Corp. Dr., Ste. 300, Charlotte, NC 28273  
Del Richberg, Assistance Special Agent  
P: (704) 679-6140  
www.ice.gov

**Office of US Rep. Melvin Watt**

1230 W. Morehead St., Ste. 306  
Charlotte, NC 28208-5214  
Melvin Watt, US Representative P: (704) 344-9950  
watt.house.gov

**Office of US Rep. Sue Myrick**

Community: 9th Congressional District  
Languages: English  
6525 Morrison Blvd., Ste. 100, Charlotte, NC 28211  
Alice Torres, International/Immigration Specialist  
P: (704) 362-1060  
myrick.house.gov

**Passport Office**

201 N. McDowell St., Charlotte, NC 28204  
Shirley Stitt P: (704) 333-2542  
www.travel.state.gov  
Other locations are listed on the web site

**SABIT Program**

U.S. Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Avenue NW, HCHB 4318  
Washington, DC 20230  
Tracy Rollins, Director P: (202) 482-0073  
www.mac.doc.gov/sabit

**US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)**

Languages: Spanish, English  
6130 Tyvola Centre Dr., Charlotte, NC 28217  
Marla Miller P: (704) 672-6991  
www.uscis.gov

**US Customs and Border Protection**

Languages: English  
1901 Crossbeam Dr., Charlotte, NC 28217  
Patricia Fitzpatrick, Port Director P: (704) 329-6151  
www.cbp.gov



## CHARLOTTE

### MEMORANDUM

TO: Charlotte City Council  
FROM: Mayor Patsy Kinsey and Councilman David Howard  
DATE: Monday, August 26, 2013  
RE: Referral to Economic Development Committee for Resolution creating an+  
Inter-Agency Task Force to Maximize Immigrants' Economic and Civic  
Contributions

---

On May 30, 2013, the Mayor's Office and Councilman Howard joined the **Americas Society/Council on the Americas** (AS/COA) and leaders from Charlotte's public and private sectors for a roundtable discussion to review the contributions of immigrants to the Charlotte economy and the role of public policy to further their cultural and economic integration. Councilmembers Fallon and Autry, along with numerous City staff members, the Charlotte Chamber, CRVA, and Charlotte Regional Partnership, also participated in this community forum. Those in attendance agreed that the challenges immigrants face in integrating in our education system, neighborhoods, industries, and businesses directly affects Charlotte's potential for job creation and economic growth.

The City of Charlotte needs to continue to prioritize policies that facilitate immigrants' ability to contribute to the local community. To examine this issue, we are asking this Council to refer the attached resolution to the Economic Development Committee for consideration and possible creation of an inter-agency task force mandated to examine and recommend best practices in immigrant integration. With support from the new Office of International Relations, the Charlotte Chamber and its minority partners, and the Latin American Coalition, we believe this Council can better determine its role in maximizing immigrants' economic and civic contributions to the City of Charlotte.

#### **Economics and Job Creation: The Role of Immigrants**

- The 40 million immigrants in the U.S. today—of which 29 percent are from Mexico—represent 13 percent of the U.S. population. However, the demographics of new immigrants have changed in recent years, with Asians having overtaken Latinos as the largest group of new immigrants.<sup>1</sup>
- In Charlotte, the foreign-born population in the Charlotte metropolitan area increased from 23,000 to 173,000 residents from 1990 to 2011.<sup>2</sup>
- In Charlotte, 17.7% of residents report another language spoken at home aside from English.
- From 2000 to 2010, Charlotte's Hispanic population increased 149.5%, far more than the 43% national average.

---

<sup>1</sup> Americas Society/Council of the Americas Fact Sheet on Immigrants & The Economy

<sup>2</sup> United States Census 2011 Quick Facts for Mecklenburg County

- The Charlotte Chamber reports that Charlotte’s rate of immigrant migration exceeds the national average.<sup>3</sup>
- Households headed by undocumented immigrants paid \$11.2 billion in state and local taxes in 2010. That included \$1.2 billion in personal income taxes, \$1.6 billion in property taxes and \$8.4 billion in sales taxes.
- On average, immigrants, including the undocumented, pay nearly \$1,800 more in taxes than they receive in benefits.
- AS/COA reports that immigrants started 28 percent of all new U.S. businesses in 2011, employing one in 10 U.S. workers.
- Immigrants represent 18 percent of small business owners in the United States—exceeding their share of the overall population (13 percent)—and are more likely than those born in the U.S. to start a small business. Over the past two decades, immigrants made up 30 percent of the growth in small business creation.
- Immigrant-owned small businesses are more likely to be able to connect to the global marketplace. Over 7 percent of immigrant firms export their goods and services, whereas just over 4 percent of non-immigrant firms export.
- From 2007 to 2010—a period of economic downturn—the difference in the entrepreneurship rate between immigrants and non-immigrants nearly doubled.
- Immigrant entrepreneurs founded or co-founded more than 25 percent of technology and engineering companies started between 1995 and 2005. In 2005, these technology companies employed 450,000 workers and had \$52 billion in sales.

### **Americas Society/Council on the Americas**

Americas Society is the premier forum dedicated to education, debate and dialogue in the Americas. Its mission is to foster an understanding of the contemporary political, social and economic issues confronting Latin America, the Caribbean, and Canada, and to increase public awareness and appreciation of the diverse cultural heritage of the Americas and the importance of the inter-American relationship.

Council on the Americas is an international business organization whose members share a common commitment to economic and social development, open markets, the rule of law, and democracy throughout the Western Hemisphere. The Council’s members are leading international companies that represent a variety of sectors, including banking, finance, consulting services, consumer products, energy and mining, manufacturing, media, technology, and transportation.

---

<sup>3</sup> Charlotte Chamber of Commerce, Charlotte Economy and Demographics

RESOLUTION OF THE  
CHARLOTTE CITY COUNCIL  
CREATING AN INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE  
TO MAXIMIZE IMMIGRANTS' ECONOMIC AND CIVIC CONTRIBUTIONS  
TO THE CITY OF CHARLOTTE

WHEREAS, the foreign-born population in the Charlotte metropolitan area increased from 23,000 to 173,000 residents from 1990 to 2011, with immigrants of all skill levels being active participants in Charlotte's economy; and

WHEREAS, a May 30, 2013, roundtable meeting organized by Americas Society/Council of the Americas among leaders from the public and private sectors and civil society added new momentum and urgency to the role that the City of Charlotte can play in providing the framework for its immigrant populations to maximize their roles in expanding the local economy and enriching civic life; and

WHEREAS, the Charlotte community and other cities represented at the May 30 roundtable recognized that the challenges immigrants face in integrating in our education system, neighborhoods, industries, and businesses affects Charlotte's potential for job creation and that the City of Charlotte and its business community should work to address these challenges in order for Charlotte to continue its trajectory as a globally competitive city; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Charlotte City Council that the City of Charlotte will prioritize steps to facilitate immigrants' ability to contribute to the community through the creation of an inter-agency task force with a mandate to examine and recommend best practices in immigrant integration and educate the community of the economic and social benefits of its growing immigrant populations. The Immigrant Integration Task Force shall have such powers and duties set forth in this Resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that:

- (1) The Immigrant Integration Task Force shall consist of up to 25 members, all of whom shall serve without compensation. The Mayor of Charlotte will select a Chair and Vice-Chair from the members appointed. Upon his or her selection, the Chair of the Task Force shall call an organizational meeting.
- (2) The work of the Immigrant Integration Task Force shall be sponsored by the Charlotte International Cabinet, Neighborhood & Business Services, and may receive additional amounts of private funds as required to complete its work.
- (3) The Immigrant Integration Task Force is hereby charged and authorized as follows:
  - a. To review the recommendations by the Mayor's Immigration Study Commission, published in 2007, in order to leverage previous research and conclusions;
  - b. To research and recommend policies—including those from other new immigrant gateway cities—that facilitate access to city services for all residents of Charlotte, including its immigrant populations, while addressing gaps in civic engagement;

- c. To prepare a report with recommendations to the Charlotte City Council that promote awareness among the public of the availability of existing programs and services facilitating immigrant integration;
- d. To seek opportunities to better educate the overall Charlotte community on how embracing immigrant communities will help to move the city forward.

(4) The Immigrant Integration Task Force shall deliver its findings and recommendations to the City Council within one year of their first meeting.

(5) Upon delivery of its findings and recommendations, the Task Force will work in coordination with Charlotte City Council to promote initiatives that facilitate immigrant integration. The May 30 AS/COA roundtable highlighted some of the ways in which to facilitate immigrant integration:

- a. Financial Inclusion: Promote citywide efforts that teach financial literacy and raise awareness of the importance of entering the formal financial system in order to build savings and credit.
- b. Education: Support digital inclusion programs that facilitate increased access to technology in immigrant communities.
- c. Civic Integration: Encourage immigrants to join boards and commissions to improve civic engagement and representation.
- d. Public Safety: Establish a hotline supported by a local, trusted non-profit organization that immigrants can trust to report crimes. Improve trust and dialogue between immigrants and the police department through designated police programs that engage and outreach with immigrant communities.
- e. Collaboration: Form and maintain direct ties with immigrant communities and community-based organizations to ensure a steady flow of communication.
- f. Celebrate Diversity: Partner with community organizations which organize celebrations (festivals, street fairs, etc.) that expose the greater Charlotte community to the contributions and diversity of the city's immigrant populations.

(6) The Immigrant Integration Task Force shall meet quarterly to assess progress on its recommendations and to ensure that city services and public-private partnerships toward immigrant integration are being effectively implemented. Task Force meetings shall periodically invite public comments and participation.

ADOPTED by the Charlotte City Council on the \_\_\_ day of June, 2013.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk