

IOSC Newsletter



Immigration Outreach Service Center

Volume 1 / Issue 2

Name the IOSC Newsletter Contest

Did you submit a Name suggestion for the IOSC Newsletter? We await your creative input! We are holding a contest to name the newsletter and you are invited to participate. Please send your suggestions to Mary Ritter at mary@ioscbaltimore.org by July 10, 2020. We will have an opportunity to vote on names submitted. The winner will receive an IOSC cap!

Savor The World 2020 Postponed!

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, our Twentieth Anniversary Gala Savor the World 2020 is being postponed.

If you have already purchased tickets, made a donation or sponsorship, you will receive a follow up letter.

We are hoping to host the Gala in the Fall of 2020 depending on continued changes with the COVID-19 shutdown.



Mentoring Program

COVID-19 meant that our mentorship program got off to a slow start, but our three pairs are connecting and we hope to establish more mentorship pairs soon.

If you are interested in being a mentor or mentee, please contact Cynthia at cynthia@ioscbaltimore.org.

United Workers, St. Anthony of Padua, & IOSC

On Friday, June 12th, IOSC staff and volunteers, as well as organizers from United Workers, delivered produce to 20 immigrant families. We also had conversations with these families about the issues they are facing, particularly around paying rent and maintenance problems in their apartments. The goal is to organize around some of the most common issues we heard about to improve living conditions for immigrant families.

Career and Resource Fair

Our Second Annual Career and Resource Fair sponsored by the IOSC and Our Daily Bread Employment Center is planned for Wednesday, September 30, 2020 at St. Matthew.

Please see the flyer here for further details:
<https://www.ioscbaltimore.org/career-and-resource-fair/>

Coronavirus / COVID-19 Updates

Our website provides current information about the Coronavirus / COVID-19 pandemic with opportunities for food services, student learning packets, job opportunities, and more. Please go to the link below for many more details:

<https://www.ioscbaltimore.org/covid-19/>



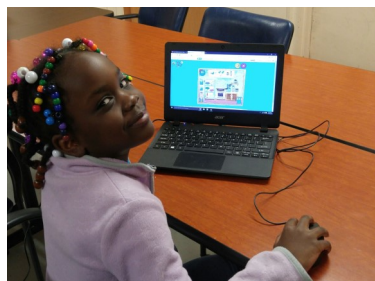
Wear Masks, Stay Safe!
Social Distancing Saves Lives

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Tutoring Updates

During the COVID-19 shutdown, the center loaned out laptops and tablets to students without access to their virtual school classes. We also began virtual tutoring with our tutoring students and families interested in continuing regular tutoring. So far, tutors are meeting with their students via phone, Zoom, Google Meetings, and Google Hangouts. Tutors and students alike are learning and struggling together through the use of virtual "classroom" opportunities. Our young people are teaching our "older" tutors on



technology as our tutors teach our young people on math, reading, and comprehension. We are never too "old" to learn a new skill! Beginning June 27 the Beyond the Borders Tutoring Program will launch the Summer tutoring program focusing on reading and writing skills via Zoom. Students will be reading the same books that are age and grade appropriate and responding to the texts with writing and art. Field trip opportunities are being offered so that the students have outdoor experiences. If you are interested in the Tutoring Program please contact Elaine at elaine@ioscbaltimore.org.

Financial Literacy

On May 30th Financial Literacy students attended a virtual fundraiser for organizations working on the frontlines of the COVID pandemic.



The World System Builder fundraiser was an all-day convention discussing the importance of financial literacy and changes to our economy in light of COVID -19. Featured speakers included former US Presidential candidate, Andrew Yang and Global CIO of Zoom Video Communications, Harry Moseley.

Our regularly scheduled Financial Literacy classes continue on Saturday afternoons when Cliff Okoth and Francois Ntchombou cover a range of topics, including obtaining life insurance, saving for retirement and increasing cash flow. New students are always welcome! Please contact Cynthia at cynthia@ioscbaltimore.org for more information.

ESOL Classes

Last month, we completed an 8 week remote ESOL class with four participants. Teacher Jenny McMeekin made classes entertaining and practical, incorporating real world skills like job interviewing and recipe exchanges to help her students learn English. We will begin classes again in the Fall, offering three course levels - beginning, intermediate and advanced - for people with varying English proficiency. If you or someone you know are interested, please contact Cynthia at cynthia@ioscbaltimore.org.

Census 2020

We are still working with the Baltimore City Department of Planning and the Mayor's office of Immigrant Affairs to ensure that everyone is counted in this year's Census! If you have not yet done so, please visit <https://2020census.gov> to learn more and complete your Census. Census workers will start going door-to-door in August, visiting those who have not yet responded. To avoid having someone knock on your door, complete your Census by the end of July!