

## 1. Statement of Need

### Introduction

The Ohio History Connection (OHC) in partnership with the Columbus Metropolitan Library, the Somali Community Association of Ohio, Ethiopian Tewahedo Social Services (ETSS), the Iraqi Association of Ohio and the Bhutanese Nepali Community Center (BNCC) seeks support in the amount of \$141,502 for a two-year IMLS: Activating Community Opportunities Using Museums/Libraries as Assets Grant entitled the *Emerging New American Community Team (ENACT)*. The goal of the project is to connect aspiring Central Ohio New American leaders with established community resources and fundamental civic education in order to build a base of knowledge that empowers them to become advocates for the Central Ohio New American community and in doing so, increase their sense of belonging in the larger Central Ohio community.

### Community Challenges and Needs

Thousands of refugees and immigrants come to the U.S. each year. Central Ohio houses approximately a quarter of Ohio's foreign-born population.<sup>1</sup> Which means, more than 130,000 foreign-born residents live, work and study in Central Ohio.<sup>2</sup> The largest group of refugees in Central Ohio originates from Sub-Saharan Africa including the second largest population of Somalis in the United States.<sup>3</sup> Central Ohio is also home to the largest Bhutanese Community in the U.S.<sup>4</sup> While nearly of 50% of the Ohio immigrant population are naturalized citizens and able to vote,<sup>5</sup> participation in advocacy efforts and civic engagement lags behind the larger Central Ohio community. Central Ohio New American communities do not feel empowered to advocate for themselves on issues as small as community park reservations and as large as equitable policing policies. Even though 7% of Central Ohio's population is foreign-born<sup>6</sup>, there has yet to be any foreign-born representatives elected to public office in the Greater Columbus Metropolitan area. When applying for citizenship, New Americans are required to learn basic government structure, but that education primarily focuses on the Federal level, while the majority of everyday, government services and resources exist at the State, County and Local level. BNCC, ETSS and others cite an inability to navigate non-profit and governmental services combined with a perception of "not belonging" and unease with the cultural norms of civic advocacy stunts the development of aspiring community advocates in the Central Ohio New American community.

Central Ohio is home to many diverse populations of immigrants and refugees and "New Americans" is a very broad definition. The *ENACT* program will primarily serve the New Americans originating from

---

<sup>1</sup> "The Political and Economic Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in the Buckeye State." *American Immigration Council*

<sup>2</sup> "The Global Report 2014-2015 Measuring Global Fluency in Greater Columbus" *Columbus Council on World Affairs*

<sup>3</sup> "Impact of Refugees in Central Ohio 2015 Report" *Community Research Partners and the City of Columbus*

<sup>4</sup> Ibid

<sup>5</sup> "The Political and Economic Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in the Buckeye State." *American Immigration Council*

<sup>6</sup> "The Global Report 2014-2015 Measuring Global Fluency in Greater Columbus" *Columbus Council on World Affairs*

Somali, Bhutan, Iraqi and Sub-Saharan Africa. These groups were chosen due to their large populations in Central Ohio, established relationships, and the need to be as organized as possible when launching a new model of cross-community partnerships. We hope to expand *ENACT*'s partners in future years to include as many New American communities as possible, however when you read the term "New American" in the grant, know we are primarily referring to those four sub-communities and their members.

OHC has partnered with those Central Ohio New American communities for the past several years producing a community dialogue series with the Somali, Ethiopian, Senegalese and Bhutanese-Nepali communities. We conducted a summer educational outreach program at New American community centers and are opening an exhibit focusing on the Bhutanese-Nepali community of Central Ohio. In order to invest in those partnerships, OHC hired two Community Engagement Coordinators to work directly with the New American population in Ohio as well many other audiences who have been traditionally underserved by the organization.

The time invested and trust we have built with our Central Ohio New American neighbors has uniquely positioned OHC to serve as a backbone organization for *ENACT*. Even though we will be serving as a central connector for the grant, the impetus for *ENACT* overwhelmingly comes from the Somali Community Association of Ohio, ETSS, BNCC and the Iraqi Association of Ohio. When we were initially planning with them, our team was interested in connecting early arriving immigrants and refugees to community services. ETSS, BNCC and the others provided compelling feedback that governmental institutions involved in the resettlement process were already providing for Central Ohio New Americans' immediate, physiological needs. Rather, they suggested strengthening Central Ohio New Americans' quality of life and voice in the community at-large by empowering emerging community leaders. Taking that feedback to heart, *ENACT* aims higher in Maslow's hierarchy of needs by equipping a cohort of aspiring Central Ohio New Americans to advocate on behalf of their communities of origin<sup>7</sup> to affect positive change and increase the sense of safety and belonging<sup>8</sup> for Central New Americans in the community at-large.

### Our Proposal and Its Benefits

*ENACT* is rooted in collective impact. It will bring together New American community organizations and Central Ohio governmental and non-profit organizations around the singular mission of improving self-advocacy and a sense of belonging for Central Ohio's New American residents. Only through utilizing each community asset's unique expertise can *ENACT* be effective and have purpose. OHC will act as both a backbone planning group and cultural education contributor along with the Columbus Metropolitan Library and our four community planning organizations. Our goal is to connect emerging Central Ohio New American leaders with established community resources and fundamental civic education in order to build a base of knowledge that empowers them to become advocates for the Central Ohio New American community and in doing so, increase their sense of belonging in the larger Central Ohio community. The *ENACT* project will meet four objectives to achieve this goal:

1. Connect *ENACT* participants to existing community resources in the areas of safety, libraries, civic engagement, parks and recreation, health and housing

---

<sup>7</sup> "Community of origin" in this narrative refers to a specific sub-community within the larger Central Ohio New American community at-large (example: Iraqi or Bhutanese)

<sup>8</sup> "A Theory of Human Motivation" *A.H. Maslow*

2. Increase *ENACT* participants' understanding and engagement in civic processes
3. Foster meaningful cultural exchange and awareness of challenges that Central Ohio New Americans may confront between *ENACT* participants and community partners
4. Increase *ENACT* participants' sense of belonging in Central Ohio

This project takes our inclusivity and outreach efforts with our Central Ohio New American partners to a sustained and meaningful level that goes beyond single programming and livability efforts. *ENACT* empowers the Central Ohio New American community to cultivate their own voice when interacting with existing community assets. That voice empowers self-advocacy and fosters a sense of belonging. Which are key indicators of communal affiliation and control over one's environment<sup>9</sup> within the framework of social wellbeing.

## **2. Impact**

Our New American partners encouraged OHC in the planning of this grant to address the gap in sense of belonging that Central Ohio New American in the larger Central Ohio community face and they suggested the idea of training aspiring members of their communities to achieve that goal. Many of our New American partner organizations are only successful due to a dedicated group of volunteers and part-time staff that help others in their communities. They assist with the daily operations of community centers, run after school and tutoring programs, drive community members to important meetings or medical appointments and more. While they have shown this great initiative, this group of emerging leaders rarely knows the whole picture of resources available since they are often busy with the day-to-day tasks of volunteerism within their communities of origin. *ENACT* aims to make an impact by giving that group of people the skills and empowerment to take their efforts to the next level. The program will bring together these reliable volunteers and community assets. These connections will create networks for advocacy and give a more complete picture of an organization beyond a single program or event. That base of knowledge combined with education on local and state government will be what equips participants to increase their impact within their community. *ENACT* will make its mark in the Central Ohio New American community by combining the effort of active community members, the resources of community partner organizations and the knowledge of civic engagement from OHC. Only with that combination can we begin addressing the higher needs of belonging and voice for Central Ohio New Americans.

The progress OHC has made in creating trust and continued partnership with our New American Community partners uniquely allows us to act as a connector and educator for *ENACT*. OHC's mission is to embrace the present, share the past and transform the future. *ENACT* allows us to share the past by building civic education rooted in history, embrace the present by reaching out to our New American neighbors and transform the future by creating a cohort of well-equipped and empowered leaders to strengthen the voice of Central Ohio's New American community. We have also established the organization as a safe and reliable partner where the challenges and successes of Central Ohio New Americans can be shared and discussed with the Bhutanese-Nepali exhibit and our previous Dialogues on Inclusivity with the Somali, Ethiopian, Senegalese, Bhutanese-Nepali and other communities. We are excited to combine our cultural mission with an anchor intuitional role. It is the only way we can collect and share all Ohioan's stories and create progress towards our organizational core value of inclusivity.

---

<sup>9</sup> "Creating Capabilities: The Human Development Approach" *Martha Nussbaum*

In order to measure the performance of *ENACT* and how well it is able to meet our objectives, a summative evaluation will be conducted by primary researcher Jill Stein, M.A. of the Lifelong Learning Group (LLG). LLG, a unit operating within the Center for Research and Evaluation at COSI (the Center of Science and Industry), is a research, evaluation and consulting group that focuses on collaborative study of how people learn across their lifespan, in informal settings. Through its work with a wide range of cultural and learning institutions, programs, and initiatives, LLG seeks to serve the field by contributing insights, building capacity, and promoting rigorous research that supports the creation of meaningful, innovative learning experiences.

LLG has a team of seven senior researchers and research associates who possess the skills, experience and knowledge appropriate to each project the group undertakes. LLG has a robust track record of research and evaluation of informal learning, particularly projects funded by IMLS and NSF. In particular, evaluation lead Jill Stein, specializes in understanding the role that culture plays in learning, as well as in engaging non-traditional audiences in museums and utilizing culturally responsive evaluation and research practices.

### Target Audiences

*ENACT's* impact will be measured in two distinct audiences. Emerging Leaders in New American communities of Central Ohio is our primary audience. We will measure the impact *ENACT* has on them the entire length of the project. Towards the end of the program, we will be measuring the impact the Emerging Leaders made with New American residents of Central Ohio as a whole.

#### Emerging Leaders in New American communities of Central Ohio:

This group will consist of emerging leaders within either their communities of origin or within the larger Central Ohio New American community at-large. The ideal participant is a person who has a basic understanding of English and has been exposed to the base level resources available to New Americans in Central Ohio. They should be interested in learning more in order to advance the needs of New Americans in Central Ohio. Participants who have taken the first steps to volunteer or work for the betterment of their community of origin or the community at-large will be given preference as their effort shows their interest in advocacy and commitment to New Americans in Central Ohio. Participants will need to accept the time commitments *ENACT* will require. This group is open to all gender identities, ethnicities, religions and ages (over 18). There will be 16 participants selected from our four planning committee Central Ohio New American groups (the Somali Community Association of Ohio, ETSS, BNCC and the Iraqi Association of Ohio).

#### New American Residents of Central Ohio:

This is the community of all refugees and immigrants that reside in central Ohio. We are aware that since we have started with a limited amount of communities of origin we are more likely to affect the New Americans originating from Somali, Bhutan, Iraqi and sub-Saharan Africa. These groups were chosen due to their large populations in Central Ohio. By working with the largest communities of origin first, the efforts of the *ENACT* participants can empower and increase the sense of belonging of more Central Ohio New Americans faster. Assuming *ENACT* can expand and grow over the years, we will be able to affect this group more and more, but change in this large population is a long-term goal.

Outcomes

ENACT’s impact will be tracked in both of our audiences to see how we are achieving our project’s goal and if we are trending toward our long-term outcomes. While we realize that it will be impossible to report on long-term outcomes (outcomes to be achieved beyond the two-year window of the grant), we believe it is imperative for ENACT to aim to achieve beyond the two-year window of the grant. This is also where the majority of outcomes focusing on New American residents of Central Ohio reside. This is because any impacts ENACT participants will be able to affect in this population will only be possible after they have completed their education and implement their advocacy projects. These are our long-term outcomes for the project:

<b><u>Long-Term Outcomes</u></b>	
1)	<i>Participants utilize partner community resources in daily life</i>
2)	<i>Participants share lessons about advocacy and community resources within the Central Ohio New American community</i>
3)	<i>Partner community organizations use results of ENACT to guide future planning</i>
4)	<i>Partner community organizations utilize the connections made with other partner community groups during ENACT in future programming</i>
5)	<i>New American Central Ohio residents gain skills to better advocate for themselves and their community</i>
6)	<i>New American Central Ohio residents feel an increased sense of belonging in the Central Ohio Community at-large</i>

Our short-term outcomes will be the way we measure our impact within the two-year timeline of the project. Below are the outcomes we will use to track the impact we are having with our two specific audiences.

<b><u>Short-Term Outcomes</u></b>	
<b>Outcome Categories</b>	<b>Emerging leaders will...</b>
Knowledge	<i>Increase knowledge about services and resources available in the areas of safety, libraries, civic engagement, parks and recreation, and/or health and housing in Central Ohio</i>
	<i>Increase knowledge of State, County and City government structure</i>
	<i>Increase knowledge of the civic process at the State, County and City level</i>
Affective	<i>Feel more empowered to gained confidence to advocate for themselves and community than before joining ENACT</i>
	<i>Feel more connected to other community organization leaders</i>
	<i>Feel respected and listened to by partner community organization representatives</i>
Behavior	<i>Feel an increased sense of belonging in Central Ohio</i>
	<i>Increase use of services and resources in the areas of safety, libraries, civic engagement, parks and recreation, and/or health and housing in Central Ohio</i>
Skills	<i>Share information about resources and services within their broader communities</i>
	<i>Gain skills to advocate for themselves and their community</i>
<b><u>New American Central Ohio residents will...</u></b>	
Skills	<i>Gain skills and resources for advocating for themselves and their community</i>
Affective	<i>Feel an increased sense of belonging in Central Ohio</i>

## Methods

Multiple methods will be used to track *ENACT*'s impact and progress toward outcomes. LLG, OHC and the planning committee will collaborate to develop culturally-responsive and appropriate evaluation methods and evaluation processes. Given the diversity of cultures represented in our two audiences, it will be particularly important to find approaches and methods that are comfortable, appropriate, and relevant to the communities from which we are soliciting feedback<sup>10</sup>. Our proposed evaluation plan includes the following methods, though this may be adapted as a result of collaborative input from partnering communities.

### Online survey “Pulse Checks”:

After each of the six topics, an online, mostly quantitative survey will be disseminated to *ENACT* participants and the partner community organizations that participated in that topic (n=20). The survey will be designed to track immediate knowledge and awareness gained, but it will also ensure that we are listening and adjusting our teaching based on participants and partner community organizations feedback as the program progresses. Even though the majority of the curriculum will be developed in the planning phase of the project, the planning committee will meet every other month to use the feedback from the “pulse checks” to update the curriculum and delivery method. This will keep participants engaged, partner groups’ time will be used most effectively and we can be refining best practices for this segment of the model.

### Observations:

A LLG evaluator will attend two of the workshops to witness the interaction between participants and partner community groups. It will also allow LLG to provide recommendations for aligning the curriculum with the project outcomes and goals.

### Final Online Survey:

Near the end of Year 2 of the project, there will be a final online survey disseminated to *ENACT* participants (n=16) and planning committee organizations (excluding OHC, n=5) measuring the achievement of outcomes and goals spanning the entire program. The survey will include qualitative and quantitative measures to provide triangulation of results.

### Community-based Questionnaire:

In order to begin understanding the project’s long-term and broader ranging impact within the New American residents of Central Ohio audience, a written questionnaire will be disseminated following the community advocacy events (n=100, assuming n=25 per community). Based on community partner input, the questionnaire may be facilitated by native language-speakers, in order to address any language barrier or literacy issues. While we won’t be able measure our long-term outcomes during the timeframe of this grant, the questionnaire data will allow us to document the effectiveness of *ENACT* participants’ advocacy projects within the larger New American community of Central Ohio.

---

<sup>10</sup> “Cultural Competence in Evaluation: An Overview” *SenGupta, S., Hopson, R., & Thompson-Robinson, M.*

Impact within the Library and Museum Field

The evaluation process will result in a summative evaluation and final report of the *ENACT* program. This final report will draw conclusions based on what we learned from *ENACT* to support the outcomes:

- 1) Increase awareness of opportunity for engagement with New American and Refugee Communities
- 2) Advance LAM field best practices and offer a useable approach in Outreach and Community engagement with New American communities

*ENACT* should serve as a model to be replicated in New American communities across Ohio and the country. It could also be expanded to other communities that face under representation due to a lack of self-advocacy, low civic engagement or a sense of not belonging in the larger community. It would be interesting to see if training aspiring leaders using established community assets and civic education proves an effective way to increase isolated or marginalized communities sense of belonging in larger populations outside of New American communities as well.

**3. Project Design**

*ENACT* will occur over the span of two years (see Schedule of Completion). **Phase One**, October 1, 2017 – January 31, 2018 will be the planning phase. **Phase Two**, February 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019 will be the *ENACT* impact phase. **Phase Three**, July 1, 2019 – September 30, 2019 will be the summative evaluation phase and the preparation of the final report.

**Phase One, the Planning Phase** (October 1, 2017 – January 31, 2018)

Phase one will begin by assembling senior representatives from these six organizations to form the planning committee. The planning committee will be responsible for working with our eight partner community organizations (as well as OHC and Columbus Metropolitan Library) to develop and schedule workshops around our six workshop topics (see table below).

<b>Planning Committee Organizations</b>	
Ohio History Connection (including Project Director)	Columbus Metropolitan Library
The Somali Community Association of Ohio	Ethiopian Tewahedo Social Services (ETSS)
The Iraqi Association of Ohio	Bhutanese Nepali Community Center (BNCC)
<b>Workshop Topics</b>	<b>Partner Community Organizations</b>
Civic Engagement	- Ohio History Connection
Libraries	- Columbus Metropolitan Library
Public Safety	- Columbus Public Safety - Reynoldsburg Division of Police - Hilliard Division of Police
Housing	- Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority

Ohio History Connection  
 Emerging New American Community Team (*ENACT*)  
*IMLS Activating Community Opportunities Using Museums/Libraries as Assets Grant*

Parks and Recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Columbus Department of Recreation and Parks</li> <li>- Reynoldsburg Parks and Recreation Department</li> <li>- Hilliard Recreation and Parks Department</li> </ul>
Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Columbus Department of Public Health</li> </ul>

The planning committee will work with the relevant partner groups to build the workshop for each individual topic. When building the workshops, the planning committee will work with community partners to determine which existing resources and services are most relevant to Central Ohio New Americans and should be the focus during the workshop. They will also assist in creating frameworks for impactful and productive dialogue with community partners and participants. The planning committee will determine logistics regarding transportation. We have received feedback that the majority of our target participant group have their own transportation and prefer to drive. Therefore, it may be appropriate to simply reimburse mileage for participants, but there may be times when group transportation makes the most sense. The planning committee and Project Director will determine the best way to allocate transportation funding for participants. While we do not want transportation to be a barrier to participation, we are open to planning around participants’ preferences as well. The OHC Outreach Division Administrative Assistant will also assist on securing meeting rooms and other organizational logistics for the planning committee.

The planning committee will also finalize the participants of *ENACT*. There will not be a quota of participants from each planning committee organization, but the group will be 16 people and proportional to the population of their community of origin in Central Ohio. The planning committee will decide the selection criteria for participation in *ENACT*. In the spirit of creating dialogue between the various Central Ohio New American communities as well as with our community partners we will be asking that participants have basic English language reading, writing and speaking skills. This was discussed with the planning organizations while developing this grant and confirmed that it is appropriate for the goal of *ENACT* and does not present a burden to participation from their community.

Finally, the planning committee will create the guidelines for participants’ advocacy projects to take place during the last four months of the *ENACT* Impact Phase. There will also be an advocacy project planning workshop and the final *ENACT* session where participants will share their advocacy projects with other participants (further detail regarding advocacy projects is included in Phase Two).

In collaboration with the project team, an external evaluator – the Lifelong Learning Group – will conduct formative evaluation with the planning committee and community partners. This will consist of an online questionnaire “pulse check” focused on gathering feedback on the effectiveness of the planning process, the extent to which different participants feel their voice is being heard, the extent to which the committee feels it is making progress toward the intended goals, as well as challenges and constraints. These data points will be gathered through Qualtrics online survey software, exported into an SPSS 24.0 database, and analyzed for basic descriptives. Qualitative data will be coded into categories and analyzed for key trends and themes. LLG will create a brief memo report of results to share with the project team and community partners.



**Phase Two, the *ENACT* Impact Phase** (February 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019)

**Opening Ceremony and Workshops:**

The first meeting of *ENACT* will act as a chance for the members of the cohort introduce themselves, their immigration or refugee story, motivation for wanting to participate in the team and more. This is designed to allow the participants of *ENACT* to see themselves as a team and create connections outside of their community of origin. After the first meeting, each of the six topics the group will be learning about is taught in two-month segments. The planning committee will decide the exact schedule of topics and workshops during the planning phase. Participants will have some required reading to prepare for each workshop. Due to some very helpful feedback from our planning organizations, we will also be localizing community partners where it makes sense. The vast majority of the time *ENACT* members will be learning as a single group, but we will be creating opportunities for participants to connect with the local police, parks and recreation and libraries where the majority of their communities of origin reside. Reynoldsburg and Hilliard are surrounding suburbs of the City of Columbus with some dense populations of Bhutanese-Nepali and Iraqi immigrants and refugees. In order to foster meaningful conversation on those three topics, it is important to localize our community partners where it made sense. This does not mean that communities of origin or individuals will be required to go any one place. Rather we wanted to create the option for localization for participants. All *ENACT* members are welcome at any alternative or additional workshops. The libraries are all members of the Columbus Metropolitan Library system, but we believe a direct connection with local branches will make the connection more meaningful. The topics of housing, civic engagement and health are not primarily managed by the smaller suburbs and as such *ENACT* will completely deal with those topics as an entire group. OHC will be responsible for instruction around civic education and engagement. We will discuss civic engagement using historical examples of community action. We will also utilize our own advocacy staff and connections with local elected officials to discuss State, County and Local government structure, processes and how and why they have changed through time.

After each topic is discussed, an online survey will be disseminated to gather feedback on the structure and content of each workshop. This will include overall satisfaction measures related to quality of the readings, workshop content, and presenters; balance of time spent on instruction and dialogue; as well as location, transportation and other concerns of participants. Data will be gathered through Qualtrics online survey software, exported into SPSS 24.0, and analyzed for basic descriptives. Qualitative data will be coded and analyzed for key patterns and trends. LLG will create a brief memo report of findings to share with the project team and community partners.

*ENACT* will demand a level of commitment from participants who may have full-time careers, families and other community responsibilities. As such, we think it is appropriate that participants receive a small stipend for their continued participation throughout the program. The planning committee will determine the criteria for “continued involvement,” what intervals in the program participants should be awarded and what form the award takes.

**Social Activity:**

Studies have demonstrated that including fun, non-work social activity in the workplace affects organizational commitment, engagement, positive mood and positive emotions<sup>11</sup>. As such, during the

---

<sup>11</sup> “Workplace Fun Matters...but what else?” *Michel J. Tews, John Michael, Shi Xu, Alex J. Drost*

twelve months of topical instruction, we will create opportunity for *ENACT* participants to engage in social activity. We believe that participants should have fun with their fellow team members in the Central Ohio community to bond and see the community-at-large as a welcoming place. The planning committee will be responsible for deciding the social activity.

**Advocacy Project and Closing Ceremony:**

After thirteen months of introduction, reading and workshops, *ENACT* participants will utilize what they have learned and the connections they made by creating their own advocacy projects. Participants will choose an issue important within their community of origin, the Central Ohio New American Community at large or their neighborhood. These should be achievable yet, impactful. Examples of good projects would include increasing awareness of an existing resources underutilized in their focus community, advocating the City to improve a local park or discover a new way for their community of origin's organization to partner with each other. *ENACT* members will attend a workshop to help brainstorm ideas and familiarize themselves with the expected framework for their projects. They will have three months to design and implement their plan. The final month will consist of participants documenting their project, the progress it achieved and what they see as next steps to continue their advocacy on that issue. *ENACT* participants that attended the vast majority of workshop and complete an advocacy project will receive a certificate of competition.

**Phase Three, the Summative Evaluation Phase** (July 1, 2019 – September 30, 2019) will focus on measuring intended outcomes of *ENACT* for the main target audiences, determining successes and challenges of the *ENACT* model, and preparing a final report of the project. That will be done by compiling the formational observation and “pulse check” data with information from a final online survey and the community-based questionnaire. LLG will use that information collected from participants, the planning committee and community partners throughout *ENACT* to create a summative report. The planning committee members, Project Director and LLG will meet to discuss results of the report and how the *ENACT* model can be improved upon. Once these determinations have been made, a final report of the project will be completed. The final report will act as a model that other libraries, museums and cultural learning centers can adapt to better engage and empower New Americans in their community. There will be specific dollars in the budget dedicated to sharing the *ENACT* model at relevant conferences and meetings. If additional funding is secured, the Ohio History Connection will be able to replicate the *ENACT* model in other areas of Ohio with large New American populations outside of Central Ohio. We would also like to continue the *ENACT* program to serve other immigrant and refugee populations (Hispanic/Latino, Eastern European, Indian) that have sizable populations in Ohio, but were not directly served in the first iteration of the program. This program is one of many ways the Ohio History Connection aims to continue our meaningful engagement with Ohio's New American residents.