

By Ricardo Gambetta and Michelle Burgess

Immigrant Integration: Resource Access and Cultural Exchange

April 2011 -- Successful immigrant integration connects immigrants into city and community life. To work, the process requires a supporting framework of community outreach, resource access and education to teach new residents about city services and civic responsibilities. While direct services of assistance or referrals in health care, education, housing, etc. help transition and settle immigrants into an area, resource access strategies of multilingual outreach and availability are equally important in connecting new arrivals with these existing resources. Successful integration also relies on outreach and communication with the established community to build support and cultural understanding. These cultural aspects ensure that all residents work together in community building, recognizing the value of diversity and the importance of integration initiatives. This guide provides examples of programs designed to build this integration framework, ranging from those that provide direct services to those more focused on information and cultural exchanges.

|||||||

Page 7:

Aurora Asian/Pacific Community Partnership

Aurora, Colorado
Population: 325,078
Foreign born: 61,556 (20%)
Contact: Frankie Anderson, Secretary/Treasurer
Aurora Asian/Pacific Community Partnership
(303) 326-8695 | admin@auroraasian.org

Formed as a collaboration between community organizations and businesses, the Aurora Asian/Pacific Community Partnership organizes community events, business workshops and educational training programs to encourage understanding and collaboration between different groups within the City of Aurora. These efforts include producing and promoting Asian Pacific cultural events as well as assisting Asian Pacific American businesses within Aurora. Projects such as film festivals and cultural performances attract visitors to the city to promote cultural understanding and, in the process, increase business and tax-based revenue.



Aurora's Gateway to the Rockies Parade



Opening Night of the Aurora Asian Film Festival