FICTION FROM MEXICO: The Gringo Champion

A young man crosses the Rio Grande to reach “the promised land.”

by Aura Xilonen

SOURCE: Words Without Borders Campus (wwb-campus.org)

Click on the title above to access the reading and related multi-media teaching and learning resources, including author and translator bios and representations of socio-geographic-political and cultural context.

SOCIAL WORK TEACHING AND LEARNING RESOURCES

International models of welcoming communities: Municipal planning, policy, and advocacy

Cities Welcoming Refugees and Migrants: Enhancing effective urban governance in an age of migration [PDF]

United Nations, Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

A comprehensive handbook for city administrators and social policymakers to adopt best practices of municipalities that have successfully supported and integrated refugees and asylum seekers into their societies. The report is based on a survey of 21 cities in 11 countries.

A Warm Welcome Versus Hostility

UNESCO

An article that examines the unique policy adopted by the borough of Haringey in London, which managed to upend traditional societal norms by implementing a warm, caring, welcoming environment that seeks to attract newly arrived asylees or refugees and assist with their integration. It also discusses the social relations necessary to achieve positive change.

Inclusive Approach to Immigrants Who Are Undocumented Can Help Families and States Prosper

U.S. Center on Budget and Policy Priorities

Research that indicates the positive effects of four U.S. policies (access to driver's licenses, in-state college tuition, labor law enforcement, and access to health coverage for all children) that help immigrants and states prosper and contrasts them with the negative effects of exclusionary policies of recent years.
Resettled: Refugee Resettlement in Virginia
National Public Radio (NPR) Podcasts in Society & Culture

This six-part podcast series showcases stories of refugees as they adjust to their new lives in Virginia (U.S.). These personal stories are woven together with useful teaching moments about the resettlement process. Season consists of six thematic episodes, which aim to bring the listener into the daily lives of refugees through field interviews (at home, work and school), personally-recorded audio diaries and reflective studio interviews.

Tools to support immigrants: Safety, access to services, immigration relief, and treatment

Toolkits and Resources to Help You Protect Immigrants
United We Dream (U.S.)

Guides and resources for social activists and supporters to foster inclusivity for migrant communities, developed by United We Dream – one of the largest immigrant youth-led communities in the country. Examples include toolkits to (a) help undocumented students and educator allies work with their institutions to increase support for undocumented students (b) help undocumented immigrants and allies create sanctuary/safe cities, and (c) incorporate stress reducing activities in daily life in immigrant communities.

Deportation Defense Manual
Make the Road New York

A manual developed by Make the Road New York, which helps organize immigrant and working class communities, to provide information, resources, and a guide to creating a plan of action for individuals who are being impacted by the escalation of immigration enforcement activity and for individuals who are interested in becoming a support person for those affected. It covers three areas: know your rights, rapid response to raids, and deportation defense. Although developed for use in New York City, it can be helpful to the community at large. Available in English and Spanish.

Promising Practices for Increasing Immigrants’ Access to Health and Human Services
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, Office of Human Services Policy, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Based on interviews with 120 professionals across 67 different health and human service organizations in Maryland, Massachusetts, North Carolina, and Texas, this report describes creative approaches to increasing immigrants’ access to health and human services, including partnerships between government agencies and community-based organizations, efforts to integrate services for immigrant families, and efforts to address the unique challenges of mixed-status families.

Families & Immigration: A Quick Resource Guide
National Association of Social Workers (U.S.)

Brief guidelines for social workers concerning immigration relief options and the range of immigration status. Suggestions to ensure processing of immigration applications, including partnering with local U.S. Citizenship And Immigration Services agency staff, are provided.
Stress & Trauma Toolkit for Treating Undocumented Immigrants in a Changing Political and Social Environment
American Psychiatric Association

A guide to help practitioners provide support for immigrants to cope with trauma while integrating into a new society. Several clinical vignettes are presented to demonstrate the application of various methods.

Active Search Guide and DNA Mailkit Program (U.S.)
Colibrí (Forensic Justice and Advocacy Center)

If you want to help a client whose friend or loved one has disappeared while migrating to the United States, the Colibrí Center’s Active Search Guide can help you search for that person.

For teaching suggestions, please see Using This Resource in the International Literature Project Series.