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Visioning Lunch invitation

Integration and Belonging Hub

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Visioning Lunch Invitation

You are invited to a "<u>visioning lunch</u>" to discuss next steps for the *Integration and Belonging Hub* on Wednesday, November 9 from 1 - 2:30 p.m. at IDCE house (Granville Room and connected outdoor space--covered porch).

Most of you know about the new *Integration and Belonging Hub* project at Clark, funded as part of the Provost's Academic Innovation grant program last spring. The grant was for seeding a Hub that could then take forward a range of activities and initiatives across Clark that relate to refugee and immigrant integration and belonging (broadly defined). So far, we have worked with two cohorts of inter-departmental interns, held an Inter-University Workshop on community-engaged work with Worcester's forced migrants and displaced people, and welcomed two Visiting Scholars in refugee policy who straddle the scholar/practitioner and domestic/international boundary. I share our <u>progress report</u> with you FYI.

With less than three months left of the grant, we are seeking input from colleagues at Clark whose work (whether teaching, research, and/or practice) aligns with refugee and immigrant integration and belonging as to how the Hub might support you, your students, and your community partners. We envision the Hub as a site of interaction, learning, research, and teaching, but it is really <u>your</u> interests in refugees and the communities that include them that we hope will drive the Hub's next steps and requests for funding.

Please also join me in welcoming Dr. Leora Kahn, who has recently taken on the role of Hub Coordinator upon Jozefina Lantz's retirement. Many of you will know Leora through her teaching at the Strassler Center and IDCE, as well as from her community-engaged visual story-telling for human rights.