

Alia Zaben & Nassiba Cherif

**Multicultural Conference** 

CSUS, 2020

# TRAINING ACENCY

A TRAINING AGENCY THAT PROMOTES EQUITY IN EDUCATION THROUGH:

- <u>AWARENESS</u> OF DIFFERENCES, NEEDS, AND CHALLENGES OF STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES
- <u>NURTURING</u> CREATING NURTURING SOCIAL, EMOTIONAL, AND ACADEMIC ENVIRONMENTS FOR ALL STUDENTS
- ACCEPTANCE AND UNDERSTANDING OF INDIVIDUAL EXPERIENCES AND DIVERSITY, AND THE NEED FOR HEALING BEFORE READINESS TO LEARN





## Alia Zaben Nassiba Cherif



# ALIA ALI ZABEN

#### **Education**

- Doctor Candidate in Educational Leadership EdD Walden University
- Master's Degree in Multicultural Education CSUS
- Bachelor's Degree in Child Development CSUS

#### Experience

- Faculty Diversity Internship Program, Los Rios Community College (2019-2020)
- Work for American River College, Los Rios Community College District (2019)
- Worked for San Juan Unified School District and Twin rivers Unified School District (2010-2017)
- Co-founder of SALAM Academy, a private, non-profit, K-5th grade Islamic School
- Partners in Education Award from Pasadena Elementary in San Juan School District (2011)
- Implemented parent resource center at Edison Elementary in the San Juan School District (2010)
- Site Supervisor permit from Commission on Teacher Credentialing (2005)
- Guest Speaker for Dr. Sun and Dr. Mejorado on Child Development Practices in West Africa
- Completed Cross Cultural Development in West Africa (2000)



## NASSIBA CHERIF

#### **Education**

- Master's Degree in Counseling & Marriage and Family Therapy
- Bachelor's Degree in Psychology

#### **Experience**

- Marriage and Family Therapist in Private Practice
- Behavior Counselor/Therapist at AIS/ACP
- Marriage & Family Therapist, Folsom Cordova Unified School District
- Co-Founder of MAS-Social Services Foundation, a non-profit organization that provides culturally, linguistically, and religiously sensitive services to immigrants and refugees
- Behavior Intervention Assistant, Sacramento City Unified School District



• Professional Development for schools and mental health organizations



- Consultation about culturally sensitive program development and implementation
- Cultural brokers for Middle Eastern/Arab/newcomer populations



# CULTURAL CONTENT

- How to become culturally competent educators using practical theory
- Afghan and Arabic cultural norms and practices
- Geography and languages spoken in the Middle East
- Cultural, ethnic, racial, and religious diversity
- Break down stereotypes about Middle Eastern people
- Go over some statics locally and globally
- Taste a Middle Eastern lunch and visit to a local Mosque (Optional)
- Introduce multicultural literature to help Middle Eastern students identify themselves in the literature
- Classroom strategies using talking circles and restorative practices



# MENTAL HEALTH CONTENT

- Immigrant Experiences
- Difference between Immigrant and Refugee Experiences
- Refugee phases and impact of each phase on individuals and children
- Mental health implications
- Needs of students and families during the resettlement phase in the community and schools
- Family and parenting norms and values
- Cultural considerations when providing services
- Resources in the community

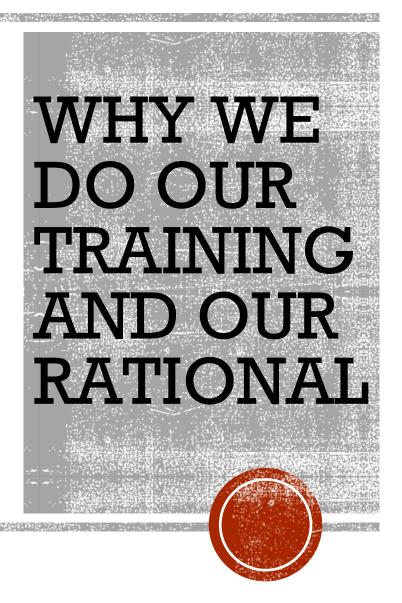


### Building Meaningful Relationships



#### Participants will gain knowledge about the following:

- The diversity of Middle Eastern populations
- Cultural norms and values
- Culturally Relevant Pedagogy (Ladson-Billings, G., 1997)
- Impact of refugee experiences on the students and families
- Resettlement challenges and needs of families
- Cultural considerations when providing services
- Recommendations for supporting students and families
- Implantation of relevant Multicultural Literature



### AWARENESS NURTURING ACCEPTANCE

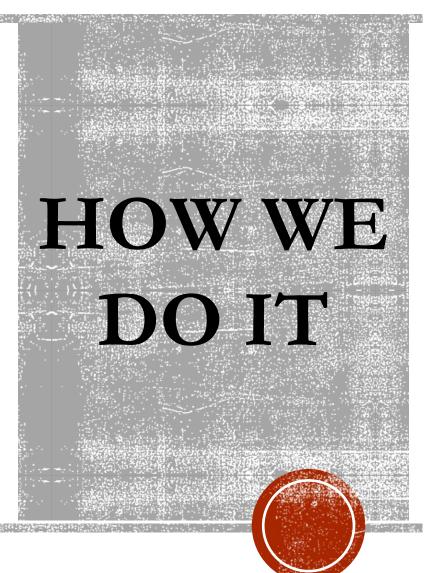
"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world"

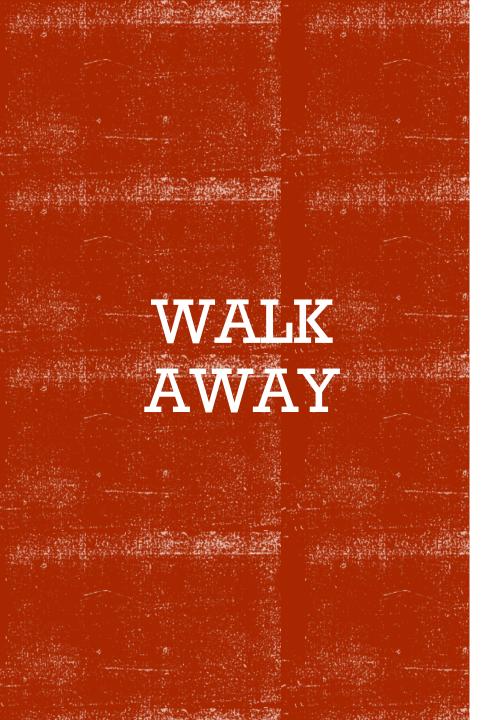
Nelson Mandela

#### <u>A professional development that is holistic</u> <u>A mini cultural experience</u>

**Training Options:** 

- Whole day training- 5-6 hours/1 day
- OR 2 Sessions- 3 hours each session
- OR customized based on need
- Cultural artifacts/art/clothing/books will be displayed for viewing
- Authentic Middle Eastern food and/or refreshments
- Training can be provided at a local Mosque/Community Center
- A tour of the Mosque will be provided.





- A unique cultural experience and information that teachers and staff can use to strengthen their relationships with students and families
- Better understanding of culture, interactions, and certain behaviors
- More confidence in teachers/staff abilities to approach and interact with students and families in a culturally sensitive way
  Answers to questions that were not previously asked
  Facts that challenge stereotypes and misconceptions about Middle Eastern immigrants and refugees



"Absolutely loved everything about the training. Should be much longer. Too much good information"

"This is a great transitional day back to school. Best PD this school year! <u>Everyone</u> should attend"

"I was recently telling the assistant to the superintendent how incredible you all were and how we need to open up the lines of communication better with the immigrant and refugee community.

I'm beyond honored to have met you and would love if more people had the opportunity to do the same. Thank you so very much and please let me know if I can ever do anything for you!!!"





### ANA-PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

### WWW.ANA-PD.ORG

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CONTACT US IF YOU WISH TO DISCUSS YOUR SPECIFIC TRAINING NEEDS