



FACT SHEET

January 18, 2017

Seattle Fire Department's Community Fire Safety Advocate (CFSA) Program *Immigrant & Refugee Outreach*

Goal: To deliver culturally relevant fire safety education targeted to the risks of the identified communities

- The CFSA program was launched in 2010 after five family members of the East African community died in a tragic house fire.
 - The individuals had no knowledge of how to respond to a fire/smoke alarm or how to prevent a fire in their home.
- SFD currently has 15 trusted members within their own communities trained in home fire safety and fire department services serving as CFSAs.
- The languages and communities represented by the CFSAs include Spanish, Chinese, Vietnamese, Cambodian, Lao, Thai, Somali, Amharic, Oromo, and Tigrinya.
- Over 24,000 immigrant/refugee community members have received safety messages, including carbon monoxide poisoning, home fire evacuation planning and cooking, and heating fire safety since the program began in 2010.
- Multi-language and pictorial fire safety resources are currently available, including a Community Fire Safety video developed in partnership with East African CFSAs and their communities: www.seattle.gov/fire/pubEd/languages/default.htm
- In 2015, SFD partnered with the Office of Emergency Management to cross-train community members in both fire safety education and disaster preparedness education.

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PUBLIC AFFAIRS DIVISION
Fire Department Headquarters
301 2nd Avenue S
Seattle, WA 98104