APPENDIX V-50
African Diaspora

Regions of Focus:
Democratic Republic of the Congo, Somali, Rwanda/Bruindi

Professional Development

With the dramatic increase in the number of young migrants entering the United States, the demands placed on education systems by newcomer students have never been greater. States and localities are struggling to address the diverse linguistic, academic, and socioemotional needs for newly arrived youth who have experienced significant disruption and trauma.

There are a number of similarities in the needs of immigrant and refugee children and the challenges facing educators and other service providers. The PD sessions will:

1. Examine the challenges facing educators and policymakers in TUSD as they attempt to meet the needs of immigrant and refugee students.
2. Build teacher capacity to go beyond the application of instructional strategies and focus on intercultural communication, language and content integration.
3. Explore the appropriate responses to students who have experienced trauma and the persistent stresses of family reunification, uncertain legal status, and cultural adjustment.