



The Best of Oregon

CITY of BEAVERTON

NEWS RELEASE

Contacts: Bill LaMarche, Public Information Manager
503-526-3737 | blamarche@BeavertonOregon.gov

Erin Gordenier, Public Information Specialist
503-526-2232 | egordenier@BeavertonOregon.gov

Michelle Tagmyer, Public Information Specialist
503-350-4083 | mtagmyer@BeavertonOregon.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 13, 2016

CITY ANNOUNCES 2016 BOLD PROGRAM FOR EMERGING IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE LEADERS

BEAVERTON, Ore. – The city of Beaverton will once again partner with the Center for Intercultural Organizing (CIO) to offer a free leadership and civic engagement training for emerging immigrant and refugee leaders and leaders of color in Beaverton from Feb to April.

One in four people in the city was born outside of the U.S. and one in three is a person of color. Support for the Beaverton Organizing and Leadership Development (BOLD) program is a key strategy of the city's cultural inclusion program, which seeks to boost engagement of underrepresented communities in city governance.

BOLD invests in educating and empowering new leaders to get involved and help shape the future of Beaverton. One of the program's goals is to introduce participants to specific ways to become more involved in their community. Many graduates now serve on the city's boards and commissions.

In 2015, there were 21 graduates from 15 different countries.

"BOLD is a wonderful program that broadens and deepens the interaction between our community and the city," said 2014 graduate Jeff Chang. "I have spent the last 14 years in Beaverton, and I have never felt a stronger connection until the BOLD program."

This year's BOLD program will take place on three Saturdays: February 20, March 19, and April 16. Each class is eight hours, and participants must be able to attend all three training dates. English is not a requirement and interpretation can be provided. Apply online at www.BeavertonOregon.gov/equity. Applicants must live within city boundaries to qualify. The application deadline for the 2016 class is Jan. 31.

For more information about the BOLD and cultural inclusion programs, contact Alexis Ball, equity outreach coordinator, at 503-526-2503 or aball@BeavertonOregon.gov.

###



Caption: Members of BOLD practice giving public testimony during a training in 2015. The city of Beaverton's program provides civic engagement and leadership training for emerging immigrant and refugee leaders and people of color. *(Photo/City of Beaverton)*