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](http://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.