

News Release  
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*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

**WSEM/EL BARRIO ANNOUNCES NEW SUMMER CAMP  
TARGETED AT RECENT IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE CHILDREN**

CLEVELAND (June 22, 2011) - Cleveland's recent immigrant and refugee children will have something more to look forward to this summer than school being out – WSEM/El Barrio is proud to announce a new summer camp which will run from **July 1 to July 29** at the WSEM/El Barrio building on Detroit Avenue. The camp is offering English as a second language class, arts and cultural activities provided by local nonprofit Julia de Burgos, and fitness sessions with former professional soccer player and U.S. National futsal team member, Otto Orf.

The summer camp will take 25 children from families that have just arrived in the United States and are looking for ways to involve themselves in the community and learn about Cleveland. The majority of the students come from the International Newcomers Academy, the new Cleveland public school that welcomes students who haven't yet mastered English and most likely know little about American culture.

The camp will teach English in a non-classroom setting, involving trips to the West Side Market, Cleveland Metroparks Zoo, an Indians baseball game and other fun activities.

Ingrid Angel, director of El Barrio, was happy to say, "There is a large amount of excitement around our summer camp. Youth from Iraq, Nepal, and different Spanish-speaking countries signed up right away to be a part of this."

On recruitment, Angel remarks, "We didn't even have to look for the kids. We are happy to be filling a much needed service for summer activities in our community."

**About WSEM**

Founded in 1966, West Side Ecumenical Ministry (WSEM) is a nonprofit social service organization working to help individuals and families become more self-sustaining through programs that provide emergency food and outreach services, employment training and placement, early childhood education and counseling solutions. For more information, visit [www.wsem.org](http://www.wsem.org).

**About El Barrio/WSEM Workforce Development Center**

El Barrio/WSEM Workforce Development Center of Excellence assists more than 1,300 adults and youth each year achieve self-sustaining jobs by providing job preparation, case management, retention and prevocational training. Third-party certifications are offered in programs, such as customer service. El Barrio offers Job Readiness training and English as a Second Language (ESL) courses. All programs are free and open to the public.

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