Community Services

Lutheran Family Services
Housing Barriers: Systemic

- Arrival notices 1-4 weeks in advance
- Deadlines on each background and security check
- Annual number but projection per month
Housing Barriers: Systemic

- Working with US Tie/community members
- “Safe, sanitary, affordable”
Housing Barriers: Landlords

- Application requirements:
  - Social Security Card
  - Employment
  - ID documents/Presence in U.S.
  - Ongoing proof of financial ability, income 3x rent
  - Credit history
Housing Barriers: Client

• Clustered housing near community
• Occupancy standards: culture vs. law
• Cultural barriers and noncompliance
  • Cooking practices
  • Food storage
Housing Barriers: Shared

- Communication
- Lack of follow up
- Escalating issues
How we bridge the gaps

- Federal Funding/Financial management education
- Case Management with interpretation
- Cultural Orientation/ongoing education

- Partnerships with Community Action, Family Housing Advisory Services
Reception & Placement

• Refugees are given 90 days of resettlement services

• Basic services provided:
  • Airport Arrivals – New family arrivals
  • Housing – Lease an apartment, furnishings, rent/utilities
  • Identification Documents – State ID, Social Security Card
  • Medical Appointments – Vaccines for green card, medical follow-ups
  • State Benefits – RCA, SNAP, Medicaid
  • School Enrollments
  • Employment and ESL Referrals
The Funding

- Federal Funds: $1,175 per person
  - Deposit
  - Rent
  - Utilities
  - Furniture
  - Food
  - Clothing
  - School Supplies
  - Household Supplies
- Agency receives $1,000 for administration
Matching Grant

- Resettlement and Employment combined

- 50% of funds provided require a match: volunteer hours, donations, mileage, cash

- 180 day case management
**Refugee Employment & Education Program**

**Employment**
- Survival Job/Transitional Job
- Career pathways
- Job Development in the Lincoln Community

**Education**
- Job Readiness Class
- Referrals to English Language programs
  - SCC
  - Center for People in Need
  - Lincoln Literacy

Case management for 90 days after employment begins

Can serve clients up to five years
Immigration Legal Services

- Provides low cost immigration legal services
  - Family reunification cases
  - Adjustment of status
    - Legal Permanent Status
    - Citizenship
  - Removal proceedings

- Works in partnership with Nebraska Immigration Legal Assistance Hotline
  - Legal Aid
  - Catholic Charities
  - Justice for Our Neighbors
  - Women's Center for Advancement
Global Language Solutions

- Program contracts interpreters and translators for outside agencies
- Current languages
  - Arabic
  - Burmese
  - Chin
  - Kachin
  - Karen
  - Karenni
  - Nepali
  - Nuer
  - Somali
  - Spanish
Preferred Communities

- Intensive Case management focusing on:
  - Mental/Behavioral Health
  - Substance Abuse
  - Domestic Violence
  - Chronic health issues

- One year case management
Post 90 Day Program

- Can help all immigrants
- No length of service
- Short and long term assistance
Community Services Programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Arrival</th>
<th>5 Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90 Days</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Reception &amp; Placement (R&amp;P)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Matching Grant Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>Refugee Education &amp; Employment Program (REEP)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Preferred Communities (PC)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post 90 Day Program</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Presidential Determination

- FY 2013: 70,000
- FY 2014: 70,000
- FY 2015: 70,000
- FY 2016: 85,000
- FY 2017: 110,000
  - Jan 2018 50,000 via President Trump Executive Order
- FY 2018: 45,000
- FY 2019: 30,000
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>11 Countries effected by the Muslim Bans</th>
<th>FY 17 Admitted During First 10 Months</th>
<th>FY 18 Admitted During First 10 Months</th>
<th>Percent Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Egypt</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iran</td>
<td>2,391</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>-99%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Iraq</td>
<td>6,639</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>-98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Libya</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-67%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mali</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Korea, North</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>-75%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Somalia</td>
<td>5,899</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>-96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republic of South Sudan</td>
<td>174</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>-93%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sudan</td>
<td>947</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>-94%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Syria</td>
<td>6,461</td>
<td>56</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yemen</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>22,562</strong></td>
<td><strong>543</strong></td>
<td><strong>-98%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Our Programs

- Reception & Placement (R&P)
- Matching Grant
- Refugee Employment & Education Program (REEP)
- Post 90 Day Program
- Preferred Communities
- Immigration Legal Services (ILS)
- Global Language Solutions (GLS)
Refugee/SIV

- Someone who “owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group, or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality and is unable to or unwilling to avail himself to the protection of that country.”

- 1951 Refugee Convention, Geneva, Switzerland
Asylum seeker/Asylee

- An alien in the United States or at a port of entry who is found to be unable or unwilling to return to his or her country of nationality, or to seek the protection of that country because of persecution or a well-founded fear of persecution. Persecution or the fear thereof must be based on the alien’s race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion.
  --USCIS
Durable Solutions for Refugees

- Repatriation
  - Can safely return back to their home country

- Local Integration
  - Refugees can build a life in the camp country

- Resettlement
  - Permanent resettlement into a third country
UNHCR

- The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees was established at the convention in 1951.

- This branch of the UN interviews asylum seekers to decide who should be granted refugee status.
When Resettlement is the Only Option

- Registration
- Interviews
- Background checks
- Medical tests, appointments
- More interviews
- Vaccines
- Cultural Orientation
- Resettlement location assigned