Refugee Resettlement in Rochester

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What is a refugee?

- Defined by the United Nations as:
  - someone who has been forced to flee his or her country because of persecution, war, or violence.
  - A refugee has a well-founded fear of persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality, political opinion or membership in a particular social group.

Thus, on this World Refugee Day, let us take time to recognize and draw inspiration from these ordinary people who have shown such extraordinary courage – the world’s millions of refugees and displaced.
Current Global Refugee Crisis

- 65 Million refugees and displaced persons
- Largest displaced and refugee population in World history
- 51% children
- 80% women and children
- 1% will be resettled
Refugee Resettlement Facts

• UNHCR provides initial registration interviews and refers those in most “dire need”
• US Government screening process – typically 18–24 months
  • 8 different government agencies
  • 5 separate background checks
  • 4 biometric security checks
  • 3 in–person interviews

• Since 1975, US has welcomed over 3M refugees

# Refugee Arrivals by Country of Nationality: Fiscal Years 2013 to 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country of Nationality</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>#</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>#</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>69,920</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>69,975</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burma</td>
<td>18,386</td>
<td>26.3</td>
<td>14,598</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iraq</td>
<td>12,676</td>
<td>18.1</td>
<td>19,769</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somalia</td>
<td>8,858</td>
<td>12.7</td>
<td>9,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dem. Rep Congo</td>
<td>7,876</td>
<td>11.3</td>
<td>4,540</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bhutan</td>
<td>5,775</td>
<td>8.3</td>
<td>8,434</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iran</td>
<td>3,109</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>2,846</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Syria</td>
<td>1,682</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eritrea</td>
<td>1,596</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>1,488</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sudan</td>
<td>1,578</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>1,315</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cuba</td>
<td>1,527</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>4,062</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All other</td>
<td>6,857</td>
<td>9.8</td>
<td>3,818</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Dept of Homeland Security
Recent Nationwide Resettlement

- FY2016 = 84,995 refugees resettled
- FY2017 = 54,000 refugees resettled
- FY2018 = 24,000 refugees resettled (Cap was set at 45,000)
- FY2019 – cap set at 30,000
Total Resettlement in Rochester

- 2016 = 1,176
- 2017 = 446
- 2018 = 258
- Rochester typically receives 1% of total refugees in the US.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country of Origin</th>
<th>Individuals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Afghanistan</td>
<td>57</td>
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<tr>
<td>Algeria</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bhutan</td>
<td>46</td>
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<tr>
<td>Burma</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burundi</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Congo</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cuba</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eritrea</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iraq</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ukraine</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>258</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Refugees enter the US from the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program, and are resettled through Catholic Family Center (CFC)

- CFC provides initial 90 days of services
  - Flight
  - Housing
  - Case management
  - Application for benefits
  - Required medical appointments
Refugee Social Services

- Immediately upon arrival – $925/person to cover all (food, rent, medical, etc)
- SNAP – after 2 weeks ($168/mth)
- Rental Assistance – after approx 45 days
- Other (utilities, non–food, phone)– $440/month
- Medicaid – for 8 months
- After 8 months – DSS to be placed in Work Experience Program (WEP) and ESOL
Post-Resettlement Needs

- Unique barriers faced by refugees
  - Language/Communication
  - Culture
  - Transportation
  - loss of job skills and educational opportunities due to years spent in refugee camps
Mary’s Place – About Us

- Founded in 2009 as mission of Sacred Heart Cathedral
- Serve approximately 500 families/year
- No Federal, State funding
- 414 Lexington Avenue
- Hours of Operation: 11:00–4:00 M–F
- Marysplaceoutreach.org
- Facebook: Mary’s Place LLC, Faces of Mary’s Place
Mary’s Place Services

- English Language Classes
- Case Management services
- Medicaid Assistance
- Job Skills Class
- Food Distribution
- Clothing Closet – clothing, household goods, and hygiene products
- Summer Children’s Day Camp
Questions?

- Marysplaceoutreach.org
- Charlsey.bickett@dor.org
- Facebook: Mary’s Place LLC