

## FACTS

- The U.S. takes less than 1 percent of refugees resettled each year. There are 20 countries involved in refugee resettlement.
- Refugees pay taxes and pay into Social Security the same as any citizen living in the U.S.
- Refugees do not generally take jobs from Americans. They must apply and compete for jobs the same as any citizen. They also create jobs by opening new businesses.
- Statistics show that the tax contributions of refugees are considerably greater than the cost of services they use.
- Refugees contribute a great wealth to this country through their culture & customs.
- Most Refugees want to learn English and enroll in classes to study English as a Second Language. This is especially true for younger refugees who are eager to fit into the new society.

*Mission Statement: Rooted in the Gospel of Jesus, Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Green Bay works to meet critical needs, address human suffering and promote and restore the well-being of those most vulnerable in our society. Working on behalf of the people served in the Church of Green Bay, Catholic Charities invites people of faith to reach out to serve others as Jesus has called us to do.*

### **Catholic Charities, Resettlement & Immigration Services**

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## **Catholic Charities, Refugee Resettlement Program**

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***"For I was a stranger...and you welcomed me." Matthew 25:***

*Imagine for a moment, that your life has been torn apart by war. Imagine that you've lost your job, your home, and possibly your family. You've fled the country, and find yourself in a strange land, with no family, no friends, and little knowledge of the language or culture.*

**Who will welcome the stranger?**

### Who Are the Refugees

They are people who "owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular group, or political opinion is outside the country of his nationality and is unable to or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of the country." (1951 United Nations Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees)

Since World War II, the Catholic Church has been engaged in the resettlement of refugees. During the past three decades alone, over one million refugees have been resettled through the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

The work of Catholic Charities' Resettlement & Immigration Services is essentially rooted in the tradition of compassion & in the belief that the strength of the U.S. lies in its diverse ethnic & cultural heritage.

Resettling refugees provides an extraordinary opportunity for Americans to take an active part in offering a caring & supportive environment for the refugees as they begin new lives. In concrete terms, it means reuniting families, arranging volunteers, greeting refugees at the airport, finding & furnishing housing, introducing refugees to their new community, providing English as a Second Language instruction, registering children in schools, employment counseling and job training and placement

### **The Refugees Journey to Wisconsin**

**Refugee Flees Homeland**



**United Nations High Commissioner of Refugees**

Repatriation (to be sent back to mother country)

Nationalization (stay in country they fled to)

Third Country Resettlement (less than 1% of refugee population)



**U.S. Department of State/INS**

Conduct interview at Migration Processing Center with refugee to determine resettlement eligibility



**Allocation to Domestic Resettlement Agency**

Migration & Refugee Services, USCCB



**Allocation to Field Office**

Catholic Diocese of Green Bay



**Refugee Notified of Resettlement Site in the U.S.**

They prepare to enter last stage of processing before they arrive. Medical exams, orientation, & other clearance checks.



**Processing Completed**

Flight booked. Green Bay office notified of date of arrival.



**Local Arrival Preparation**

Volunteer Coordinator assigns volunteers to the family. Arrangements made for apartment, furniture, & food for family



**Refugee Family Arrives**

Caseworker/Interpreter & volunteers greet refugee family at airport. Bring to apartment. Begin providing Core Services.