



Church World Service

Refugee Resettlement in Lancaster

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CWS Lancaster Director

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Hourglass First Friday Forum
Friday 11/5/2021

All families deserve safety & dignity

CWS is committed to showing welcome to refugees, immigrants, asylum-seekers and other uprooted people within the United States



Agenda

- What is Church World Service? Who are refugees?
- Overview of locally resettled populations and future trends. Update on Afghan refugees.
- CWS programs and integration framework
- Partnering with the community to support refugees in Lancaster

About **CWS**

- Founded in 1946 with a mission to end hunger, promote peace and justice
- Program areas: food, water, disaster response and recovery, assisting refugees and the vulnerable
- Active in more than 30 countries
- One of 9 refugee resettlement agencies in the United States



Refugees



...are people who flee their country because of a well-founded fear of persecution, based on their

- **Race**
- **Religion**
- **Nationality**
- **Political opinion or**
- **Membership in a particular social group**

and who are unable or unwilling to return home.

▀ *Defined at the 1951 United Nations Convention on Refugees*

Other immigrant groups

- **Internally-displaced people** have been forced to flee their homes but have not crossed international borders
- **Asylum-seekers** are people who left their home country and are seeking protection in another country but whose claim for refugee status has not been processed yet
- **Migrants and Immigrants** cross international borders for a variety of reasons including economic, personal, or to escape violence
- A **stateless** person is someone who does not have citizenship in any country

Global Trends in Forced Displacement (2020)

82.4 MILLION displaced peoples worldwide
(Refugees, Asylum Seekers, Internally Displaced People)

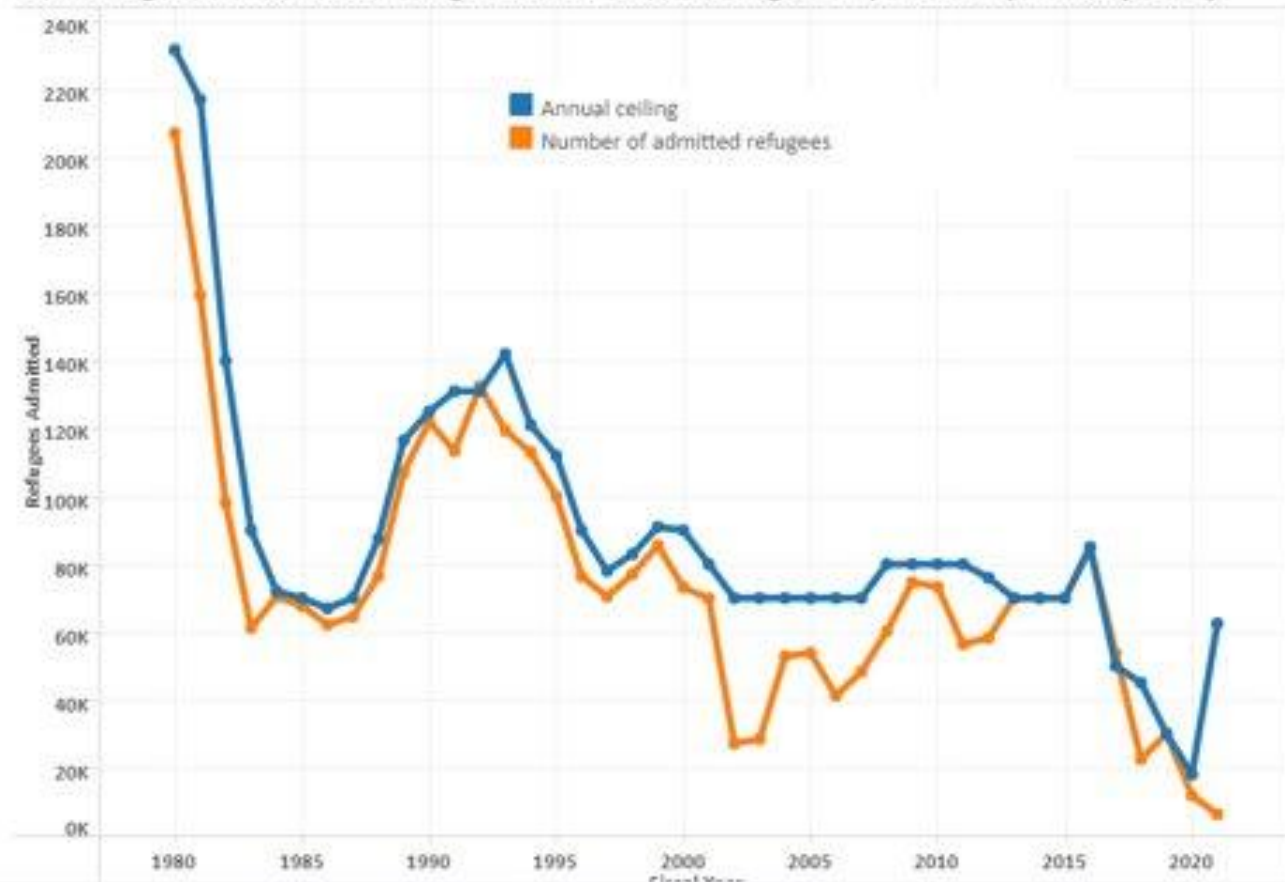
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26.4 MILLION REFUGEES

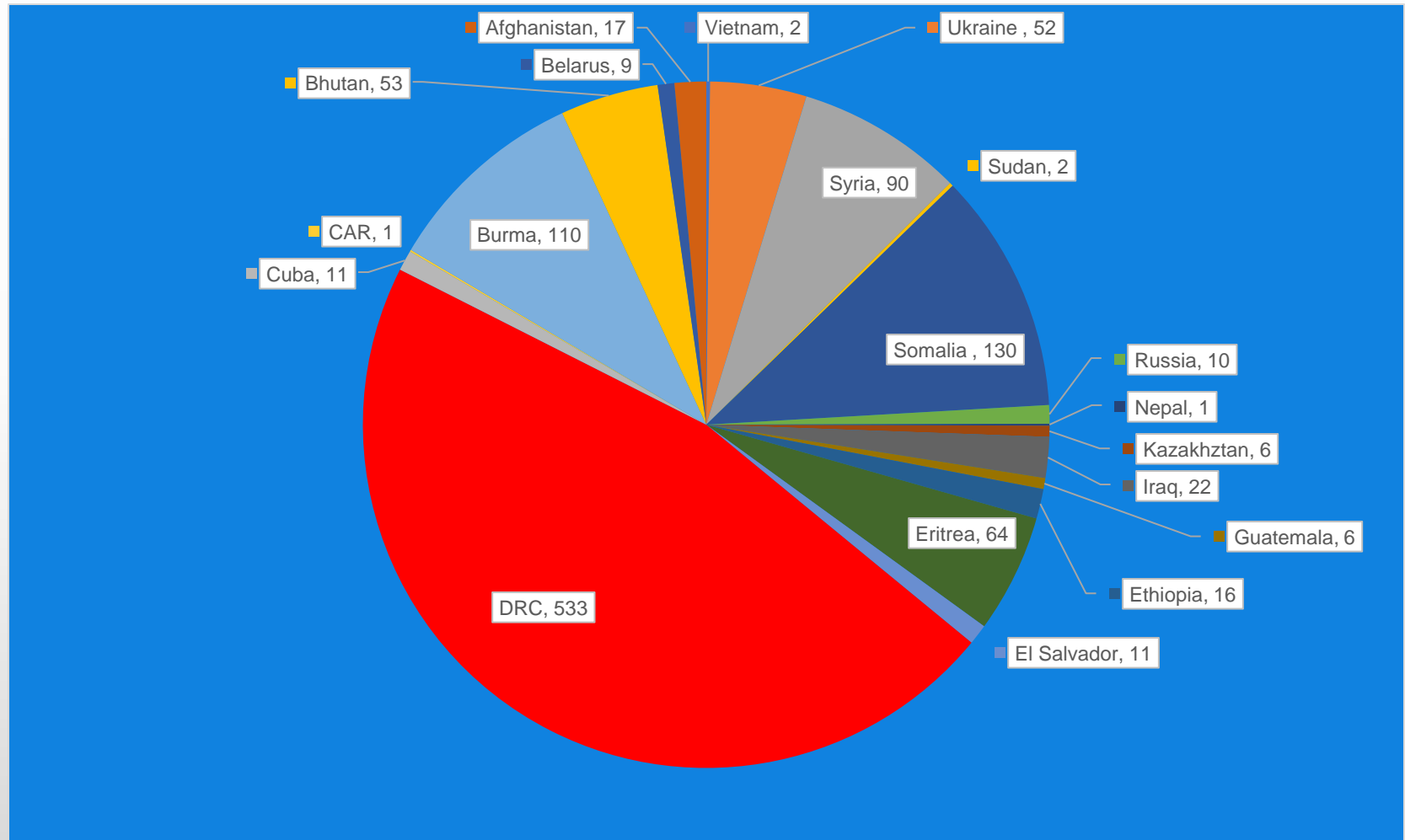


United States Refugee Admissions Program (USRAP)

U.S. Refugee Admissions & Refugee Resettlement Ceilings, FY 1980-2021 (thru July 2021)



Refugee Arrivals by Nationality 2015-2020



The Resettlement of Afghan Evacuees

- 120 Individuals to resettle in Lancaster in short period of time
- Individuals are processed at military bases for humanitarian parole
- Lack of clear pathway to citizenship
- Relies on strong community support for co-sponsorship and housing



CWS Lancaster Programs

CWS Integration Framework

Welcome → Self-Reliance → Thriving

5 years of service

- Resettlement
- Employment
- Extended Services
- Immigration Legal Services
- Community Engagement & Leadership Development

Resettlement

U.S. Reception and Placement and Afghan Placement and Assistance Program (90-240 days of service)

- Welcome refugees at airport
- Provide housing, furniture, clothing, & food
- Transportation to medical appointments
- English as a second language (ESL)
- School enrollment
- Employment orientation
- Cultural orientation – 1 week & 90-day



Employment Program

CWS Employment Specialists assess clients' vocational background, skills, and work experience in order to help find a work placement, including Vocational ESL Instruction and Workplace ESL.

Employment Specialists

- Up to 5 years of return service
- Assist to prepare resumes
- Contact area employers
- Set up interviews
- Supply transportation & interpretation
- Follow up with client & new employer



SHANK'S
EXTRACTS
EST. 1899

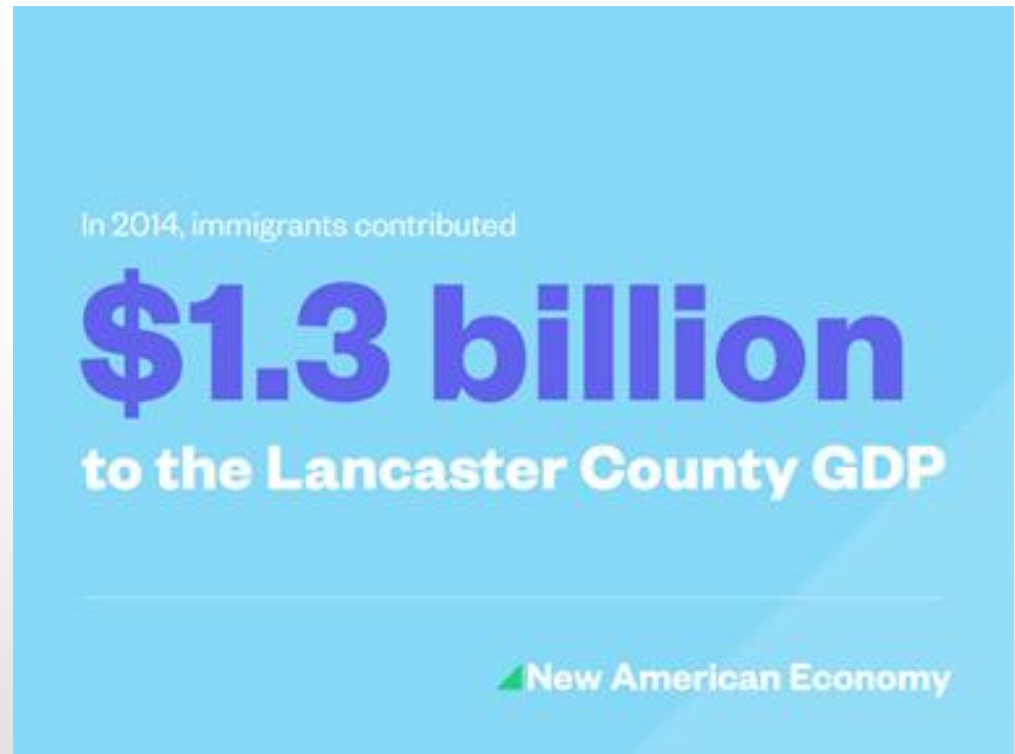


"Refugees,immigrants vital to local economy"

Tom Baldrige & Sam Bressi, Special to LNP, September 23, 2018

"Immigrants not only help power key local sectors like manufacturing and healthcare, but also start businesses that create jobs both in the county and across the state."

John Feinblatt,
Chairman of New
American Economy.



Extended Support Programs

Preferred Communities Health Program (PC)

- (Up to 5 years of service)
- Health & Mental Health Intensive Case Management
- Women's Support Group, Youth Mentoring Group
- Refugee Health Promotion Program (RHP)

Good Job, Happy Family Program (GFHF)

- A holistic, family-based extended services program.
- Serves families within 1-3 years of arrival to the U.S. and lasts until participants' goals are completed or for a maximum of one year.

Girls Who Code

- Empowers refugee and immigrant women to develop coding skills, improve digital literacy, and explore careers in STEM.



Immigration Legal Services

CWS/Lancaster is recognized by the Executive Office for Immigration Review of the U.S. Department of Justice, and four staff members are accredited to represent clients before the U.S. Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services and the Immigration Courts.

- Applications for permanent residence
- Citizenship assistance
- Petitions for alien relatives
- Renewal of
 - Green cards
 - Work permits
- Travel documents
- Consultations
- Representation & counseling for unaccompanied minors



Community Engagement and Leadership Development

- Co-Sponsorship Program
- Volunteer program
- Host Homes Program
- Youth Journalism
- New Neighbors Speakers Bureau



The Role of Communities

- Volunteer
- Educate
- Advocate
- Donate



Welcome Home

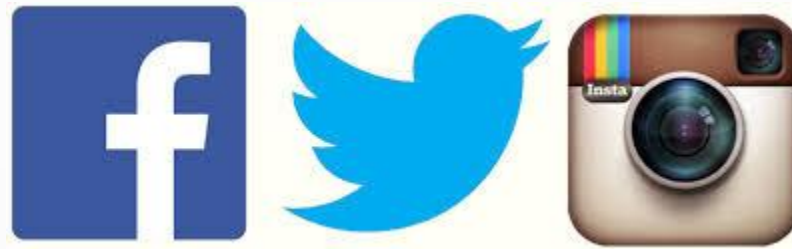


***We all need their
resilience, dreams, and
perserverence.***

***Our entire community
is enriched by who
they are and what they
bring to Lancaster.***

Danita Beachey, CWS Lancaster
volunteer since 2017

Keep In Touch and Up to Date



- ☐ E-newsletters
- ☐ CWS Lancaster website
- ☐ Join us at ExtraGive

Questions?

