



# USCRI VERMONT

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT

January 25, 2023

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# FORCIBLE DISPLACEMENT



76,000 AFGHANS WELCOMED TO THE US  
Humanitarian Parole—adjust status  
Special Immigrant Visa (SIV)  
Refugees and Family Reunification

100,000 UKRAINIANS  
Humanitarian Parole



# FY2022 REFUGEES, AFGHAN AND UKRAINIAN HUMANITARIAN PAROLEES

AFGHANISTAN	186
BHUTAN	0
BURMA	2
BURUNDI	3
DR CONGO	15
IRAQ	0
SOMALIA	2
SUDAN	33
SYRIA	0
UKRAINE	35
TOTAL FY19	276





CITY	APTS RENTED
BURLINGTON	27
COLCHESTER	3
MONTPELIER	5
RUTLAND	5
SHELBURNE	2
SO. BURLINGTON	2
WINOOSKI	1
TOTAL	45

# USCRI VERMONT

*A FIELD OFFICE OF USCRI*

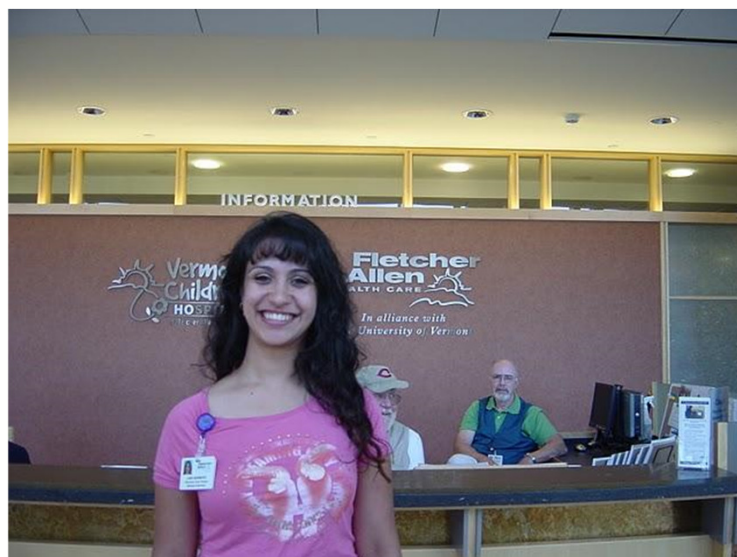
## Services Overview

- Reception & Placement
- Housing Case Management
- Refugee Support Services
  - Employment counseling/Job Development
  - English Language Training
  - Digital Literacy
- Transitional Cash Assistance
- Community Partnership
- Youth Empowerment and Mentoring
- Intensive Case Management
- Health and Wellness
- Interpretation and Translation



# ECONOMIC SELF SUFFICIENCY

Economic self-sufficiency is the overarching goal and requirement of the refugee resettlement program



# EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT SERVICES

- Employment Services Clients Entering Employment: **95 individuals** out of approximately 98 total job seekers (approximately an **97% placement rate**), with more placements pending
- 17 UHPs enrolled in Q4—pending EADs
  
- Types of Jobs
  - \*Construction (Engineer)
  - \*Education (Multilingual Liaison)
  - \*Environmental Services (Floor Technician)
  - \*Food Service (Dishwasher, Food Production Worker, Prep Cook) \*Healthcare (Medical Assistant, Dental Assistant) \*Manufacturing
  - \*Retail (Grocery Store Worker) \*Social Services (Interpreter/Translator)
  
- Wages
  - Range = \$14.00 - \$31.00/hour
  - \*Average = approximately \$16.00/hour (full-time) and \$24.80/hour (part-time)



# EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE GRANT THROUGH THE STATE REFUGEE OFFICE

- 1 FTE ENGLISH LANGUAGE INSTRUCTOR
- INTERPRETATION : ARABIC, DARI, BURMESE, FRENCH, KAREN, KISWAHILI, KIRUNDI, LINGLA, MAAY MAAY, NEPALI, PASHTO, SOMALI, SPANISH AND VIETNAMESE
- ENGLISH AT A WORK SITE
  - SPECIALIZED CURRICULUM
  - TEACHER AND MATERIALS
  - EMPLOYEES PAID TO ATTEND
    - UVM
    - RHINO FOODS
    - BLODGET OVENS
    - FRANKLIN AUGUST
    - NOLLATO



# STATEWIDE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

- MULTI PRONG APPROACH
- INTENSIVE CASE MANAGEMENT
- JOB PLACEMENT AND TRAINING
- EXISTING TRAINING PROGRAMS ADAPTED FOR ELL'S
- ENGLISH FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSES
- STATEWIDE RECRUITMENT AND TRAINING OF EMPLOYERS
- ON GOING SUPPORT WITH INTERPRETATION AND TRANSLATION
- APRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS W/ ELL COMPONENT
- CDL
- HEALTH SERVICES
- CHILDCARE—HS DIPLOMA REQUIREMENT WAIVER

# IT TAKES A VILLAGE

- ASSOCIATION OF AFRICANS LIVING IN VERMONT (AALV)
- BURLINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT
- CENTRAL VERMONT REFUGEE ACTION NETWORK (CVRAN)
- CHAMPLAIN HOUSING TRUST (CHT)
- CHCB
- CHCRR
- CITIES OF BURLINGTON, MONTPELIER, RUTLAND, WINOOSKI
- CVOEO
- CONNECTING CULTURES
- CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION
- FEEDING CHITTENDEN
- HOWARD CENTER
- ISLAMIC SOCIETY OF VERMONT
- MERCY CONNECTIONS
- RUTLAND WELCOMES
- STATE REFUGEE OFFICE
- UVM MEDICAL CENTER
- UVM HEALTH NETWORK
- VERMONT LANGUAGE JUSTICE PROJECT
- VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
- VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH



# FUTURE OF REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT

- ❖ BIDEN ADMINISTRATION committed to resettling 125,000 refugees
- ❖ State Department launched Welcome Corps—private sponsorship of refugees
- ❖ Year one Pilot
- ❖ US citizens and permanent residents will be able to sponsor refugees

## USCRI Approved Projection for FY2023

- 280 Chittenden County
- 45 Rutland County

# Thank you!

# Questions?

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