



USCRI VERMONT

PRESENTATION TO THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

February 3, 2021

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Matt Thompson, Coordinator of Programs

REFUGEE CRISIS GLOBALLY



REFUGEE ARRIVALS

Arrivals	US projected	US Arrivals	VT Projected	VT Arrived
FY16	85,000	84,995	350	386
FY17	100,000	32,230	450 C=350 R=100	236 C=222 R=14
FY18	45,000	22,491	300	133
FY19	30,000	30,000	175	115
FY20	18,000	9,772	104	23
FY21	15,000	1,460	100	26

Over the four-year period, USCRI lost 1/3 of staffing capacity due to loss of funding and closed down the office in Rutland after resettling 3 Syrian families.

FY19 AND FY20 REFUGEE GROUPS

AFGHANISTAN	1
BHUTAN	1
BURMA	15
BURUNDI	8
DR CONGO	89
IRAQ	0
SOMALIA	1
SUDAN	0
SYRIA	0
TOTAL FY19	115



BURMA	4
DRC	14
Somalia	5
TOTAL FY20	23

USCRI VERMONT

A FIELD OFFICE OF USCRI

Services Overview

- Reception & Placement
- Transitional Cash Assistance
- Social Services
 - Employment and Case Management up to 1 year
 - English Language Training
 - Digital Literacy
- Reach Up Case Management
- EXCEL—TANF eligible families
- READY4Life Youth Program
- Community Engagement
- Youth Mentoring Program
- Interpretation and Translation Services



IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON REFUGEES IN VERMONT

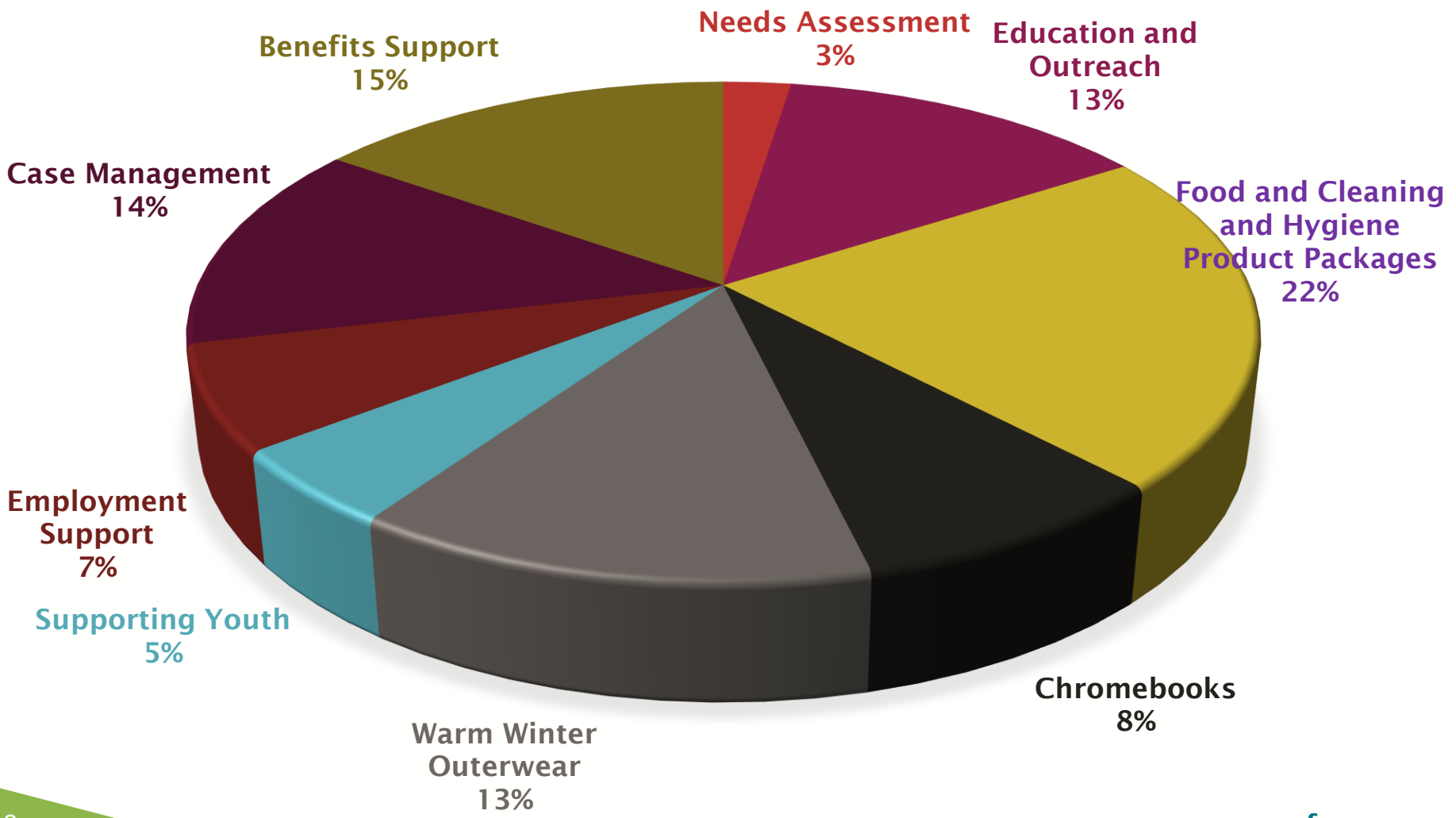
- Loss of employment
- Imminent threat of housing loss
- Food insecurity
- Need for household and personal hygiene supplies
- Digital divide
- Mental health and re-traumatization
- Lack of access to linguistically and culturally appropriate health information
- COVID-19 outbreaks across five refugee groups

CRF FUNDING IMPACT

- SUPPORTED 6 FTE'S DIRECT SERVICES STAFF AND INTERPRETERS SPEAKING: Arabic, Bosnian, Burmese, French, Karen, Kiswahili, Kirundi, Lingala, Maay Maay, Nepali, Somali, Spanish and Vietnamese
- COLLABORATION WITH PARTNERS
 - ASSOCIATION OF AFRICANS LIVING IN VERMONT (AALV)
 - CITIES OF BURLINGTON AND WINOOSKI
 - BURLINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT
 - BURLINGTON HOUSING AUTHORITY
 - CVOEO
 - TECHNOLOGY FOR TOMORROW
 - VERMONT CORONAVIRUS MULTILINGUAL TASKFORCE
 - VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
 - WINOOSKI HOUSING AUTHORITY

CRF FUNDING IMPACT

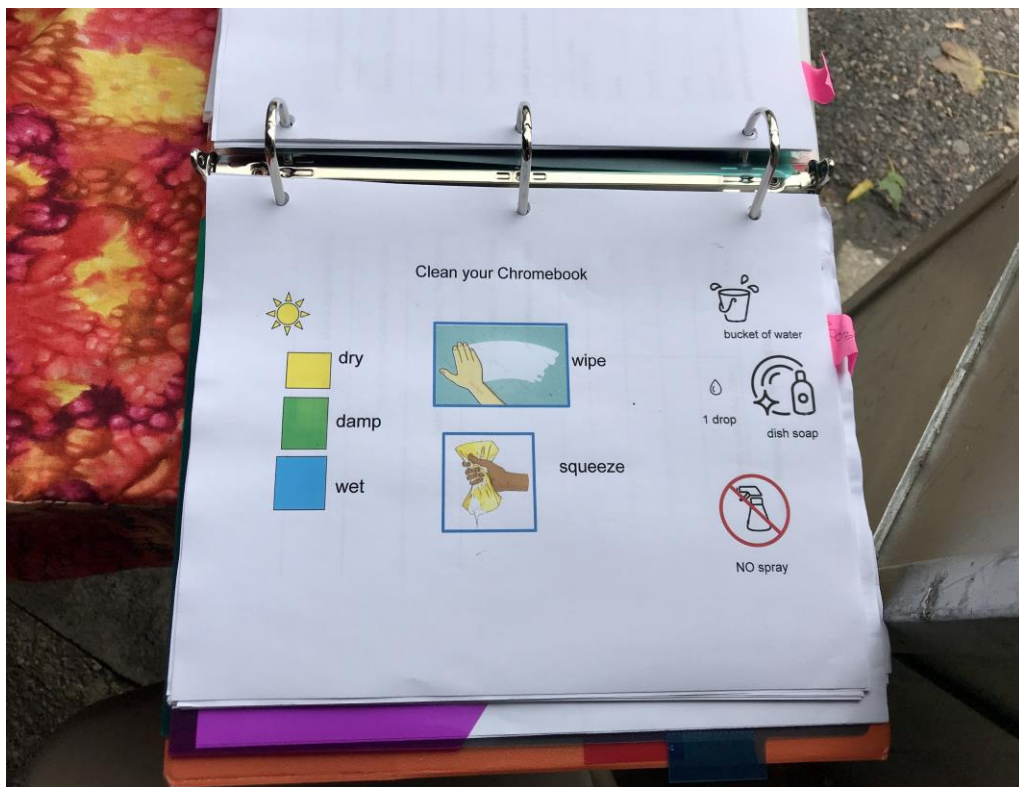
296 HOUSEHOLDS; 1,100 CONTACTS



IN PHOTOS



IN PHOTOS



IN PHOTOS



ONGOING CRITICAL NEEDS

- ENHANCED CASE MANAGEMENT
- INTERPRETATION AND TRANSLATION
- FOOD SUPPLIES
- HOUSEHOLD AND PERSONAL HYGIENE ITEMS
- RENTAL ASSISTANCE
- ONGOING HOUSING SUPPORT
- DIGITAL LITERACY AND ACCESS TO TECHNOLOGY
- SPECIALIZED WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
- CULTURALLY APPROPRIATE MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT
- YOUTH EMPOWERMENT

IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON THE BIPOC POPULATION IN VERMONT

December 2020 brief from VDOH

<https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/COVID-19-among-BIPOC-Data-Brief.pdf>

Thank you!

Questions?



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