OVERVIEW of REFUGEES & THE REFUGEE SERVICES PROGRAM
• Refugees are individuals who fled their home country in fear of persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership in a social group or political opinion.

• At the end of 2012, 45.2 million people were forcibly displaced worldwide as a result of persecution, conflict, generalized violence and human rights violations. Some 15.4 million people were refugees, another 28.8 million were internally displaced persons (IDPs). The 2012 level was the highest since 1994, when an estimated 47 million people were forcibly displaced worldwide.
## Major Source Countries of Refugees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Number of Refugees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eritrea</td>
<td>285,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Colombia</strong></td>
<td>394,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Burma</strong></td>
<td>415,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dem. Rep. of Congo</td>
<td>509,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Sudan</em>*</td>
<td>569,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iraq</td>
<td>746,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somalia</td>
<td>1,136,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Syrian Arab Rep.</td>
<td>2,300,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afghanistan</td>
<td>2,585,600</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* May include citizens of South Sudan (in absence of separate statistics for both countries).
** Includes people in a refugee-like situation.
The Largest Internally Displaced Populations

- Philippines: 67,000
- Libya: 143,000
- South Sudan: 190,550
- Afghanistan: 493,000
- Burma: 498,500
- Sudan: 646,000
- Pakistan: 758,000
- Iraq: 1,130,000
- Congo: 2,900,000
- Syria: 4,250,000
Internally displaced people worldwide

Based on DMC monitoring, January - December 2011

Top IDPs by Region

Europe 2.5
Asia 4.3
America 5.6
Africa 9.7

#’s represent millions
Syrian Crisis 2014

Over 2.3 million Syrian refugees have now fled into neighboring countries and thousands more are pouring across borders each day - one of the largest refugee exoduses in recent history.
Another 4.25 million Syrians are internally displaced.

Turkey: Hosts more than 700,000 Syrians; more than 200,000 of these refugees live in 21 camps. More than 80% do not live in camps and instead have found shelter in local communities and cities.

Lebanon: Refugees are living in more than 1,600 communities across Lebanon. According to a World Bank/UN assessment, 170,000 Lebanese are being pushed into poverty by the Syria crisis.

Jordan: The drain on water resources is especially severe in Jordan due to its relative lack of water. Hospital beds are filled by Syrian patients. Rents have risen and wages have fallen as a result of the competition for housing and jobs.

The U.S. State Department expects to accept referrals for several thousand Syrian refugees in 2014.
UNHCR’S DURABLE SOLUTIONS

• Repatriation: UNHCR works with the country of origin and host countries to help refugees return to their home countries.

• Local Integration: Integration of refugees in the host country allows recipients to live in dignity and peace.

• Resettlement in a Third Country: An alternative for those who cannot go home or integrate locally, made possible by UNHCR and governments.

3 Million +
More than 3 million refugees have been resettled by the U.S. since 1975.
The Department of State works with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to identify refugees overseas in need of resettlement. State Department officials interview and screen each nominated refugee family in their country of asylum to determine whether to admit them to the United States.

Approved refugees are then vetted by the Department of Homeland Security, are provided medical screening, and offered brief orientation classes about the United States prior to their departure. The International organization for Migration then makes travel arrangements for the refugees to the United States. The cost of their transportation is provided as a loan, which refugees are required to begin repaying after they are established in the United States.
* The State Department works with nine national refugee resettlement agencies to determine where a refugee will be resettled in the United States. If a refugee has relatives in the United States, he or she is likely to be resettled near or with them. Otherwise, the resettlement agency decides on the best match between a community’s resources and the refugee’s needs. The nine national resettlement agencies are:

* Church World Service (CWS)
* Ethiopian Community Development Council (ECDC)
* Episcopal Migration Ministries (EMM)
* Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS)
* International Rescue Committee (IRC)
* US Committee for Refugees and Immigrants (USCRI)
* Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services (LIRS)
* United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB)
* World Relief Corporation (WR)

* Local affiliates of the nine national resettlement agencies are responsible for assisting newly arrived refugees for their first three months in the United States. Their responsibilities include:

  * Meeting refugees at the airport;
  * Having safe and affordable housing available for them when they arrive;
  * Providing furniture and other basic necessities;
  * Offering them orientation to the United States and to their new community;
  * Helping them apply for Social Security cards and other needed documentation.
Refugees Admitted to US Through State Department Reception and Placement Program in FFY 2011 – Top 5 States

- Florida: 2,903
- California: 4,975
- Texas: 5,623
- New York: 3,531
- Michigan: 2,587
Refugees in Florida

- The Refugee Services Program is 100% federally funded and is governed by federal law.

- Florida hosts the largest refugee population in the nation, receiving about 28,000 refugees each year.

- Cuba is the country of origin of most refugee clients in Florida; however, Florida’s refugees come from 97 different home countries, including Haiti, Iraq, Burma, Venezuela, Egypt, Colombia, and Sudan.

- Refugees resettle primarily in Miami-Dade County with significant populations in Hillsborough, Broward, Duval, Palm Beach, Orange, Pinellas, and Collier Counties.
DCF’S REFUGEE SERVICES PROGRAM

GOAL

Assist newly arrived refugees become self-sufficient in as short a time period as possible through gainful employment, learning English, acquiring job skills and overcoming immigration status or medical difficulties.
FLORIDA’s REFUGEE SERVICES’
ELIGIBLE POPULATION

* **Refugees** are individuals who have been forced to flee their home country due to persecution or a well-founded fear of persecution. Refugees are granted status before they arrive in the United States.

* **Cuban/Haitian Entrants** is a term used to describe Cuban and Haitian nationals who enter the United States and are granted a parole upon entry.

* **Advance Parolees** is a term used to describe Cuban nationals who are granted advance permission to enter the United States through the parole authority of the Department of Homeland Security as agreed in the U.S. - Cuba Accords.

* **Asylees** are persons already in the United States who, due to persecution or a well-founded fear of persecution in their home country, apply for and are granted asylum by asylum officers or immigration judges in the United States.

* **Afghan and Iraqi Special Immigrants (SIV)** are Iraqi and Afghani nationals who worked with the U.S. military and who were granted special immigrant status.

* **Certified Victims of Human Trafficking (VOT)** are individuals from foreign countries who, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion, have been forced to perform a commercial sex act, or have been subjected to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery.
**Refugees/Entrants/Asylees Eligible for ORR Funded Services in FFY 2011 – Top 5 States**

![Bar Chart]

**Refugees Admitted to US Through State Department Reception and Placement Program in FFY 2011 – Top 5 States**

![Bar Chart]
## Florida's Refugee Population over Five Years

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Refugees</th>
<th>Advance Parolees</th>
<th>Cuban/Haitian Entrants</th>
<th>Asylees</th>
<th>SIV</th>
<th>VOT</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>5,376</td>
<td>9,726</td>
<td>10,450</td>
<td>2,038</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>27,619</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>4,757</td>
<td>6,974</td>
<td>14,072</td>
<td>1,331</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>27,210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>3,332</td>
<td>7,776</td>
<td>14,736</td>
<td>1,329</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>27,204</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>2,653</td>
<td>6,467</td>
<td>18,532</td>
<td>1,038</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>28,762</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>3,884</td>
<td>6,474</td>
<td>18,233</td>
<td>834</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>29,461</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Yr. TOTALS</td>
<td>20,002</td>
<td>37,417</td>
<td>76,023</td>
<td>6,570</td>
<td>184</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>140,256</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
# State of Florida
## Clients Receiving Any Service
### Federal Fiscal Year 2013
#### October 1, 2012 – September 30, 2013
#### Regions by Origin and County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REGIONS</th>
<th>BURMA</th>
<th>BHUTAN</th>
<th>COLOMBIA</th>
<th>CUBA</th>
<th>EGYPT</th>
<th>HAITI</th>
<th>IRAQ</th>
<th>VENEZUELA</th>
<th>OTHER</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CENTRAL</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>2,030</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>578</td>
<td>196</td>
<td>248</td>
<td>224</td>
<td>3,556</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTHEAST</td>
<td>943</td>
<td>285</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>777</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>352</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>467</td>
<td>2,972</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTHWEST</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOUTHEAST</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>4,136</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>1,019</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>264</td>
<td>161</td>
<td>5,854</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOUTHERN</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>47,387</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1,166</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>392</td>
<td>251</td>
<td>49,379</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUNCOAST</td>
<td>193</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>7,944</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>289</td>
<td>316</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>324</td>
<td>9,341</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>1,227</td>
<td>292</td>
<td>482</td>
<td>62,325</td>
<td>343</td>
<td>3,136</td>
<td>990</td>
<td>963</td>
<td>1,456</td>
<td>71,214</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
BENEFITS AVAILABLE TO REFUGEES THROUGH DCF ACCESS PROGRAM

- Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)
- Medicaid
- Time limited Cash and Medical Assistance if not eligible for TANF and Medicaid
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Food Stamps

SERVICES AVAILABLE TO REFUGEES THROUGH DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Refugee Health Assessment (within 90 days of arrival in the U.S)
Refugee Health Services Provided

Services offered by County Health Departments include:

- Medical history review
- Physical assessment
- Communicable disease screening
- Chronic disease screening
- Hepatitis screening
- Parasitic infection screening
- Malaria & Lead screening
- Health education
- Immunizations
REFUGEES FIRST STEPS

ORIENTATION

APPLY FOR BENEFITS

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

HEALTH SCREENINGS

EMPLOYMENT AUTHORIZATION DOCUMENT

REFERRALS

EMPLOYMENT
SERVICES TO REFUGEES

• All services are provided through contracts with local agencies.

• Refugee Services currently manages 61 contracts statewide.

• Contracted providers include local governments, resettlement agencies, and other community based organizations.

• Contracts are awarded based on state and federal procurement requirements.
SERVICES TO REFUGEES

Refugee Services provided an estimated 71,214 unduplicated clients more than 150,000 services and benefits in FFY 2013, including English language classes to 14,047 clients, vocational training to 1,960, and child care to 1,058 clients.

Refugee Services helped 8,930 refugee clients obtain unsubsidized employment, with 64% retaining jobs for at least 90 days in FFY 2013.
SERVICES FUNDED BY REFUGEE SERVICES PROGRAM

Employment

Assist eligible refugees/entrants in achieving economic self-sufficiency and effective resettlement through gainful employment.

Finding a job is one of the most important steps Refugees have to take to establish themselves and their family in the United States.

Employment services include: pre-employment counseling and orientation, direct job preparation and placement, 90 and 180 day follow-up, On-the-Job Training (OJT), re-credentialing/recertification, career laddering trainings and placements.
SERVICES FUNDED BY REFUGEE SERVICES PROGRAM

Adult & Vocational Services

English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL), Vocational Training, Vocational English for Speakers of Other Languages (VESOL), Adult Basic Education (ABE), and General Education Diploma (GED) preparation classes.
SERVICES FUNDED BY REFUGEE SERVICES PROGRAM

Employability Status Assistance (Legal) Services

Services include: Assistance with Employment Authorization Documents (EAD), Permanent residency applications, Asylum applications, and other employment-related immigration status issues.

Child Care Services

Free or reduced cost child care services are available for a limited time to children of eligible refugee/entrants whose parents are working, looking for work or are taking English language or vocational classes.
Youth Services

Programs such as Orientation, Tutoring and Support & Academic Enrichment aimed at helping refugee students succeed and advance in the U.S. school system.

1. **Orientation Services** (Kindergarten through 12th grade). Is provided to newly arrived youth of all grade levels and their parents. These services are intended to provide clients with the basic information needed to navigate the school system.

2. **Tutoring Services** (6th through 12th grade). Available to refugee youth clients in middle and high schools additional academic support beyond what is provided through mainstream resources.

3. **Support & Academic Enrichment** (6th through 12th grade).
Health Care Services

Primary Health  (outpatient specialty services are available)
Medical services are provided to Cuban and Haitian refugees/entrants who meet federal income standards requirements of 200% of the federal poverty guidelines, are not eligible for Medicaid, and do not have private health insurance.

Epilepsy Case Management
Case Management services are provided to refugees and entrants with a diagnosis of epilepsy or undergoing a diagnosis of a seizure disorder. Case management activities include blood work, clinic visits, referrals for EEG and EEG interpretations. These services are only available in Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties.
Integration Assistance

The purpose of integration assistance is to identify risk factors that prevent effective resettlement and to help refugees to overcome those by providing additional orientation and case management.

Interpreter Services

Interpreter training, telephonic interpreter services and vital document translation services are provided to Refugee Services contract providers, departmental programs, and local Community Based Organizations to increase service access to refugee/entrants and other limited English proficient individuals.
Ethnic Community Based Organizations

Refugee Services has encouraged and supported the formation of ethnic community based organizations. Historically, the involvement of refugee-led, community based organizations in the refugee resettlement has been critical to refugee integration. These organizations can enhance the provision and effectiveness of services available to refugees. For refugees, their active participation in assisting other refugees resettlement is generally empowering and plays an important role in the integration of the entire refugee community.