• One of nine resettlement agencies in the U.S.
• Working through 38 implementing partners in 23 states
• Most partners are housed in Lutheran social service agencies
• 1939 - National Lutheran Council began resettling 1000s of Lutheran refugees fleeing war and persecution

• 1967 - the NLC evolved into LIRS and since resettled thousands of Vietnamese, Cambodians, Lost Boys and Girls of Sudan, Bosnians, Iraqi, Somali, Burmese, Bhutanese, Syrian and Congolese
Historical Review of FY US Refugee Arrivals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Arrivals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>69,886</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>27,131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>28,403</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>52,873</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>53,813</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>48,282</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>41,223</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>48,282</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>60,191</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>74,654</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>73,311</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>58,238</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>69,987</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>69,933</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>69,933</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>84,994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>53,716</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>19,899</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Comparison of Presidential Determination and US Arrivals

Refugees
SIVs
PD


0 0 666 2,332 2,108 719 3,312 1,902 10,240 7,226 84,994 19,321 19,899

0 41,279 48,281 60,191 74,654 73,311 56,424 58,238 69,926 69,987 69,933 12,269 9,786

0 20,000 40,000 60,000 80,000 100,000 120,000

Refugees SIVs PD
FY 2017 LIRS Arrivals by Nationality

- Somalia: 964
- Ukraine: 812
- Burma: 805
- Syria: 780

FY 2018 LIRS Arrivals by Nationality

- Ukraine: 616
- Burma: 448
- Bhutan: 285
- Eritrea: 138
The average size case in FY 2017 & FY 2018 were 4 individuals
THE LONG WELCOME

Rebuilding Hope
Creating a Culture of Welcome
Church Engagement

WELCOME THE STRANGER

Immigrant and Refugee Ministry

Lutherans have been leaders in the welcoming immigrants since World War II. Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services (LIRS) is recognized as a leader in the effort to resettle immigrants and refugees in the United States. Lutheran Church of the Resurrection works with local, national and international organizations to provide logistics and support to the ongoing efforts of welcoming the stranger.
Where do you see:

COURAGE and RESILIANCE
CHALLENGES and SUCCESSES
HOPES and DREAMS
ASSETS AND POTENTIAL CONTRIBUTIONS
Co-sponsorship Programs in LIRS Network

- No Co-sponsor Program: 38%
- Existing Co-sponsor Program: 49%
- No, But Has Similar Program: 4%
- Starting Program in FY18
At the national level:

- Matched 272 cases in FY 2017
- Over 83% of programs require a 6 month commitment
Key Aspects of the Program

- Year-long volunteer commitment
- Team financial donation that supports the refugee case, local and national agencies
- Ways to engage untapped congregations
- National level technical and programmatic support
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Total Contribution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Newly Arrived</td>
<td>$6,000-8,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post Arrival</td>
<td>$4,500-6,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distant Partner</td>
<td>$3,500-4,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Current Program Status: One Year Post Launch

- 6 partner sites
- 36 teams from 11 congregations matched to refugee cases
- 190+ individual refugees
- 225+ individual volunteers
Circle of Welcome

- English language practice
- Cultural mentorship
- Community guide
- Networking College prep, GED, SAT
- Seasonal clothing
- Advocacy
- Birthdays parties
- Iftar dinners

Lutheran Services of Georgia: The Long Welcome
LIRS Support for Volunteerism and Co-sponsorship

LIRS National Volunteer Management Support

1. Seed money – at least for first sites
2. Technical Assistance/training
3. Volunteer Guides & Written Resources
4. Volunteer Management Software – Better Impact
5. National Partnerships
Circle of Welcome

- Increase the successful outcomes of integration for refugee families
- Create meaningful and varied ways for Lutherans to engage with refugees and the affiliate network
- Live in to LIRS’s focus on “the long welcome”
- Strengthen relationships between congregations, affiliate partners, and LIRS

The Goals of Circle of Welcome
Positive Opportunities of Church Engagement for Refugees

- Welcome to the community
- Strong network of social connections
- English conversation
- Cultural integration
- Monetary or in-kind support
Challenges of Church Engagement for Refugees

- Too many church volunteers - overwhelming
- U.S tie cases might not need it
- Congregation might have unrealistic expectations
- Pressure to attend services
- Scheduling challenges - refugees work 1, 2, and 3 jobs
Positive Opportunities for Churches

- Tangibly put faith into action
- Churches explore own immigration history
- Cultural exchange
- Revitalizing for a struggling congregation - ministry
- Engage broader community
- Many different ways to get involved
Challenges for Churches

- Language barriers
- Cultural differences
- Boundaries - some congregations may feel the need to do everything a refugee family asks of them, others may take control
- Expectations - “indicators of success” might differ
- Unfamiliarity with the US refugee resettlement
Integration Measures

- Work eligible adults have jobs
- Family has stable and safe housing
- Children enrolled in school
- Children are navigating school successfully
- Immediate and general health concerns are met
Integration Measures

- Refugees feel connected to their community
- Able to navigate transportation, education, medical systems
- Involved in community services such as libraries, ethnic community groups, etc.
- Increased comfort and proficiency in English
ENGAGING CHURCHES

• Accompany refugees
• Educate others, speakers bureaus
• Inform the media
• Advocate in their own circles
• Speak to legislators
• Build stakeholder base
Refugee and Migrant Integration

Newcomers belong to and are reciprocally engaged with their communities. Healthy integration encompasses strong social connections and opportunities for economic success.

Welcoming Communities

- Career Planning
- Employer Partnerships
- Re-credentialing and Reskilling
- Vocational Training
- Housing

Achieve Economic Security

- Extended Case Management
- Mental Health Programs
- Gender Based Violence Programming

Overcome or Manage Vulnerabilities

- Cultural Orientation
- High School/GED
- Computer and Financial Literacy
- English Instruction

Build Skills for Successful U.S. Life

- Peer Support Groups
- Civic Engagement
- Volunteers/mentors
- Circles of Welcome/Co-sponsors
- Service Partnerships

Build Essential Networks for Social Connections

10/3/2018