

The National and the Local Issues of Welcoming Newcomers

Jon Buuck, Director of Development

Peter Vogelaar, Senior District Director



Experiencing a Radical Welcome

Peter's story



LCSNW – wraparound programs & services



- Reception & Placement
- Circle of Welcome
- Housing
- Health (Behavioral, Outreach & Engagement)
- Employment
- Language
- Case Management & Family Services

Global Refuge

Amazing Leaders



Mayor Wilmot Collins

Global Refuge

Refugee Resettlement

Children & Family Services

New American Lending

Immigration Legal Services

Camino a Casa

Discussion Questions

Who are our new neighbors?

How do our communities of faith offer a warm welcome?

How can our communities of faith participate in the welcome?

Our new neighbors – refugees

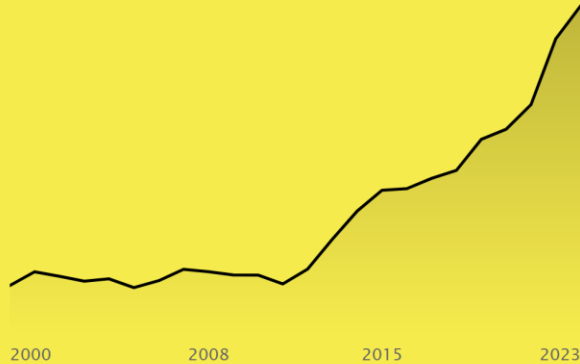
A person owing to well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality and is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country... (1951 UNHCR Convention)

Our new neighbors – refugees

117.3 MILLION

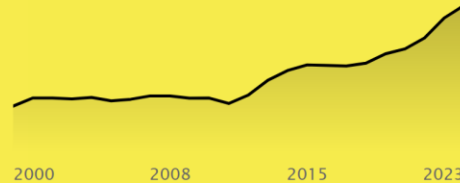
Forcibly displaced people worldwide

at the end of 2023 as a result of persecution, conflict, violence, human rights violations or events seriously disturbing public order.



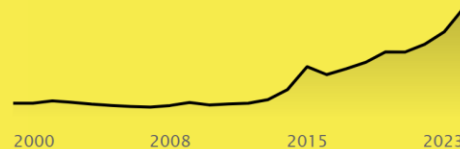
68.3 MILLION

are internally displaced people (Source: IDMC)



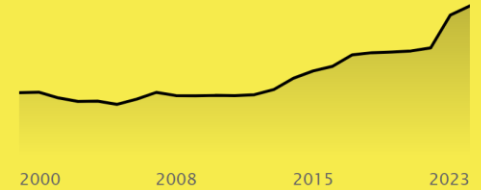
6.9 MILLION

are asylum-seekers



37.6 MILLION

are refugees



5.8 MILLION

are other people in need of international protection

Our new neighbors – refugees

Source of Refugees

Afghanistan	6.4 Million
Syrian Arab Republic	6.4 Million
Venezuela	6.1 Million
Ukraine	6.0 Million
South Sudan	2.3 Million

47 Million Children - 339,000 Born/YR Refugees

158,700 Refugees were Resettled in 2023

85,698 US resettled Oct 2023 – Aug 2024

28,503 US SIVs Oct 2023 – Aug 2024



Our new neighbors - refugees



U.S. Resettlement Process

Our new neighbors – asylees

Asylees are individuals who, on their own, travel to the United States and subsequently apply for/receive a grant of asylum. Asylees do not enter the United States as refugees. They may enter as students, tourists, businessmen, or even in undocumented status. Once in the U.S., or at a land border or port of entry, they apply to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) for asylum.

Our new neighbors – burden or opportunity?

Cost of resettlement

Housing, cultural adjustment, racism,
language, medical

Revitalizing Communities!

Financial burden on the US for welcoming
newcomers?

Employment using their skills – story of Zahr
family



The Preferred Refugee Employers program connects employers whose business practices support New Americans with refugee and immigrant job-seekers.

CARDINAL IG
A CARDINAL GLASS INDUSTRIES COMPANY



Offering a Warm Welcome

How can your community of faith welcome refugees

History of welcoming refugees and stories of welcome



Offering a Warm Welcome

Circle of Welcome

Volunteering

Fresh Change

Advocate – Afghan Adjustment

Act



Telling the Story

How are you narrating a story of welcome while preaching, messaging to your community of faith?

