



New American Pathways

HELPING REFUGEES AND GEORGIA THRIVE

Welcome Home: The Role of Faith Communities in Helping
Refugees Rebuild Their Lives in the United States



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Who is a Refugee?



Invited by the U.S. government, a refugee has escaped his or her homeland fleeing persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion and has come to the United States to build a better life.



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The Need for Durable Solutions

- At over 51 million, there are more forcibly displaced people in the world today than anytime since data on this population has been collected
- The average stay in a refugees camp is eight to ten years
- Large outflows of refugees from war zones and failed states are straining the resources of neighboring countries and can have a destabilizing effects
- Resettlement in a country like the United States offers safety, stability and opportunity to refugee families and can bring economic benefits to the host community



A Refugee's Journey

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Flight from home



*Arrival in refugee
camp*



Life in refugee camp



*Selection for
resettlement*



Resettlement



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Where Are Refugees Coming From?



Bhutan



Iraq, Syria, Afghanistan



The DRC and Somalia



Burma/Myanmar



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U.S. Refugee Resettlement Program

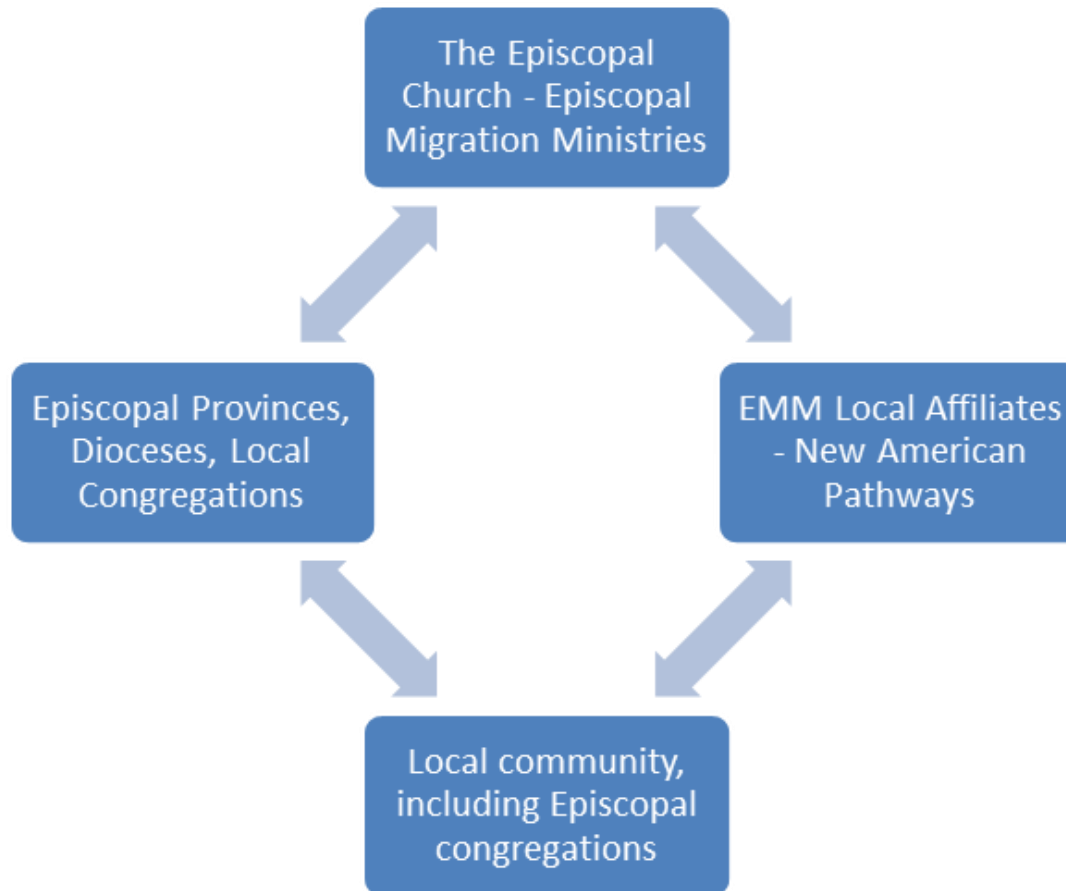
- Began with faith and community organizations assisting refugees coming to the U.S. during World War II
- Became more formalized with the refugee act of 1980
- Today the U.S. State Department partners with nine national resettlement agencies and their affiliate networks to resettle approximately 70,000 refugees across the U.S. each year
- Episcopal Migration Ministries (EMM) is one of nine national resettlement agencies and has affiliates throughout the country.





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Role of the Episcopal Church





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Mission and Statement of Impact

Mission: To help refugees and Georgia thrive

Impact statement:
Refugees and immigrants in Metro Atlanta are successful, contributing and welcomed members of Georgia's Communities



Continuum of Service





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Programs Along the Pathway

- Resettlement and Resource Navigation
- Career Services
- Education and Youth
- Family Engagement
- Immigration Services
- Community Leadership





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How Can Faith Partners Be Involved?



- Faith partners and volunteers play an important role in welcoming refugees. Some of the ways faith partners can help:
 - Direct Services
 - Family match
 - English tutoring
 - Tutoring children in after school programs
 - Employment Coaching
 - Co-sponsorship / Apartment Set-up
 - Indirect Services
 - Help maintain and sort clothing and basic needs donations
 - Administrative support
 - Advocacy
 - Help raise emergency funding



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New American Pathways www.newamericanpathways.org

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Video link: <http://newamericanpathways.org/new-video-the-story-of-cer/>

Episcopal Migration Ministries www.episcopalmigrationministries.org).

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