



# Refugee Resettlement Program (RRP) Fact Sheet

## 1. What is the Refugee Resettlement Program?

The Refugee Resettlement Program is a federally funded program, through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR). The purpose of the RRP is to ensure the effective resettlement of refugees in the State of New Mexico through programs designed to meet one or more of the State's three major goals:

- A. To provide for the effective resettlement of refugees within the shortest possible time, after entrance into the State, using coordinated supportive services. Effective resettlement means the refugee's ability to access community resources to meet his or her basic needs related to employment, English Language Training (ELT), skills training, medical care, and social and cultural adjustments.
- B. To promote economic self-sufficiency for refugees within the shortest possible time after entrance into the State through employment and acculturation by the coordinated use of financial, medical, and supportive services. Economic self-sufficiency is gainful employment in:
  - 1) a non-subsidized job for at least 90-days;
  - 2) receipt of a minimum wage;
  - 3) a job that provides for basic economic needs of the person and family without reliance on public assistance.
- C. To protect the refugees and the community from infectious disease and health related issues during resettlement

The RRP includes Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA), Refugee Medical Assistance (RMA), domestic health screening, and academic support for school-age children, as well as employment training and social services to eligible populations. Eligible populations include: Refugees, Asylees, Cuban and Haitian Entrants, certain Amerasians from Vietnam, victims of trafficking who receive certification from ORR, and Iraqi and Afghan Special Immigrants (SIV). RRP funded cash and medical assistance are "categories of last resort." RRP eligible populations meet the immigration requirements for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Medicaid, and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. Refugees should receive an eligibility determination for TANF and Medicaid before determining eligibility for RCA or RMA.

## 2. Refugee Resettlement Provider

In New Mexico, one agency has been approved to provide resettlement services by the Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM). The resettlement agency is located in Albuquerque. Lutheran Family Services (LFS) provides Reception and Placement Services to newly arrived refugees. They also provide academic support for school-

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age children as well as employment and social services through a Services Agreement (SA) with the Human Service Department/Income Support Division (HSD/ISD).

### 3. Number of Refugees & Cuban/Haitian Entrants Resettled in New Mexico by Federal Fiscal Year

Federal Fiscal Year (FFY)	Number of Refugees
FFY16	513
FFY15	402
FFY14	285
FFY13	336
FFY12	216

(NOTE: Table includes Refugees and Cuban/Haitian Entrants and it is based on Arrival Data provided by Lutheran Family Services and Catholic Charities)

### 4. Refugee Resettlement Program Elements

#### ► **Refugee Medical Assistance (RMA)**

- Refugees and other eligible populations should first receive an eligibility determination for Medicaid. Those who do not qualify for Medicaid may be eligible for RMA.
- RMA is available for 8 months from the date of arrival in the U.S.

#### ► **Refugee Health Screening**

- Prior to resettlement, refugees receive an international health screening. Through a General Services Agreement (GSA) between HSD and the New Mexico Department of Health (DOH), DOH provides a comprehensive domestic health screening for all newly arrived refugees. DOH's Health Screening Program screens Refugees for both physical and mental health concerns. Referrals are made for appropriate follow up services.

#### ► **Refugee Social Services**

- Lutheran Family Services provides comprehensive employment and social services for all refugees and other eligible immigrant populations as part of the Refugee Social Services Program funded through a SA with HSD.
- Services are available for first five years in the U.S. to eligible immigrant populations.
- Services include:
  - Case Management
  - Employment preparation
  - Job placement
  - Skills training
  - English language training (ELT)
  - Social adjustment

#### ► **Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA)**

- Refugees and other eligible populations who do not qualify for TANF (adults without children) are eligible for RCA.
- RCA is available for 8 months from the date of arrival.
- Income and Resource Limits are the same as TANF.

► **TANF and other Support Services**

In addition, to those initial resettlement support services mentioned above, the following supports are available to refugees and other eligible populations:

- TANF: All refugees and other qualified populations are evaluated for TANF eligibility. General TANF eligibility includes: legal immigration status, a dependent child in the household, and income below 85% of Federal Poverty Guidelines. Refugees and other qualified populations can receive TANF assistance for up to five years.
- Medicaid: All refugees and other qualified populations are evaluated for Medicaid.

Refugees and other qualified populations also are evaluated for other federal benefit programs based on income limits. For these programs, there is no maximum benefit time period. These programs include:

- SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program)
- LIHEAP (Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program)

**5. Refugee Cash Assistance Guidelines** (Note: Table is the same as TANF Guidelines)

House- hold Size	Federal Poverty Guidelines (FPG) Monthly Income Standards		
	100% FPG Limit	85% FPG Gross Limit	NM Works Cash Net Income
1	\$990	\$842	\$266
2	\$1,335	\$1,135	\$357
3	\$1,680	\$1,428	\$447
4	\$2,025	\$1,721	\$539
5	\$2,370	\$2,015	\$630
6	\$2,715	\$2,308	\$721
7	\$3,061	\$2,602	\$812
8	\$3,408	\$2,897	\$922
+ 1	+\$347	+\$295	+\$91

**6. Funding**

The Refugee Resettlement Program is 100% federally funded. Funding for refugees and other immigrant populations receiving TANF, Medicaid and SNAP is reflected in the source of funding for those public assistance programs and is not supplemented through the RRP.

Federal Fiscal Year	Cash, Medical & Screenings	Social Services	School Impact Grant	Cuban/ Haitian Grant	Formula or Discretionary Targeted Assistance Grant	TOTAL
FFY 16	\$816,356	\$212,467	\$100,000	0	\$87,313	\$1,129,823
FFY15	\$655,000	\$202,444	\$150,000	0	\$85,631	\$1,093,075
FFY14	\$1,450,000	\$217,630	\$145,800	0	\$162,594	\$1,976,024
FFY13	\$1,450,000	\$191,719	\$150,000	0	\$150,000	\$1,941,719
FFY12	\$1,359,244	\$192,743	\$150,000	0	\$150,000	\$1,851,987
FFY11	\$1,349,403	\$170,989	\$150,000	0	0	\$1,647,392

**7. FFY 16 Program Outcomes**

○ Number of RCA Recipients	422
○ Number of Refugees on TANF	280
○ Number of Individuals Obtained Employment	267
○ Refugee Social Service case load	403
○ Average Full-Time Salary	\$9.53

**8. Contact Information**

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