Catholic Charities Refugee and Immigration Services

Catholic Immigrant Integration Conference
October 2, 2015 El Paso, TX

“We pray for a heart which will embrace immigrants.” –Pope Francis
Catholic Charities Refugee and Immigration Division is comprised of three distinct yet overlapping programs dedicated to serving refugees and immigrants compassion and dignity while journeying with them on the road to full inclusion and participation in a just society.

- National and Local Integration of Programs: Catholic Charities USA, Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc, and US Conference of Catholic Bishops Migration and Refugee Services
Real Life Examples

“For me, successful integration in US is being **comfortable**; being comfortable in my family, my faith, my job, and with how much money I earn”

—Khiet, resettled from Viet Nam, Resettlement Program Manager, 22 years of service
Resilient • Future Citizens • Survivors
Community Interpreter Services

- Ensure limited English proficient (LEP) persons have access to mainstream services through professional interpreters.
- Improve quality of life for LEP persons
- A social enterprise of Catholic Charities; average 31% profit margin
- Reinvest net earnings into services for newcomers
- Employ immigrants & refugees
- 13,117 served in FY14
Immigration Legal Services

- CLINIC Affiliate 20+ years
- Affordable, reputable legal consultation and representation
- 7 Attorneys, 2 BIA Reps; 3 are immigrants

FY15 Services
- Civic Engagement: 32
- Education: 502
- Employment: 132
- Family Stabilization: 237
- Guidance: 681
- Protection: 157
Resettlement Services

- **US Department of State, Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration**
  - Reception and Placement Program
    - Pre-Arrival
    - Core Services
    - 90 Days

- **DHHS ACF Office of Refugee Resettlement**
  - Post Arrival Services
    - Employment
    - Cash & Medical Assistance
    - Community Support
  - Up to 5 years of eligibility
Required Evaluation for Refugees

- 90 Day Core Service Report
- Completion of Refugee Health Assessment
- Employment Placement at 90, 120, 180 days
- Employment Retention at 90 days
- Reduction/Termination of Cash Assistance & other public supports
- On-Site Monitoring
Other Measures for Consideration

- Participation in R&I Workforce
  - 12 RIS staff 1st or 2nd generation immigrants
  - 50% staff in MA voluntary agencies are former refugees
- Leadership in Mutual Assistance Associations (MAA)
  - 10 MAA in MA; 100% lead by former refugees
  - Haitian Multi-Service Center of CCAB
- Leadership or Participation in Faith Communities
  - RCAB Ethnic Apostolate: Iraqi (Chaldean), Ethiopian/Eritrean, Vietnamese
  - Karen Baptist Church, Lynn, MA
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