



ADMINISTRATION FOR
CHILDREN & FAMILIES

370 L'Enfant Promenade SW, Washington DC 20447 www.acf.hhs.gov

OFFICE OF REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT ACF REGION VIII



September 18, 2014

Where is ORR Located?

**Department of Health
and Human Services**

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graph TD; A[Department of Health and Human Services] --> B[Administration for Children and Families]; B --> C[Office of Refugee Resettlement];
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**Administration for
Children and Families**

**Office of Refugee
Resettlement**

ORR's Mission

- The mission of the Office of Refugee Resettlement is to assist refugees and other ORR eligible populations, who have ***inherent capabilities***, to establish a new life that includes the dignity of ***obtaining economic self-sufficiency*** and encompasses ***full participation in opportunities*** which Americans enjoy.

Who Is a Refugee?

- A person who is outside of any country of such person's nationality; or when a person has no nationality, outside any country where that person last resided
- Who is unable or unwilling to return to that country
- Unable or unwilling to avail him or herself of the protection of that country
- Due to persecution or a well-founded fear of persecution
 - On account of:
 - Race
 - Religion
 - Nationality
 - Membership in a particular social group
 - Political opinion

Who Does ORR Serve?

- Refugees
- Asylees
- Cuban and Haitian Entrants
- Certain Amerasians admitted as immigrants from Vietnam
- Special Immigrant Visa Holders from Iraq and Afghanistan
- Certified Victims of Human Trafficking
- Unaccompanied Alien Children

About Refugees

- Refugees come from diverse backgrounds & come with diverse experience
 - From over 75+ countries
 - Farmers to professionals
 - No/limited education to graduate level degrees (M.D., PhD)
- Refugees are:
 - Courageous Resilient Perseverant Hard working

Refugees are:

- Legally able to work - refugees, asylees, Amerasians & SIVs can work as soon as they receive their status

Refugees Road to Citizenship

1 Year

**Must apply
for green
card (LPR)**

**5 years
(from DOA)**

**Can apply
for
citizenship**

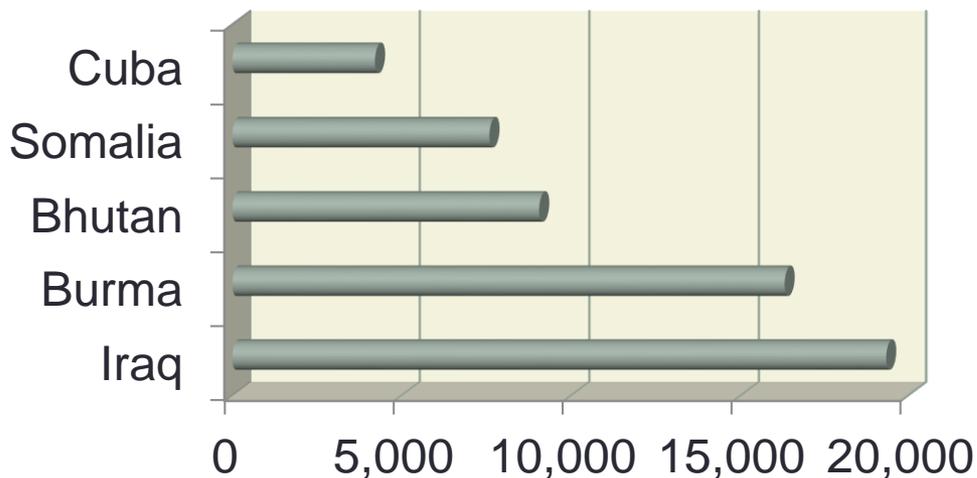
**Naturalized
Citizen**

U.S. Refugee Resettlement Program ORR Caseload Projection for FY 2014

Entry Status	Total Projected
Refugees	70,000
Asylees	29,200
Cuban/Haitian Entrants	21,000
Victims of Human Trafficking	600
Special Immigrant Visa holders (SIV)	4,000
Unaccompanied Alien Children	26,000
Total projected ORR caseload for FY 14	150,800

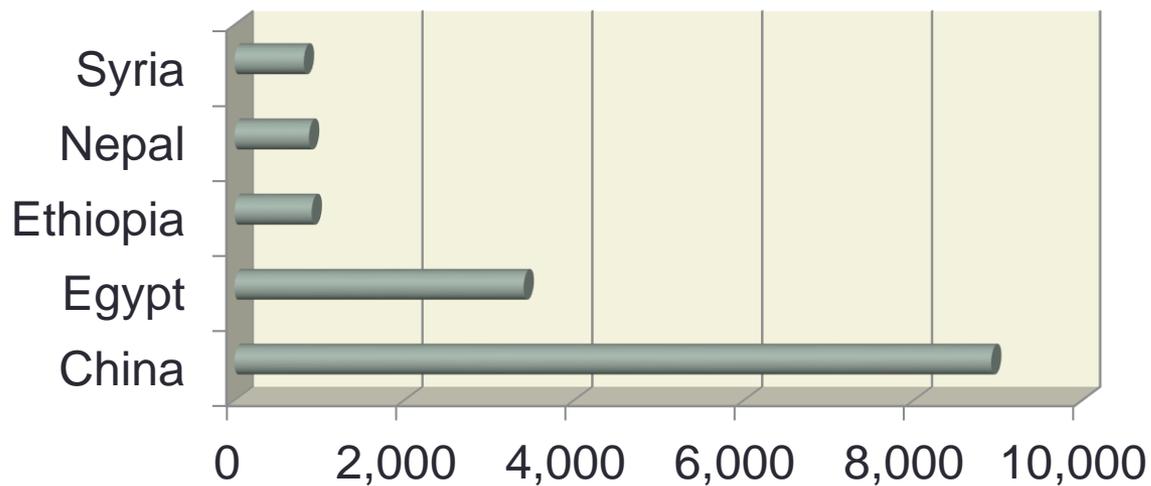
What Countries are Represented?

Refugees



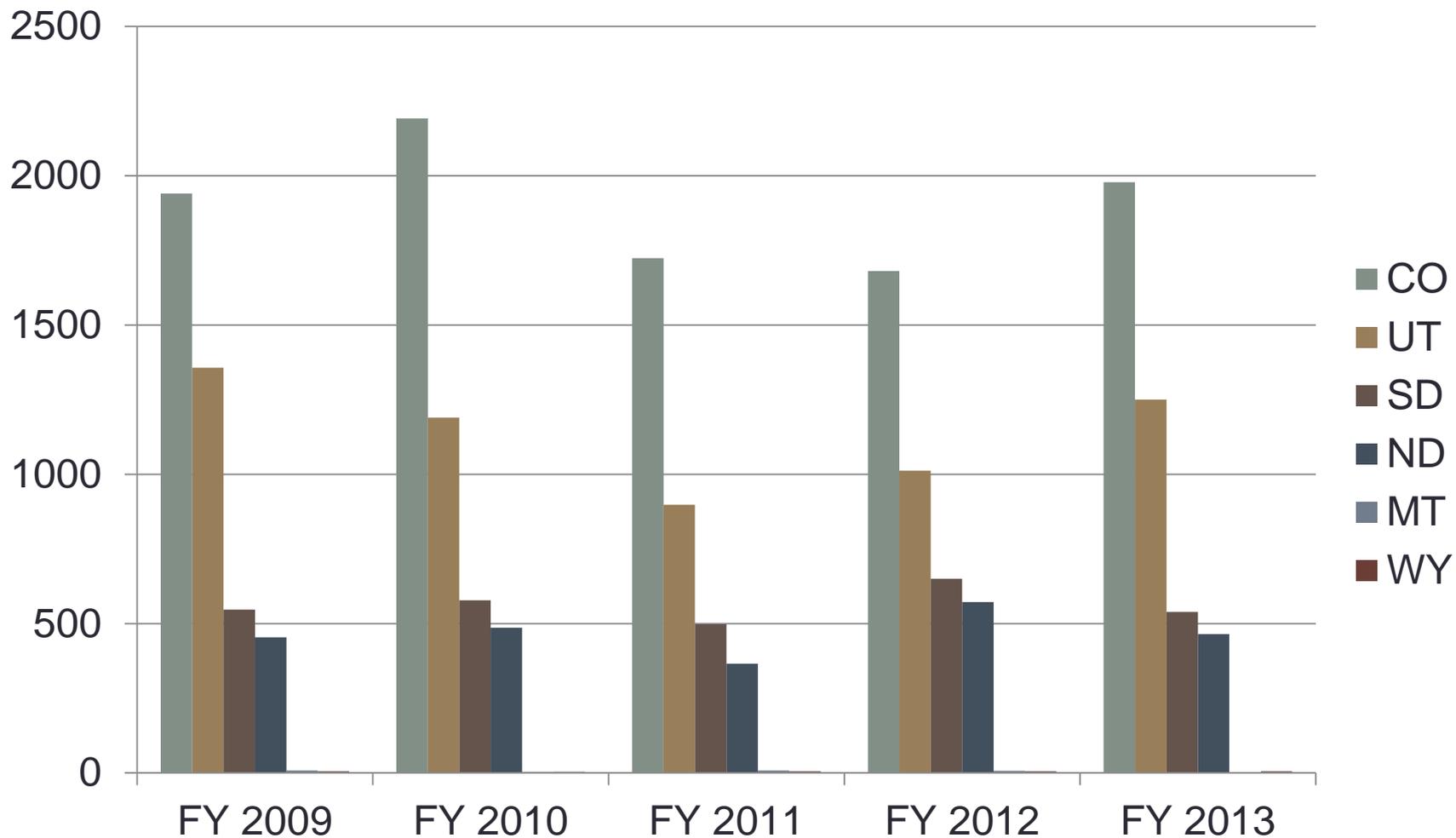
FY 2013
Top 5 Countries

Asylees



Region VIII - FY '09 – FY '13 Arrivals

(Refugees, Asylees, SIVs, C/H Entrants)



Resources on Refugee Arrivals

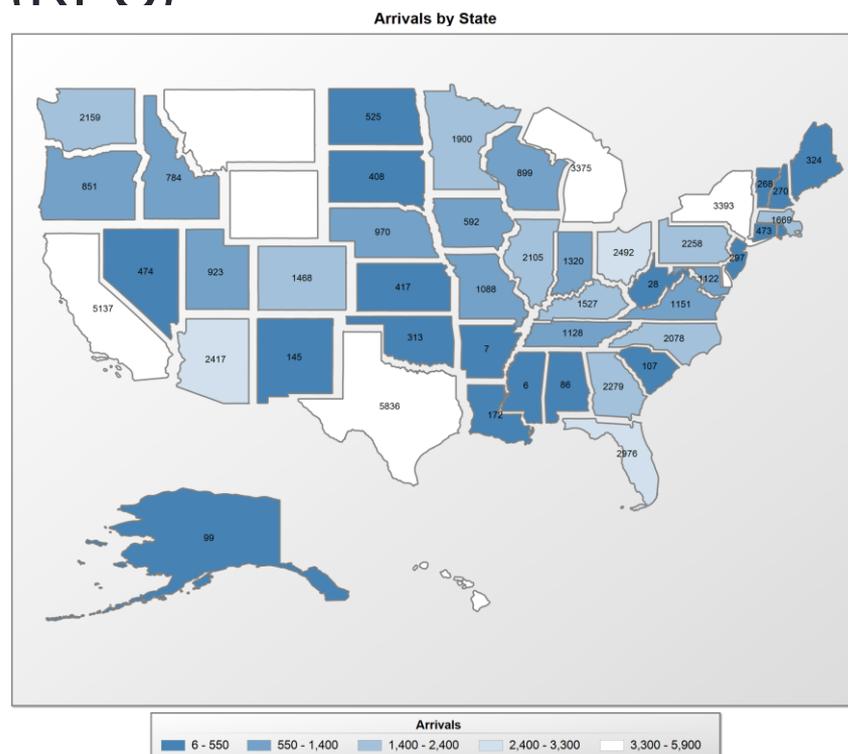
ORR's website

<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/orr/resource/refugee-arrival-data>

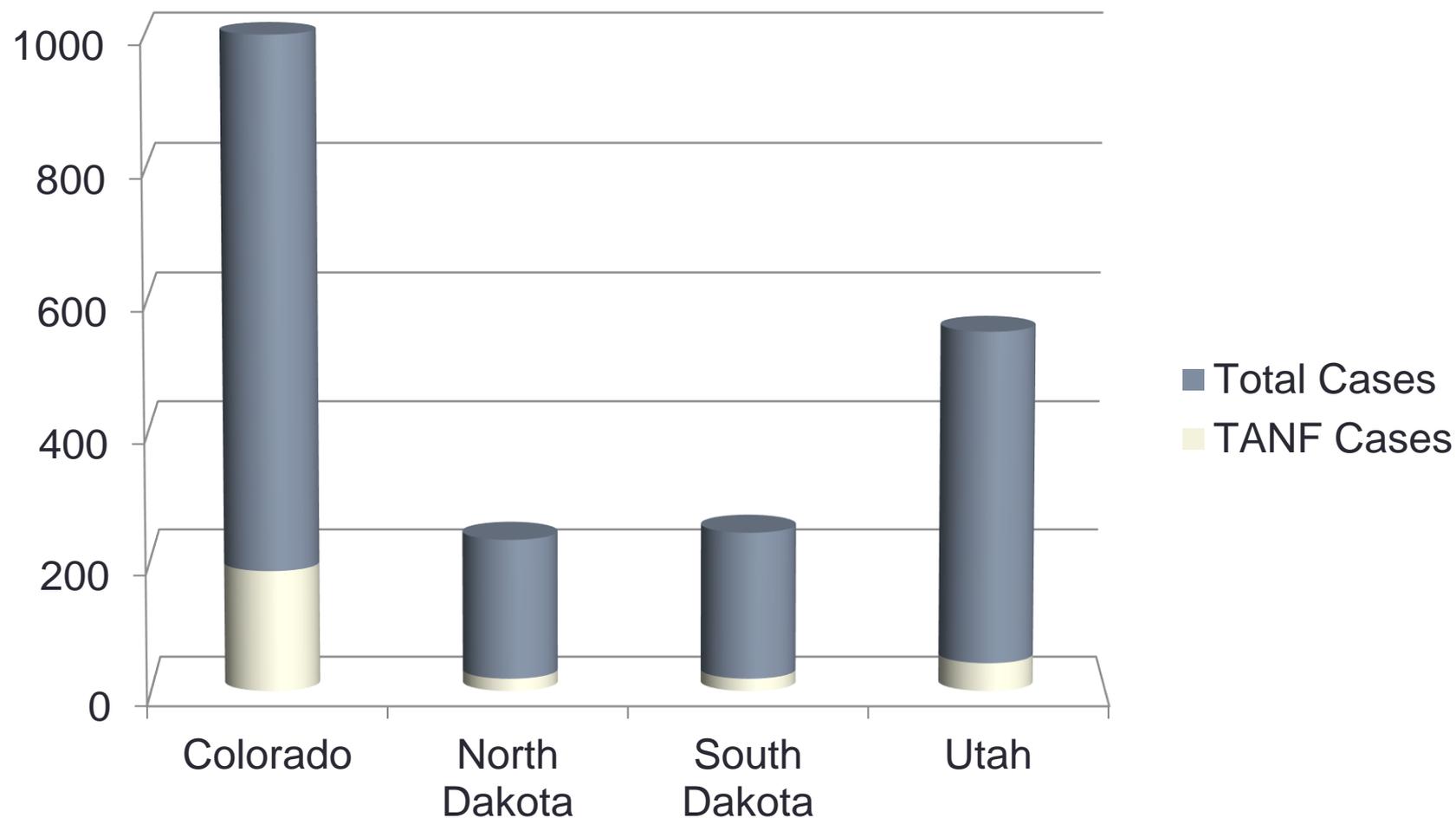
Department of State, Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM), Refugee Processing Center (RPC)

www.wrapsnet.org

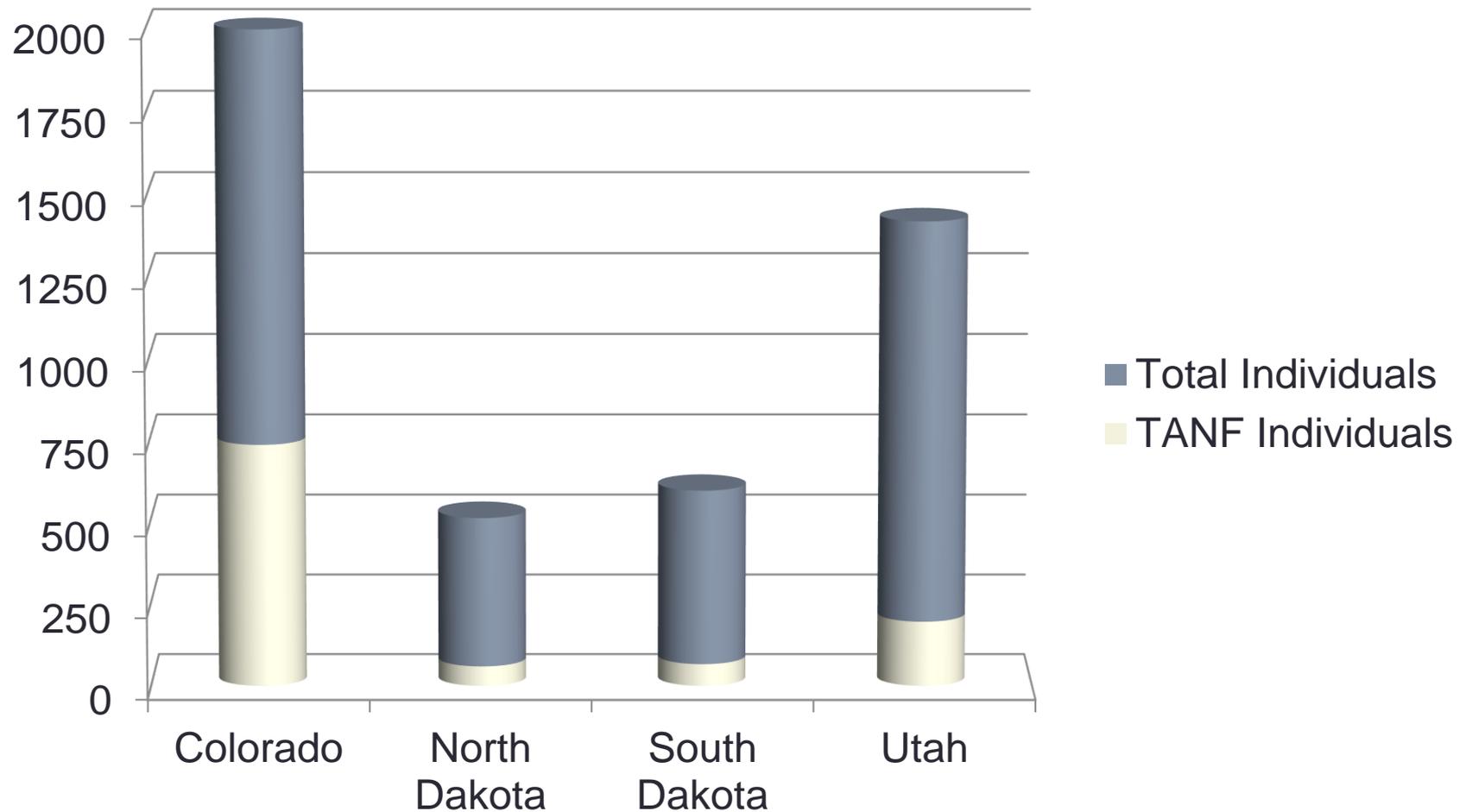
- Reports section
 - Cumulative arrivals by state for past fiscal years
 - Arrivals by state & country of origin for FY 14
 - Maps of arrivals by state for the FY
 - Top 10 languages



Refugee Arrivals - TANF Caseload – FY 2013



Refugee Arrivals - TANF Caseload – FY 2013



Refugee Resettlement in the U.S.

- **Federal Partners**
 - Department of State
 - Department of Homeland Security
 - Department of Health and Human Services
- **State Partners**
 - State Governments including State Refugee Coordinators, State Refugee Health Coordinators
- **Non-Governmental Agencies**
 - National Voluntary Agencies & Local Affiliates
 - Ethnic Community Based Organizations / Mutual Assistance Associations

How Do Refugees Come to the U.S.?



Identification of refugees (UNHCR and US embassies)



Referral to Resettlement Support Centers (9 RSCs – DOS)



DHS interviews refugees and determines status



If approved:

- Security Screening
- Medical screening
- Cultural orientation
- Travel arrangements

What Happens Prior to a Refugee's Arrival in the U.S.?

DOS/RSC convenes weekly meetings with 9 VOLAGs



National VOLAGs checks with local affiliates

One VOLAG will assure the case

Local affiliate will start preparing for arrival



Who Assists Refugees Upon Arrival?



DOS/PRM

Cooperative Agreement with National VOLAGs that extends to Local Affiliates/resettlement agencies

November, 2013

FY2014 Reception and Placement Program Affiliate Sites



Source: Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration, US Department of State

935 11-23 STATE (MPL)

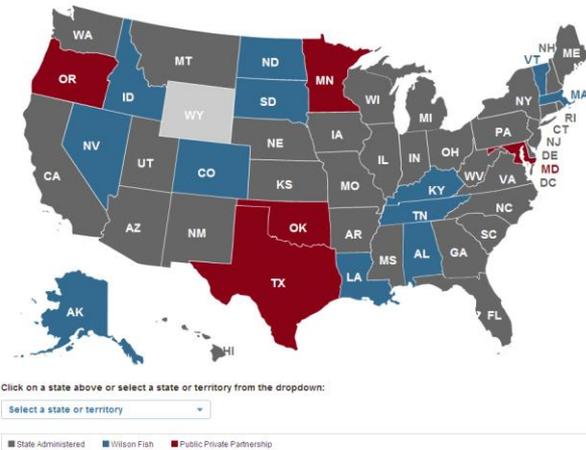
Initial Reception & Placement Period – 30 days



HHS/ORR

- Grants to states & other partners to provide services

State Programs Annual Overview



- Services are geared towards new arrivals
- Some services can extend up to 5 years after arrival

How Does ORR Serve Refugees?

1. Grants – to States and Resettlement Agencies
 - Through our partnerships, refugees receive services
2. Outreach/Engagement with refugees, federal, state & local partners
3. Monitoring and Technical Assistance

ORR Formula Grants/ Programs

- Cash and Medical Assistance (CMA)
- Refugee Social Services (RSS)*
- Targeted Assistance Formula (TAG)*

Cash and Medical Assistance (CMA)

- Under ORR's state-administered programs, individual refugees are eligible to receive up to **eight (8) months** of:
 - Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA) **and**
 - Refugee Medical Assistance (RMA)

Note: Refugee families may be eligible for TANF and Medicaid, depending on their state's eligibility standards.

- Welfare cash benefit levels are established by state governments.

RSS and TAG

- Services under RSS & TAG are intended to assist refugees obtain employment **within one year's participation** in the program and achieve self-sufficiency.
- Social services under this program include:
 - Employment services
 - Employment assessment services and on-the-job training
 - English language instruction
 - Vocational training
 - Case management
 - Translation/Interpreter Services

ORR Discretionary Grants/ Programs

- Cuban Haitian (C/H)
- Discretionary Targeted Assistance (TAG-D)
- Ethnic Community Self-Help
- Individual Development Accounts
- Matching Grant
- Microenterprise Development (including Home Based Child Care)
- Preferred Communities
- Preventive Health
- Refugee Agriculture Partnership
- Refugee School Impact (RSI)
- Services to Older Refugees (SOR)
- Supplemental Services to Newly Arriving Refugees
- Survivors of Torture
- Technical Assistance (TA)
- Wilson Fish (WF)

ORR Outreach/Engagement

- New Regional Structure
 - To engage with refugees, local communities, states and federal partners
- ORR assistance is time limited – we want to build bridges to mainstream partners
- Philosophy - working in the best interests of refugees
 - Refugees have a voice
 - Strengths based approach
 - Positive messaging

ORR Provides Monitoring & Technical Assistance

- Monitoring of states and grantees
- TA to states, resettlement agencies, grantees of various programs
- Award TA grants

ORR Technical Assistance Providers



Great Models of Collaboration between TANF and Refugee Services Offices

<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/orr/resource/tanf-refugee-program-partnerships>

- Utah – assist TANF eligible refugees to have two years of intensive case management/work assistance
- Colorado – CRSP contracts with resettlement agencies to provide the Refugee-TANF population with culturally and linguistically appropriate workforce services

**How successful are you
with your refugee clients?**

Colorado – Pre TANF/Refugee Partnership

- Prior to the partnership, the TANF-refugee population was served by the counties &
- non TANF refugees were served by Volags

- Refugees were on 2 separate tracks - not a lot of program compatibility

CRSP & CO Works Partnership

- In FY '06, the partnership between the Colorado Refugee Services Program (CRSP) and CO Works (TANF) began
- Beginning of FY 2010, CRSP received TANF funds to assist the Refugee-TANF population
- CDHS listed refugees in their 2012 TANF State Plan
- In SFY '14, CRSP received \$2.7 million for 2 purposes
 - 1st – assist the special needs & strengths of refugees as they pursue self-sufficiency
 - 2nd – assist refugees sustain BCA and meet WPR requirements

Partnership Structure

Colorado Works

Counties

- Eligibility Determinations
- Distribution of BCA
- Sanctions
- Assessment – different levels of involvement for counties

CO Refugee Services Program

Resettlement Agencies

- Assessment
- IRCs
- Determines workforce readiness
- Case management
- Supportive services
 - (e.g. case management, cultural orientation, ESL, job readiness, employment training etc..) in a *culturally and linguistically appropriate* manner

CRSP & CO Works Partnership

- Partnership between CRSP & CO Works met both divisions' goals
 - Provided cultural and linguistically appropriate services to the Refugee-TANF population in CO
 - Created a holistic approach in serving refugees
 - Ensured refugees were becoming economically self-sufficient as soon as possible – which aligned with CO ReWorks – to ensure a flexible approach resulting in employment outcomes for clients

CO Partnership - Obstacles

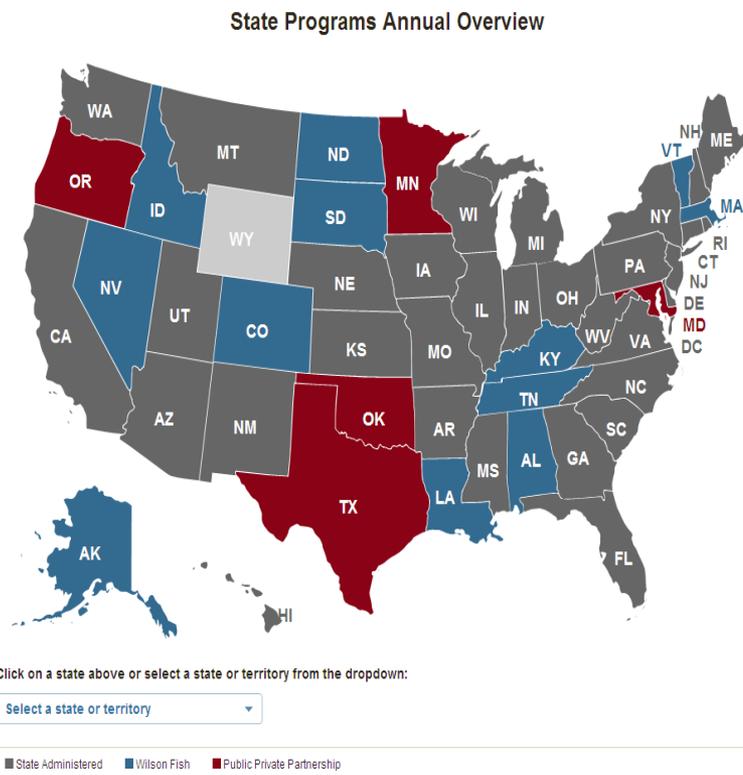
- Different definitions/ measures of success for programs
 - How to combine different perspectives, have fidelity to the rules
- TANF standard
 - staff, counties and states are held accountable to the Federal Work Participation Rate (FWPR)
- ORR's Congressional Mandate
 - Refugees should become economically self-sufficient as soon as possible
 - Generally speaking, refugees are encouraged to take the first decent job they are offered; no time built in for training, ESL, acculturation, etc..
 - CRSP – new employment model implemented by CRSP and resettlement – motivated, reliable, dependable
- Counties with different ways to administer TANF (e.g. Denver County – 12 month limit on not work ready)

Partnership Benefits

- Resettlement agencies are:
 - Prepared to serve refugees in a culturally and linguistically appropriate manner
 - Created to be a public private partnership - resettlement agencies have a strong ability to leverage TANF dollars with private funds, volunteer hours, etc..
 - CO Model - FY 12 – CRSP contributed \$1.6 million in allowable revenue that counted towards CO MOE – big impact with the small % of Refugee TANF population
 - through that contribution, CO could through caseload reduction credits reduce their Workforce Participation Rate
- Counties did not have to spend a lot of time working with refugees or building up cultural or linguistic expertise for a small percentage of their overall TANF population

Opportunities for Collaboration

- Connect with your SRC
 - Learn more about resettlement agencies in your state (i.e. services they provide, employment outcomes etc..)
- Reach out to TANF RPM or feel free to contact me



<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/orr>

Questions?

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Region VIII

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