



## **THE UNITED STATES REFUGEE ASSISTANCE AND RESETTLEMENT PROGRAMS**

The United States is a leader in protecting and assisting persecuted and uprooted people. We are the single largest donor of overseas humanitarian assistance in the world, providing more than \$6 billion through the Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM) and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) in Fiscal Year 2014. We also resettle more refugees than the rest of the world combined – nearly 70,000 in Fiscal Year 2014.

**ASSISTANCE:** The United States assists these people, as well as other conflict victims, stateless persons, and vulnerable migrants working through both international and non-governmental organizations, including the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the UN World Food Program, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the UN Children’s Fund, the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, and the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

U.S. humanitarian assistance provided through these organizations keeps millions of people alive every day in nearly every country where vulnerable people need assistance. From Syria to South Sudan, U.S. government-funded programs protect vulnerable populations, including women and girls, from the very onset of emergencies; provide health care, shelter, water, and food to those in need; and assist growing numbers of urban refugees in countries straining to host them.

**Protection and humanitarian diplomacy:** The United States engages diplomatically around the world to protect refugees and find lasting solutions to their displacement. These efforts have helped ensure countries do not return refugees to dangerous places, assisted aid agencies reach people in need, and ensured that a larger number of countries accept refugees for resettlement.

**REFUGEE ADMISSIONS:** The U.S. Refugee Admissions program has brought more than three million refugees to America’s shores since 1975. The program is a testament to effective public-private partnerships between international organizations like UNHCR and IOM, not-for-profit resettlement agencies, as well as federal, state, and local governments. These partnerships ensure refugees get started on the right foot in America by helping them obtain adequate housing, enroll in English or school programs, locate grocery stores, and find jobs. These partnerships turn the promise of America - as a land that welcomes refugees - into a reality.

**Self Sufficiency:** The U.S. government’s goal is to help refugees become self-sufficient as quickly as possible. After they arrive, refugees begin looking for jobs, learning English, and enrolling in training programs. They save money and pay back the loans that financed their travel to the United States. You may see them in your cities restocking groceries, driving taxis, or taking classes, and never guess that they survived harrowing journeys prior to arriving in America.

*Our refugee programs exhibit what’s best about America—humanitarianism, cultural diversity, public-private partnerships, and a belief in new beginnings.*

