



Extending an extravagant welcome to refugees is an engaging way for churches to respond in faithfulness to the gospel mandate to “welcome the stranger.” Refugee & Immigration Ministries is a life transforming ministry involved in helping refugees begin a new life while advocating for the safety and fair treatment of all refugees and immigrants.



## THE GLOBAL REFUGEE CRISIS

Refugees are people who, because of war, persecution and oppression, are forced to flee their homes, leaving behind all they have known for an uncertain future. **There are about 12 million refugees in the world today.** Refugees fear persecution in their home countries, making them unable or unwilling to return. Many languish in refugee camps for a decade or more. Less than one percent will begin a new life in another country such as the United States. **Added to the refugee crisis are 23 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) who live in peril in their own country.**

## REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT

You are invited to participate in welcoming refugees! The path to early self sufficiency for a refugee family can be steep. Your church can make all the difference. Through co-sponsorship with a Church World Service refugee resettlement affiliate, your congregation can help with:

- Prayer
- A warm welcome at the airport
- Friendship
- Transportation
- Housing and furnishings
- Food
- Clothing
- Enrollment of children in school
- English tutoring or enrollment in ESL classes
- Medical and dental check-ups
- Securing Social Security cards
- Employment
- Orientation to the community



*your support makes a difference! share resources. change lives.*

## ADVOCACY

**You can advocate for refugees and immigrants.**

As people of faith, we are all called to change unjust policies that erode human dignity and force people from their homes. It is important to speak up for those who cannot vote. Through the UCC Justice and Peace Advocacy Network, you can join in upholding the dignity of God’s people whatever their nationality or status. To join, log on to: [www.ucctakeaction.org/join](http://www.ucctakeaction.org/join). To find out more information about advocacy issues log on to [www.ucc.org/refugees](http://www.ucc.org/refugees) and [www.ucctakeaction.org](http://www.ucctakeaction.org).

## ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING AND REFUGEES

Gifts to the One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) offering reach around the world, addressing the needs of refugees and uprooted people through the provision of food, shelter, health care, education, vocational training, advocacy and resettlement. Through Church World Service’s Durable Solutions for Displaced Persons initiative, OGHS addresses the needs of refugee youth for education and vocational training in Tanzania; supports health care in Afghanistan; provides food for Burmese refugees on the Thai border; and offers information to refugees in refugee camps – promoting durable solutions which last. Your support makes a difference! Share resources. Change lives.



## REFUGEE ENDOWMENT FUND

A gift to the II Corinthians 6:10 Refugee Endowment Fund is a lasting commitment to assist refugees in the United States. Income from the endowment supports programs that enable resettled refugees to thrive in their new communities. Endowment grants have helped Somali Bantu refugees in Tucson establish a fruit and vegetable gleaning network and provided tutoring for refugee adults and youth in Cleveland. Make a gift on-line at [www.ucc.org/refugees](http://www.ucc.org/refugees) or send your gift made out to Wider Church Ministries along with the attached response card.

## I am interested in Refugee & Immigration Ministries

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Church Name \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor’s Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_

### Please send the following information:

- How to get started with refugee resettlement
- In the Eyes of a Stranger* - A video about refugee resettlement
- Advocacy issues for refugees and immigrants
- Durable solutions for displaced persons
- II Corinthians 6:10 Refugee Endowment Fund

### I would like to make a tax deductible gift to:

- II Corinthians 6:10 Refugee Endowment Fund

### Send this completed form to:

Refugee & Immigration Ministries  
Wider Church Ministries  
United Church of Christ  
700 Prospect Avenue East  
Cleveland, Ohio 44115-1100

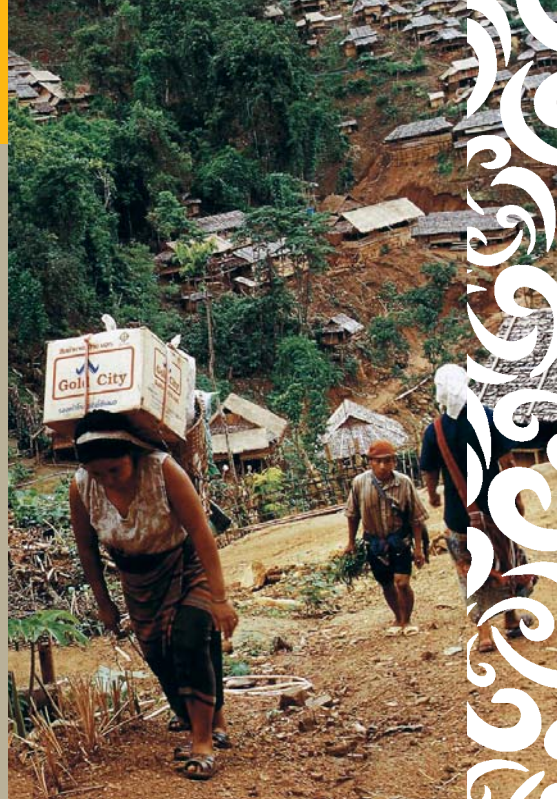
or

Fax to: 216-736-2294



“We all thought we did not have the ‘time’ to properly prepare to host a family again. After all, when we speak of God’s ‘kairos’ all we are speaking of is God’s time! We prayed about it and God opened our hearts, and we opened our doors.”

*Rev. Dr. James E. Foucher, Jr.  
United Church of Montbello  
Denver, CO*



“The Bible tells us we are to welcome strangers as if we were receiving Jesus as our guest. There are millions of refugees who need our hospitality. A resettlement with us means a new life for the refugees and a hope of achieving peace and stability in their lives.”

*Ed Ballam  
Refugee Committee Coordinator  
First Congregational Church  
Haverhill, NH*



“God is still speaking,”



## Refugee & Immigration Ministries

“I was a stranger and you welcomed me.”  
Matthew 25:35

### WIDER CHURCH MINISTRIES

United Church of Christ  
700 Prospect Avenue  
Cleveland, Ohio 44115

email: [wcm@ucc.org](mailto:wcm@ucc.org)

phone: 216-736-3216 or 3212

toll free: 866-822-8224 ext. 3216 or 3212

[www.ucc.org/refugees](http://www.ucc.org/refugees)

**UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST**



**WIDER CHURCH MINISTRIES**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST