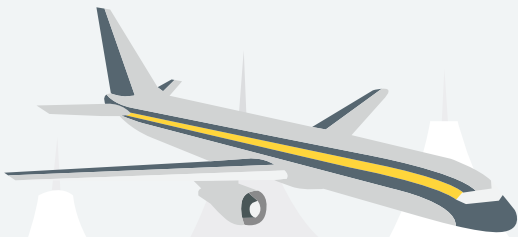


SERVICE PLAN OVERVIEW

FROM ARRIVAL INTEGRATION



CORE SERVICES



Refugees are **WELCOMED** into their new homes by resettlement agencies and volunteers.

CULTURAL ORIENTATION helps refugees adapt to American culture and systems.

Refugees enroll in **EDUCATION**: ESL, adult ed, and neighborhood schools.

Local employers **HIRE** refugees; refugees support their families with **EARNED INCOME**.

Job clubs, training, and career counseling assist refugees along an individualized **PATH TO EMPLOYMENT**.

Refugees receive **HEALTH AND EMOTIONAL WELLNESS** check-ups at community health centers.

VILLAGE SUPPORT

Community programs assist refugees in **REBUILDING** their lives.

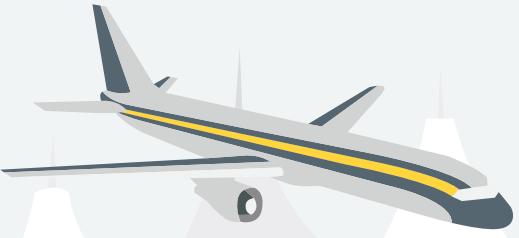
Refugees bring their skill sets into new **CAREER OPPORTUNITIES**.

HOLISTIC services support refugees. Integrated refugees support newcomers.

Refugees continue on the path to **CITIZENSHIP** and **CONTRIBUTE** to their local communities.

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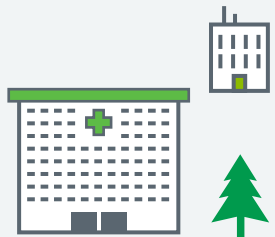
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COLORADO REFUGEE SERVICES

OVERVIEW OF REFUGEES IN COLORADO



Fleeing home is often the only choice for refugee parents wanting safety for their children:

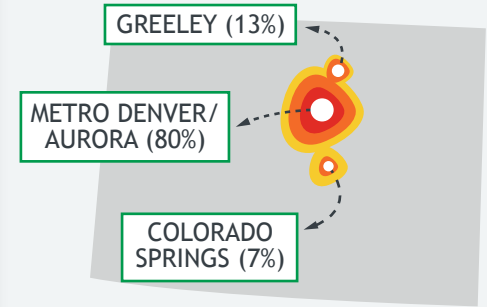
More than **60%** of refugees are parents with children at home



37% of refugees are children



Refugees settle within three main areas of Colorado:



Refugees still only make up less than 1% of the total population in Colorado

YEARS IN COLORADO:
Two Years in Denver

REASON FOR FLEEING:
Threatened by Soldiers

CHILDREN'S FAVORITE SUBJECTS:
Math and Gym

CHILDREN'S AGES:
8 (Grade 2), 10 (Grade 4)

LANGUAGES SPOKEN:
Swahili, English, some French

OCCUPATION:
Security Guard (Father)

ITEMS BROUGHT FROM HOME:
Family Photos

FAVORITE AMERICAN HOLIDAY:
Thanksgiving

Refugees have fled their countries due to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion.

Historically in Colorado, the top countries of refugee origin align with war, oppression, violence and their aftermath:



1982
VIETNAM



1992
SOVIET UNION



1998
BOSNIA



2017
AFGHANISTAN

Colorado refugees continue to come from all over the world to seek safety, sanctuary and opportunity.

2016 top countries of origin:



BURMA



IRAQ



AFGHANISTAN



BHUTAN



CONGO



The population served by refugee programs also includes other populations of humanitarian concern, including Special Immigrant Visa holders (people who served as interpreters in Afghanistan and Iraq for the U.S. military), Cubans, people granted asylum status, and victims of trafficking.



COLORADO
Office of Economic Security
Division of Employment & Benefits

COLORADO REFUGEE SERVICES

OVERVIEW OF REFUGEE EMPLOYMENT IN COLORADO



50% of refugees report that their current job doesn't match their education level:

Nearly **30%** partake in industry-specific job training within their first year to gain needed skills for better jobs



The majority of refugees of all ages take English courses to help them attain jobs that match their skill sets



NAME: Mina Najjar

YEARS IN COLORADO: Three

EDUCATION: University of Baghdad

FIRST JOB IN AMERICA: Customer Service

CURRENT JOB IN AMERICA: Health Navigator

TOP 3

most common first jobs for Colorado's refugees:



Production Workers

Housekeepers



Cashiers

HOUSEHOLD: Husband and three kids

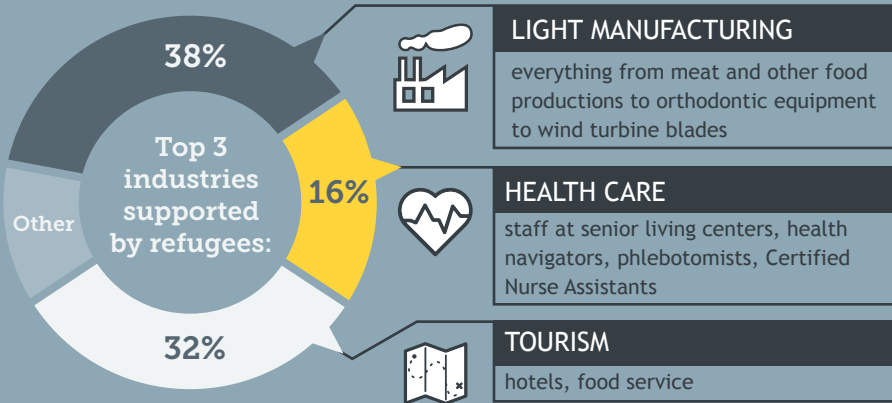
LANGUAGES SPOKEN: Arabic, English

JOB IN IRAQ: Dentist

FAVORITE PART ABOUT CURRENT JOB IN U.S.: Helping individuals overcome barriers to health care

CAREER GOAL: Orthodontist

FAVORITE THING ABOUT WORKING: Providing for my family and utilizing my skills and experience to help others in need



Other Top Industries Include: shipping and material moving, transportation, sales, construction and protective services

In Year One:

The average length of time from arrival to employment is less than three months for most of Colorado's refugees.



The average wage for refugees: **\$11.79/hour**

394 employers in Colorado rely on refugee employees in an average year



By Year Three:

By year three, refugees have obtained certificates and additional work experience that help them fill skilled employment gaps in Colorado's fast growing industries such as construction.

The majority of refugees are comfortable speaking English



The median income of refugee families has more than doubled since their first year in Colorado



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