

Tennessee Office for Refugees

"Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares."

To: Representatives of local government
Chairperson, Budget Committee (of city council or county legislative body)
Chairpersons, House and Senate Committees on State and Local Government
Local Refugee Resettlement Program

From: Holly Johnson, State Refugee Coordinator



Date: October 21, 2013

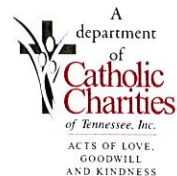
Re: Quarterly report on refugee resettlement for the period 7.1.2013 – 9.30.2013

Herein, please find information on actual arrivals for the period of this report.

Tennessee remains a very strong and welcoming state for refugees fleeing persecution in their homelands. Thank you for your continued support and concern for the well-being of refugees in your community. Please contact me (hjohnson@cctenn.org or (615) 354.5700) or your local refugee resettlement agency(ies) if you have any questions. Local agency contact information is below.

| Agency | Contact Person | Address | Phone | Email |
|--|--------------------|--|--------------|--|
| Bridge Refugee Services - Chattanooga | Marina Peshterianu | 4791/A Hal Drive Chattanooga TN 37416 | 423-954-9288 | marinapesh@aol.com |
| Bridge Refugee Services - Knoxville | Jennifer Cornwell | 7035 Middlebrook Pike Suite A Knoxville TN 37909 | 865-540-1311 | jenatbridge@aol.com |
| Catholic Charities Memphis | Duke Wheeler | 1325 Jefferson Ave Memphis TN 38104 | 901-722-4714 | dwheeler@cctenn.org |
| Catholic Charities Nashville | Kellye Branson | 10 South 6th St. Nashville TN 37206 | 615-259-3567 | kbranson@cctenn.org |
| Nashville International Center for Empowerment | Gatluk Thach | 3221 Nolensville Pike Suite 103 Nashville TN 37211 | 615-315-9681 | gatluk@empowernashville.org |
| World Relief Memphis | Steve Moses | 2181 Union Avenue Memphis TN 38104 | 901-569-9797 | smoses@wr.org |
| World Relief Nashville | Nathan Kinser | 1655 Murfreesboro Pike Suite G Nashville TN 37217 | 615-833-7735 | nkinser@wr.org |

This report serves to meet the reporting requirements under the Refugee Absorptive Capacity Act (Public Chapter No. 316).



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Anticipated Arrivals:

The U.S. Department of State allocates refugees based on where the resettlement agency is located. In FFY (federal fiscal year) 2014, refugees have been allocated to programs in the counties below. Actual arrivals may vary. *This estimate has decreased slightly from last year's projections.* The local refugee resettlement program and/or the Tennessee Office for Refugees (TOR) has met with local officials and collectively believe that the programs in these counties have the capacity to successfully resettle refugees.

FFY 2014:

| | |
|----------|-------|
| Davidson | 1,275 |
| Hamilton | 130 |
| Knox | 248 |
| Shelby | 200 |

Actual Arrivals:

For the period of this report, actual new arrivals to counties were as follows:

| | |
|------------|-----|
| Benton | 1 |
| Davidson | 328 |
| Hamilton | 23 |
| Knox | 51 |
| Robertson | 4 |
| Rutherford | 19 |
| Shelby | 32 |
| Washington | 1 |
| Williamson | 4 |

Age at Arrival:

For the period of this report, the age breakdown of new arrivals was as follows:

| | |
|----------|-----|
| Under 18 | 154 |
| 18-64 | 299 |
| 65+ | 10 |

Letters of Agreement:

The agreements for FFY 2014 are unchanged from FFY 2013.

Information Requests:

For the period of this report, TOR received inquiries from the following:

- Senator Ketrone's office
- Representative Matheny's office
- Don Barnett, Refugee Resettlement Watch blogger
- Fiscal Review Committee, Tennessee Legislature
- Community members who expressed their support of refugee resettlement and concern over the position several legislators appear to be taking
- Individuals and organizations who were working on research papers and grant applications

No complaints were received.