

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: April 23, 2012

Re: Quarterly report on refugee resettlement for the period 12.1.2011 – 3.31.2012

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

Tennessee remains a very strong and welcomes 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 on the attached page.

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



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Agency	Contact Person	Address	Phone	Email
World Relief	Nathan Kinser	1655 Murfreesboro Pike Suite G Nashville TN 37217	615-833-7735	nkinser@wr.org
Catholic Charities Nashville	Kelye Branson	10 South 6th St. Nashville TN 37206	615-259-3567	kbranson@cctenn.org
Catholic Charities Memphis	Carolyn Tisdale	1325 Jefferson Ave Memphis TN 38104	901-722-4714	carolyn.tisdale@acc.cdom.org
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
Nashville International Center for Empowerment	Gatluak Thach	3221 Nolensville Pike Suite 103 Nashville TN 37211	615-315-9681	gatluak@empowernashville.org

Anticipated Arrivals:

The U.S. Department of State anticipates placing refugees through resettlement agencies in the following counties during FFY (federal fiscal year) 2012. *This estimate is unchanged from original projections.* The local refugee resettlement program and/or the Tennessee Office for Refugees (TOR) has met with local officials and collectively believe that these counties have the capacity to successfully resettle refugees.

Davidson/Rutherford/Williamson	1,235
Hamilton	130
Knox/Johnson	260
Shelby	230

Actual Arrivals:

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

Davidson	225
Hamilton	5
Johnson	1
Knox	32
Rutherford	23
Shelby	21
Williamson	2

Letters of Agreement:

No changes have been made to the letters of agreement provided with the last quarterly report.

Information Requests:

For the period of this report, TOR received requests for data from college students, refugee agencies, and a state senator. TOR also received a call from a Davidson County resident who wanted to clarify the number of refugees being resettled in Tennessee versus the number coming into the United States. I anticipate no further concerns.