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**Welcome!**

Thank you for participating in this peer exchange and your interest in this topic!

- If you need help trouble shooting during this presentation, email [info@brycs.org](mailto:info@brycs.org).
- This Webinar will be recorded and archived and all participants will receive a follow-up email with a short evaluation. A copy of the slides can be downloaded from the bottom right of the screen.
- As a courtesy, moderators have muted all phone lines.
- During the Q&A session, please use the chat pod on the right to submit your questions.

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops/Migration and Refugee Services received \$225,000 in competitive funding through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Grant 90980017. BRYCS is financed 100% through Federal funds. The materials presented are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families.

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**Objectives**

- Gain a general awareness of the refugee experience
- Learn about the differences between refugee camps and urban settings
- See the anticipation and perceptions that refugees hold towards resettlement in the United States, and how those perceptions change.
- Foster empathy when serving refugees and their families

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**Paw Ku**  
Youth Case Manager,  
Heartland Alliance  
Refugee from Burma



**Suhad Khudhair**  
Lead Case Manager,  
Catholic Community  
Services of Utah  
Refugee from Iraq



**Tena Gebretsadik**  
Lead Children's Services  
Specialist,  
USCCB/MRS



**Jenny Siegel**  
Refugee Child  
Protection Coordinator,  
USCCB/MRS

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## Global Displacement



**65.6 million**  
forcibly displaced people worldwide

**Refugees 22.5 million**  
22 million under UNHCR's mandate  
0.5 million Palestinian Refugees registered by UNRWA

**Stateless people 10 million**

**Refugees resettled 189,300**  
in 2016

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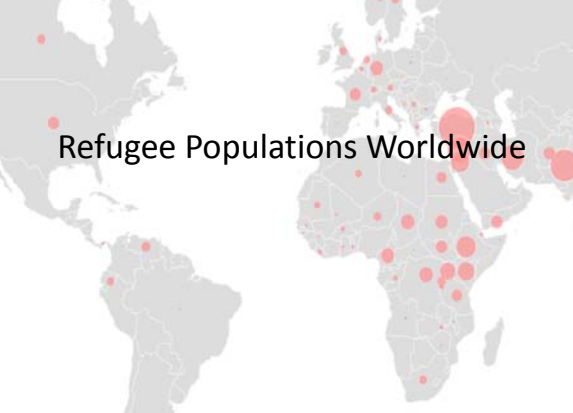
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## Refugee Populations Worldwide



<http://popstats.unhcr.org/en/overview>

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## Where do refugees live?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wboXMROiKrs&feature=youtu.be>

Video from: International Rescue Committee (IRC)

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Voluntary Repatriation

Resettlement

Local Integration

*The ultimate goal is to find a lasting solution that allows refugees to live in safety and rebuild their lives with dignity and opportunity.*

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## Refugees Resettled in the U.S.

Over **90 dioceses and organizations** across the United States resettled 84,995 refugees in Fiscal Year 2016. Of these, Migration and Refugee Services/USCCB resettled 23,638.



<https://2016-2017.uscc.gov/press-releases/2016/12/20/201701.htm>

|                                     |                                       |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <b>Countries of Origin</b>          | <b>U.S. States welcoming refugees</b> |
| 1. Democratic Republic of the Congo | 1. California                         |
| 2. Syria                            | 2. Texas                              |
| 3. Burma                            | 3. New York                           |
| 4. Iraq                             | 4. Michigan                           |
| 5. Somalia                          | 5. Ohio                               |

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## ORR's Unaccompanied Refugee Minor Program

Goal of helping youth to "develop appropriate skills to enter adulthood and to achieve social self-sufficiency."

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>Children Served:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eligible populations</li> <li>• General Statistics</li> </ul> | <p><b>Placement and Services:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two lead voluntary agencies: LIRS and USCCB</li> <li>• Foster homes and other licensed care settings</li> <li>• Supportive case management</li> </ul> |
|---|--|

Source: <http://www.brycs.org/programs/urmp/about>

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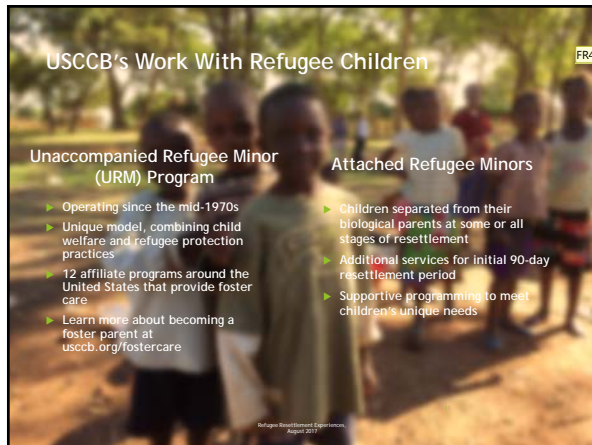
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## USCCB's Work With Refugee Children

### Unaccompanied Refugee Minor (URM) Program

- ▶ Operating since the mid-1970s
- ▶ Unique model, combining child welfare and refugee protection practices
- ▶ 12 affiliate programs around the United States that provide foster care
- ▶ Learn more about becoming a foster parent at [usccb.org/fostercare](http://usccb.org/fostercare)

### Attached Refugee Minors

- ▶ Children separated from their biological parents at some or all stages of resettlement
- ▶ Additional services for initial 90-day resettlement period
- ▶ Supportive programming to meet children's unique needs

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## Introduction – Paw Ku



- Family & Background
- Current Life in Chicago, IL

Paw's family is originally from Myanmar/Burma, but she grew up in a refugee camp in Thailand for 14 years. In 2007 she and her family resettled to Illinois. In May, 2015, she graduated from Northeastern Illinois University with a major in Justice Studies and minor in Human Resource Development. She was recognized with the Social Justice Award in 2014, the Award of Merit for Outstanding Research in 2014, the Justice Studies Scholar Award in 2015, and the Student Leadership Development Eagle Eye Award in 2015.

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## Setting

- Life in Mae La Thailand Refugee Camp

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## Daily Routine

- Meals
- Activities
- People
- Transportation

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**Educational & Economic Opportunity**

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**HEALTH CARE**

© Can Stock Photo

**Medical Care**

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**Refugee Resettlement Process**

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## Introduction – Suhad Khudhair



- > Family & Background
- > Current Life in Salt Lake City, UT

Suhad's family is originally from Bagdad, Iraq. She worked for USAID in Bagdad and fled Iraq in 2006 due to ongoing violence in the city. She moved to Egypt with her two children and remained there for 3-years before she resettled to Salt Lake City, Utah. She was resettled by the IRC and worked hard to ensure her children could resume their education and that she could find a job and support the family. Now she is a Housing Coordinator with Catholic Community Services of Utah and her children are doing great in school!

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## Country of Asylum

- > Life in Giza, Egypt- urban refugee setting

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## Home

<http://www.ircdhs.org/egypt/ehc/2012/20120906-giza-egypt.html>

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## Daily Routine

- Meals
- Activities
- People
- Transportation

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## Educational & Economic Opportunity

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>Education</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Permitted to attend public schools</li> <li>➤ Very difficult to find schools willing to enroll children</li> <li>➤ Limited educational opportunities</li> <li>➤ Acceptance among peers at school?</li> </ul> | <p><b>Employment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Work permits difficult to obtain</li> <li>➤ Employment difficult to find</li> <li>➤ No assistance in finding employment</li> <li>➤ Worked 9+ hours/day</li> <li>➤ Earned little wages</li> <li>➤ Office Coordinator in Cosmetic Company</li> </ul> |
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## Medical Care

- Egyptian government permits refugees access to public medical care
- Cost
- Accessibility

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## Refugee Resettlement Process

- Registration with IOM
- Many documents and various interviews
- Previous work in Iraq with USAID helped in resettlement process
- Process took 2-years
- Support from friends and family
- Expectations of resettlement
- Arrival in the United States – "Oo-tah"



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## Questions?

Please use the chat pod on the right to submit your questions.



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## Contact Us

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[info@brycs.org](mailto:info@brycs.org)  
 1-888-572-6500



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