



Bridging Refugee Youth & Children's Services

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Educational Support for Refugee Youth

Office of Language and Cultural Education

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Chicago, IL

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BRYCS is a project of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops/Migration and Refugee Services (USCCB/MRS)

1-888-572-6500/ info@brycs.org/ www.brycs.org

Contact RWIO facilitators to learn more about the comprehensive services provided directly to school administrators, teachers and other support staff.



SCHOOL-BASED RESOURCES

- Student Orientations
- Welcome! Kits
- Hire interpreters and translators to communicate CPS policies and procedures
- Foster collaboration with local community organizations



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Mayor, City of Chicago

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CONTACT REFUGEE WELCOMING INTAKE OFFICE SCHOOL LIAISON

SWIFT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
5900 North Winthrop Avenue, Room 315
Chicago, Illinois 60660
773.534.0240 (O)

ROOSEVELT HIGH SCHOOL
Multicultural Resource Center, Room 244
3436 West Wilson Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60625
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Office of Language and Cultural Education

Refugee Program Initiatives

Educational Support for Refugee Youth



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Office of Language and Cultural Education

125 South Clark Street, 9th floor
Chicago, Illinois 60603

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www.OLCE.org

- ✓ *Welcome and Orientation*
- ✓ *Coordinating Resources*
- ✓ *Academic Tutoring*
- ✓ *Translation Services*
- ✓ *Summer ESL Program*
- ✓ *Professional Development Opportunities*
- ✓ *Workshops for Parents*



Chicago Public Schools (CPS) and The Office of Language and Cultural Education (OLCE) provide comprehensive services and resources to schools.



- Facilitate a connection among schools and community organizations
- Provide translation services to students and parents
- Host informative sessions for parents and students about the school system in the United States
- Encourage parental involvement in their children's educational process and the community.
- Increase awareness and sensitivity regarding refugee issues among school staff and community.

CPS Refugee Education Program Goals

Chicago Public Schools (CPS) and the Office of Language and Cultural Education is committed to provide appropriate and necessary services to meet the educational, social and emotional needs of the refugee student population. The goal of this initiative is to ensure quality education and to equip the students with necessary skills to become a productive member of society.

Refugees are forced to flee their homeland because of political persecution, war and other internal and /or external conflicts. Most refugee families have experienced violence, loss of home and family. Often the refugees from one war torn country flee to the neighboring country and end up in a refugee camp. The length of the stay in these camps can last between 2 months to 12 years.

DISTRICT CAPACITY

CPS Office of Language and Cultural Education (OLCE) has demonstrated considerable success linking public schools, international families and local community organizations to improve the education and other support to refugee students and their families. The Refugee Welcoming Intake Offices established by OLCE function as a bridge between CPS and local communities and other stakeholders. CPS continues to build the district's capacity to meet the needs of refugee student populations and their families.

FOSTERING PARTNERSHIPS

Developing and sustaining a network of partnerships with competent, reliable and culturally astute providers is a vital piece of this initiative. It is of the utmost importance to establish effective communication lines among schools, families and community based organization.