

# 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 Directors

From: Louisa Saratora, State Refugee Coordinator

Date: May 19, 2020

Re: Quarterly report on refugee resettlement for the period 1.1.2020 – 3.31.2020

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 ([lsaratora@cctenn.org](mailto:lsaratora@cctenn.org) or 615-354-6287) or your local refugee resettlement agency(ies) if you have any questions. Local agency contact information is below.

Agency	Contact Person	Address	Contact Information
Bridge Refugee Services – Chattanooga	Marina Peshterianu	4791/A Hal Drive Chattanooga, TN 37416	423-954-9288 <a href="mailto:marinapesh@aol.com">marinapesh@aol.com</a>
Bridge Refugee Services – Knoxville	Drocella Mugorewera	4420 Whittle Springs Road Knoxville, TN 37917	865-540-1311 <a href="mailto:dmugorewera@bridgerefugees.org">dmugorewera@bridgerefugees.org</a>
Catholic Charities – Nashville	Kellye Branson	2806 McGavock Pike Nashville, TN 37214	615-259-3567 <a href="mailto:kbranson@cctenn.org">kbranson@cctenn.org</a>
Nashville International Center for Empowerment	Gatluak Thach	417 Welshwood Drive Suite 100 Nashville, TN 37211	615-315-9681 <a href="mailto:gatluak@empowernashville.org">gatluak@empowernashville.org</a>
World Relief – Memphis	PJ Moore	5340 Quince Road Suite A Memphis, TN 38119	901-341-0220 <a href="mailto:pjmoore@wr.org">pjmoore@wr.org</a>

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

**Anticipated Arrivals:**

The U.S. Department of State allocates refugees based on where the resettlement agency is located. Initial estimates for FY 2020 have not yet been finalized.

**Actual Arrivals:**

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

Davidson	29
Hamilton	10
Knox	15
Montgomery	6
Shelby	6
Williamson	6

**Age Breakdown:**

The age breakdown for these arrivals is as follows:

Minors	32
Employable adults	39
Seniors	1

**Information Requests:**

Requests for information this quarter came from students, media outlets, and county commissioners.

**No complaints were received.**