

# 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: Holly Johnson, State Refugee Coordinator 

Date: October 31, 2017

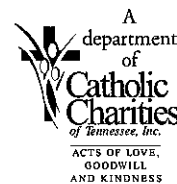
Re: Quarterly report on refugee resettlement for the period 7.1.2017 – 9.30.2017

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](mailto: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	Drocella Mugorewera	3839 Buffat Mill Road Knoxville, TN 37914	865-540-1311	dmugorewera@bridgerefugees.org
Catholic Charities - Nashville	Kellye Branson	2806 McGavock Pike Nashville, TN 37214	615-259-3567	kbranson@cctenn.org
Nashville International Center for Empowerment	Gatluk Thach	417 Welshwood Drive Suite 100 Nashville, TN 37211	615-315-9681	gatluk@empowernashville.org
World Relief - Memphis	PJ Moore	3340 Poplar Avenue Suite 222 Memphis, TN 38111	901-341-0220	pjmoore@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) 2017, refugees have been (preliminarily) allocated to programs in the counties below. Actual arrivals may vary, and estimated arrivals have changed several times since January. The local refugee resettlement programs and the Tennessee Office for Refugees (TOR) have met with state and local officials and collectively believe that the programs and these counties have the capacity to successfully resettle refugees.

**FFY 2017:**

Davidson/Rutherford/Williamson	1,500
Hamilton	120
Knox	245
Shelby	325

**Actual Arrivals:**

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

Davidson	76
Hamilton	6
Knox	9
Shelby	9
Williamson	7

**Age Breakdown:**

The age breakdown for these arrivals is as follows:

Minors	46
Employable adults	57
Seniors	4

**Letters of Agreement:**

The agreements for FFY 2017 were attached to a previous quarterly RACA report.

**Information Requests:**

For the period of this report, TOR received information/data requests from college students, the media, and other researchers.

**No complaints were received.**