

# 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 25, 2023

Re: Quarterly report on refugee resettlement for the period January 1, 2023 – March 31, 2023

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	Phone	Email
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	Stephanie Livigni	4420 Whittle Springs Road Knoxville, TN 37917	865-540-1311	<a href="mailto:slivigni@bridgerefugees.org">slivigni@bridgerefugees.org</a>
Catholic Charities – Nashville	Heather Mencke	2806 McGavock Pike Nashville, TN 37214	615-259-3567	<a href="mailto:hmencke@cctenn.org">hmencke@cctenn.org</a>
Inspiritus	Patrick Kearney	297 Haywood Lane Nashville, TN 37211	404-875-0201	<a href="mailto:Patrick.kearney@weinspirit.org">Patrick.kearney@weinspirit.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).

A department of

*Diocese of Nashville*

**Catholic  
Charities**

LOVE + HOPE  
HEALING

Arrival data for the period January 1, 2023 – March 31, 2023

**Actual Arrivals:**

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

Davidson	104
Hamilton	2
Knox	1
Rutherford	27
Shelby	46

**Age Breakdown:**

The age breakdown for these arrivals is as follows:

Minors	80
Employable adults	98
Seniors	2

**Information Requests:**

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

**No complaints were received.**