Texas Office for Refugees

TXOR was established in 2021, as the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) Replacement Designee for Texas

Primary Roles Include:
1. Administration of Programs
2. Technical Assistance and Training
3. Community Engagement
4. Monitoring and Evaluation of Programs

My role as Community Outreach Specialist is to understand the needs for refugees statewide and help our team produce solutions.
Office of Refugee Resettlement Eligible Populations

✓ Refugees
✓ Asylees
✓ Cuban and Haitian Entrants
✓ Amerasians
✓ Lawful Permanent Residents
✓ Iraqi and Afghan Special Immigrants
✓ Unaccompanied Refugee Minors
✓ Victims of Human Trafficking
TXOR Population Arrivals

**Not Including FY22**
- C/H Entrant: 54%
- SIV: 14%
- Refugee: 18%
- Asylee: 12%
- Amerasian: 2%
- VOT: 11%

**Including FY22**
- C/H Entrant: 54%
- SIV: 2%
- Refugee: 8%
- Asylee: 12%
- Amerasian: 11%
- VOT: 12%
- Other: 12%
- AHP: 12%
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ORR Programs + Services</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refugee Medical Assistance (RMA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civics Instruction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Digital Inclusion Services (DIS)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Driver's Education</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Employment Services (EMP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integration Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre - HSE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Recertification</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refugee Youth Mentoring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Adjustment Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Services for Older Refugees</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vocational Training</td>
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<tr>
<td>Women's Empowerment Program</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Please note, that not all agencies will provide all services listed.*
Texas Office for Refugees

Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA)
• Provides refugees with cash assistance the first 8 months after receiving an asylum approval
  • This is currently being extended to a 12-month model to better support clients as they work toward self-sufficiency.
• Clients cannot be co-enrolled in other cash assistance programs while in RCA, such as the Matching Grant program, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), etc.

Refugee Medical Assistance (RMA)
• Provides refugees with medical assistance throughout the first 8 months after the date of eligibility
Service providers can assist these populations with:

- Job Readiness
- Job Placement and Upgrades
- Vocational Training and Professional Recertification
- On-the-Job Training
- English Language Instruction
- Digital Inclusion
- Pre-High School Education
Social Adjustment Services:
Strengths-based case management, including assistance in applying for federal and state support programs, obtaining health care to address both physical and mental health needs, access to emergency services, and orientations for cultural adjustment

Integration Services:
- Citizenship
- Civics
- Women's Empowerment
- Youth Mentoring
- Services to Older Refugees
- Driver's Education
Many of these service providers will offer legal aid to their clients for free, including services such as:

1. Lawful Permanent Residency
2. US Citizenship/Naturalization
3. Cuban Adjustment
4. Refugee and Asylee Adjustment
5. Asylum Processing
6. T Visa, U Visa, & VAWA
7. Unaccompanied Minors
8. Refugee Family Petitions
9. Refugee Travel Documents
Federal and State Assistance

**Medicaid**
- A joint federal and state program that helps low-income individuals and families pay for the costs of medical and long-term custodial care
- Clients can call 2-1-1 to find out eligibility and where the closest benefits office is to them

**Supplemental Security Income (SSI)**
- SSI is a federal program that provides monthly payments to people who have limited income and few resources
- SSI is for people who are 65 or older and for anyone who is blind or has a permanent disability, even children

**Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)**
- SNAP benefits can be used to purchase food from a grocery store
- Clients are given money each month on a plastic card call the Lone Star card, which works like a debit card

**Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)**
- TANF provides financial and medical assistance to in need dependent children and the parents or relatives with whom they are living
- Eligible TANF households receive monthly cash and Medicaid benefits.
Unaccompanied Minors

ORR serves unaccompanied minors through two distinct programs

1. URM – Unaccompanied Refugee Minors Program
2. UC – Unaccompanied Children Program

These programs serve some of the most vulnerable minors (under the age of 18) in the world that immigrate/migrate to the United States without parents/custodians:

• Fleeing persecution
• Escaping violence
• Running from abuse
Unaccompanied Refugee Minors (URM) Program

URM Eligible Populations

Unaccompanied Refugee Minors may come from any of the following ORR-eligible populations:

✓ Refugees
✓ Asylees
✓ Cuban or Haitian entrants
✓ Certain Minors with Special Immigrant Juvenile Status
✓ Victims of Human Trafficking
✓ U-Status recipients
✓ Paroled Unaccompanied Afghan Minors

URM Program Services

• Financial Support
• Case Management
• Educational Supports
• English Language Training
• Career/College Counseling and Training
• Mental Health Services
• Assistance Adjusting Immigration Status
• Cultural Activities
• Recreational Opportunities
• Support for Social Integration
• Cultural and Religious Preservation
Unaccompanied Child (UC) Definition:

1. Has no lawful immigration status in the United States
2. Is under 18 years of age
3. Has no parent or legal guardian in the US able to provide care and custody

UC Program Services

• Classroom Education
• Mental and medical health services
• Case management
• Recreation
• Reunification Services
# Victims of Trafficking (VOT)

Historically, Texas has served around **812** VOTs (From 2006 - present)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Top 3 Nationalities</th>
<th>Top 3 Cities serving VOTs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Honduras (36%)</td>
<td>Houston (45%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mexico (21%)</td>
<td>Austin (15%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>El Salvador (13.67%)</td>
<td>Dallas (6%)</td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Top Programs</th>
<th>Top Organizations serving VOTs</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RCA Texas (45%)</td>
<td>YMCA International Services - Houston</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social Adjustment Services (23%)</td>
<td>Refugee Services of Texas - Austin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment (19%)</td>
<td>Refugee Services of Texas - Houston</td>
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<tr>
<td>ELI - English Language Instructions (5%)</td>
<td>Catholic Charities of Galveston-Houston</td>
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<td>Catholic Charities of Dallas</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

37% | 63%
Victims of Trafficking (VOT)

Refugee Services of Texas – Survivors of Trafficking Empowerment Program (STEP)
Amarillo, Austin, Dallas, Fort Worth, Houston, and the Rio Grande Valley

STEP serves the following groups:
✓ Victims of human trafficking
✓ Victims of labor and sex trafficking
✓ Adults and Minors

Services provided:
• Human trafficking screenings
• Crisis management and safety support
• Basic needs assistance
• Counseling services
• Emotional support
• Applications for public benefits
• Community outreach and trainings
Victims of Trafficking (VOT)

S.T.E.P Statistics 10/1/19 - 9/30/20

Race/Ethnicity
- Undisclosed: 14%
- Bi-Racial/Multi: 14%
- Hispanic/Latino: 67%
- White/Caucasian: 9%
- Asian: 6%

Gender
- Male: 24%
- Female: 75%
- Undisclosed: 1%

Minor vs. Adult
- Minor: 25%
- Adult: 74%
- Undisclosed: 1%

Domestic vs. International
- Domestic: 63.6%
- International: 36.4%
- Undisclosed: 8.3%

Domestic Minor
- Domestic Minor: 8%

Foreign Minor
- Foreign Minor: 3%

Domestic
- Domestic: 63.6%

Foreign
- Foreign: 36.4%

Trafficking Type
- Adult: 45%
- Sex, Labor, Both: 45%

Victims of Crime (not human trafficking)
- Victims of Crime: 19%

* Brazil, Canada, China, Cuba, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Kenya, Mexico, Nigeria, Philippines, Russia, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Turkey, Ukraine

Texas Office for Refugees
CREATE. ERADICATE. TRANSFORM.