

ASPR TRACIE Technical Assistance Request

Requestor:

Requestor Phone:

Requestor Email:

Request Receipt Date (by ASPR TRACIE): 17 September 2015; updated 20 October 2017

Type of TTA Request: Standard

Request:

Requestor is seeking relevant resources related to refugee lessons learned, policies, guidance, case studies, etc. Requestor is also seeking relevant resources for cultural competency.

Response:

The ASPR TRACIE team conducted a wide search for relevant and useful resources. Each resource in the literature search below is placed into one or more sub-categories. Resources marked with an asterisk (*) appear in more than one category.

I. Policies and Regulations

Bruno, A. (2015). [Refugee Admissions and Resettlement Policy](#). Congressional Research Service.

This report provides information on the U.S. process for refugee admissions, and addresses the various Federal government agency's roles and regulations as it relates to U.S. policy.

*Office of Refugee Resettlement. (2015). [Children Entering the United States Unaccompanied](#).

This policy document is a summary of Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) policies for the placement, release, and care of unaccompanied children in ORR custody. The guide is for members of the public and other stakeholders, and is organized into the following three sections: 1) placement in ORR care facilities; 2) safe and timely release from ORR care; and 3) review of required services including healthcare services, legal services, post release services, and unusual circumstances.

Office of Refugee Resettlement. (2012). [The Refugee Act](#).

This webpage describes the Refugee Act of 1980, which created the Federal Refugee Resettlement Program to provide for the effective resettlement of refugees and to assist them in achieving economic self-sufficiency after arrival in the U.S. It also identifies the roles and responsibilities of the Office of Refugee Resettlement, which was established within the Department of Health and Human Services.

U.S. Department of State. (n.d.). [Refugee Admissions](#). (Accessed 10/20/2017).

This webpage provides an overview of the refugee admissions and resettlement process in the U.S. Several hyperlinks are provided on this page that provide further detail on topics and programs such as, the United States Refugee Admissions Program (USRAP), the Reception and Placement Program, refugee admission statistics, and congressional documents to Congress.

II. Guidance Documents

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2007). [Handbook for Emergencies \(Third Edition\)](#).

This handbook covers many aspects of emergency planning and management of refugees. It is divided into the following sections: 1) United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR's) mandate of international protection and the principles of emergency response; 2) emergency management; 3) vital sectors and problem areas in refugee emergencies (e.g., health, food, sanitation and water), and key field activities underpinning the operations (e.g., logistics, community services, and registration); and 4) guidance on the support to field operations, primarily administration and staffing. The appendices include a "Toolbox" which provides the standards, indicators, and useful references used throughout the handbook.

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2011). [UNHCR Resettlement Handbook](#).

This handbook provides resettlement management and policy guidance to United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) staff, and is a key reference tool on global resettlement policy and practice for resettlement countries, non-governmental organizations, and other partners.

III. Lessons Learned from Real Events

Georgetown University Law Center, Human Rights Institute. (2009). [Refugee Crisis in America: Iraqis and Their Resettlement Experience](#).

This report addresses the domestic side of the refugee situation, focusing on Iraqis that have resettled in the U.S. It discusses the United States Refugee Admissions Program (USRAP), and determines the extent to which Iraqi refugees have been afforded protection and a durable solution for resettlement through the USRAP. The author's provide the findings of their research, and recommendations for improving issues faced by refugees, and the programs that serve them when resettling in the U.S.

Newland, K., Tanaka, H., and Barker, L. (2007) [Bridging Divides: The Role of Ethnic Community-Based Organizations in Refugee Integration](#). Washington DC: Migration Policy Institute, and International Rescue Committee.

This report examines the refugee resettlement process in the U.S, and in particular addresses the role of ethnic community-based organizations (ECBOs) as drivers of refugee integration. Authors of the report discuss their findings, including how ECBOs are adept at identifying and responding to the diverse needs of refugees across various stages of integration, and the challenges that refugees face.

U.S. Army Command and General Staff College. (n.d.). [Commander's Guide to Supporting Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons](#). (Accessed 10/20/2017).

This handbook provides insight into the military's role in dealing with refugees and displaced persons. It includes several articles written by students from the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College. The articles describe their experiences, and the problems that military commanders and units faced when in operational environments dealing with refugees and displaced persons.

IV. Resources Related to Unaccompanied Minors

Office of Refugee Resettlement. (n.d.). [About Unaccompanied Children's Services](#). (Accessed 10/20/2017).

This webpage identifies the responsibilities of the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) when unaccompanied children are apprehended by the Department of Homeland Security immigration officials and are transferred to the custody of ORR.

*Office of Refugee Resettlement. (2015). [Children Entering the United States Unaccompanied](#).

This policy document is a summary of Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) policies for the placement, release, and care of unaccompanied children in ORR custody. The guide is for members of the public and other stakeholders, and is organized into the following three sections: 1) placement in ORR care facilities; 2) safe and timely release from ORR care; and 3) review of required services including healthcare services, legal services, post release services, and unusual circumstances.

Office of Refugee Resettlement. (n.d.). [Unaccompanied Children Released to Sponsors by State](#). (Accessed 10/20/2017).

This webpage provides a brief overview on the process that occurs when a child who is not accompanied by a parent or legal guardian is apprehended by immigration authorities. It also includes a table that depicts state-by-state data (as of July, 2015) of unaccompanied children released to sponsors.

U.S. Department of Homeland Security. (n.d.). [Unaccompanied Children at the Southwest Border](#). (Accessed 10/20/2017).

This webpage provides a brief overview of the various U.S. federal agencies roles in managing unaccompanied minors crossing the southwest border into the U.S.

V. Cultural Competency Resources

Florida Center for Public Health Preparedness at the University of South Florida College of Public Health Preparedness. (n.d.). [Assuring Cultural Competence in Disaster Response](#).

This presentation is a competency-based, short course developed by the Florida Center for Public Health Preparedness to prepare public health professionals for their functional role in disaster response by offering culturally competent disaster interventions to survivors, witnesses, and responders of bioterrorism and other major public health threats and community disasters.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Minority Health. (2008). Cultural Competency in Disaster Response: A Review of Current Concepts, Policies, and Practices, Environmental Scan. (See Attached.)

This Environmental Scan was conducted for the Office of Minority Health as an initial step in the process to develop and test a curriculum to effectively equip disaster responders in cultural and linguistic competence. The Scan was created to determine whether current information on the concepts, policies, and teaching practices regarding cultural competence provide an adequate base for developing the curriculum, and, if so, to summarize and synthesize this information into a usable form.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Minority Health. (2011). [Guidance for Integrating Culturally Diverse Communities into Planning for and Responding to Emergencies: A Toolkit](#).

This toolkit was developed to provide preparedness planning and response agencies, organizations, and professionals with practical strategies, resources and examples of models for improving existing activities and developing new programs to meet the needs of racially and ethnically diverse populations.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Minority Health. (2013). [Cultural Competency Curriculum for Disaster Preparedness and Crisis Response](#).

This set of courses is designed to integrate knowledge, attitudes, and skills related to cultural competency in order to help lessen racial and ethnic healthcare disparities brought on by disaster situations.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. (2003). [Developing Cultural Competence in Disaster Mental Health Programs: Guiding Principles and Recommendations](#).

(Note: This is beyond the typical timeline for TRACIE inclusion, but seemed very relevant).

VI. Additional Resources

International Rescue Committee. (n.d.). [Frequently Asked Questions about Refugees and Resettlement](#). (Accessed 10/20/2017).

This webpage provides answers to questions related to refugees, such as who are refugees and displaced persons, what are the options for resettlement, how does the U.S. determine if a refugee is eligible for resettlement, and what happens to refugees when they come to the U.S.

U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants. (n.d.) [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\)](#). (Accessed 10/20/2017).

This webpage provides answers to the most frequently asked questions related to refugees, such as how do refugees come to the U.S., how can they resettle in the U.S., and how do they file for family reunification.

VII. Websites

The following websites are dedicated to providing tools, links, and guidance related to the U.S. management of refugees.

National Library of Medicine. [Multi-Cultural Resources for Health Information](#).

Office of Minority. [Health National CLAS Standards](#).

Office of Refugee Resettlement. [Homepage](#).

Office of Refugee Resettlement. [Unaccompanied Children's Services](#).

Refugee Council USA. [Homepage](#).

Refworld. [Homepage](#).

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. [Homepage](#).

U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants. [Resettling Refugees in America](#).