

## **Your Gift Becomes the Key to Opportunity!**

*(How are my donated dollars being used?)*

A significant portion of our funding which creates new beginnings for refugee children and their families comes from the compassionate generosity of our donors. You make all the difference. Hope Live Here—Because of You! Fundraising efforts ensure we not only comply with resettlement guidelines, but extend a culture of excellence with innovative case management. This innovative care transforms the lives of the refugees we serve.



Catholic Charities is an affiliate of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops/Migration and Refugee Service (USCCB/MRS). In partnership with its affiliates, USCCB/MRS resettles approximately 30% of the refugees that arrive in the U.S. each year. The Catholic refugee resettlement network includes over 100 diocesan offices across the country.

We serve refugees with a public/private partnership model, we are called to reach out to our community—brothers and sisters of all faiths to provide care and compassion for the refugee children we serve. Government funding is per capita (dollars per individual served). There is an understanding that government funding alone would never be able to sustain a resettlement program that serves children and families. Resettling refugees provides an extraordinary opportunity for countless Americans to take an active part in offering a caring and supportive environment for refugees as they begin new lives. Without volunteers and resources from the community and various faith based organizations, USCCB/MRS and the diocesan resettlement offices would be unable to accomplish the tremendous task of giving refugees new hope and the opportunity to begin again.

On average government provides 60% of the funding needed to operate our program. The remaining 40% is made possible through the generosity of the people of southern Minnesota. Together, these broad funding sources allow us to empower refugee families as they begin their lives anew in our community.

In the past our Refugee Program was awarded in Washington D.C. by Ambassador Johnny Young for *Excellence in Innovation*. We created a 2-day Financial Literacy Workshop for all refugee adults and a Financial Workshop for teens. Because of the success of these programs we were the model for other agencies across our nation. Due to our efforts, financial literacy training is a mandatory component for all refugee resettlement agencies in the United States.

Independence and new beginnings take both dedication and innovation. At Catholic Charities we want to ensure our refugee children and families are not just surviving but thriving in their new home. When we reach for excellence our families are not only on their way to self-sufficiency, but

they are equipped with the skills to use their unique gifts to empower others in the future! Your gift helps create life-changing initiatives.

### **YOUR GIFT MATTERS:**

#### **Refugee staff going above and beyond to tackle challenges with innovation ...**

- Multiple home visits to help families trouble-shoot (i.e. individualized training - safety orientations, etc.)
- Public library orientations
- Hands on cultural orientations in the community and in classroom environment
- One-on-one shopping orientations - shopping cart provided to each family
- One-on-one bus orientations - bus pass provided to each adult
- Personal Mayo Clinic medical orientations (campus tour, etc)
- Connect newly arrived refugees with their individual faith communities
- Assist with opening bank accounts, to promote asset building/banking education
- Assist in accessing internet and a refurbished computer to ensure one's ability to complete online job applications.
- Applying for Energy Assistance and various other programs that will empower families

