UNC School of Social Work

Refugee Mental Health & Wellness Initiative

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Refugee Resettlement: From Global to NC Community

- Department of Homeland Security
- Citizenship and Immigration Services
- U.S. Department of State
- U.S. Department of State Reception and Placement
- NC Refugee Assistance Program (NC RAP) Selected NC Communities:
 - Triangle,
 - Triad,
 - Mecklenberg & Craven County



2012: The U.S. received refugees from 85 countries

The largest sending countries:

- Bhutan (15,021)
- Burma (14,020)
- Iraq (12,124)
- Somalia (4,915)
- Cuba (1,948)

- Democratic Republic
 - of Congo (1,839)
- Iran (1,751)
- Eritrea (1,321), and
- Sudan (1,055)

NC-RAP – Refugee Social Services

- Goals of Refugee Social Services:
 - Achieve self-sufficiency as quickly as possible and quickly reduce dependence on public assistance;
 - Expedite the resettlement process and encourage social adjustment;
 - Assist refugees with finding jobs and maintaining employment;
- The Refugee Social Services Program provides assistance with:
 - Employment services
 - Case Management
 - English Language Training
 - Citizenship and Immigration Services
 - Transportation

- Vocational Skills Training, including Drivers Education and Vocational Education;
- Translation & Interpretation services
- Skills Recertification, and
- Social Adjustment services, including Information & Referral,
 Emergency Services, and Health-Related services



NC-RAP – Refugee Public Assistance

- Goals of Refugee Public Assistance
 - Stabilize physical health and provide for health care
 - Meet basic needs
- The Refugee Public Assistance Program provides assistance with
 - Cash assistance and financial support
 - Employability services
 - Short-term medical insurance program (Similar to NC-Medicaid)
 - Health screening
 - Application assistance for service from the County Department of Social Services



Refugee Mental Health & Wellness Initiative: Filling a Gap

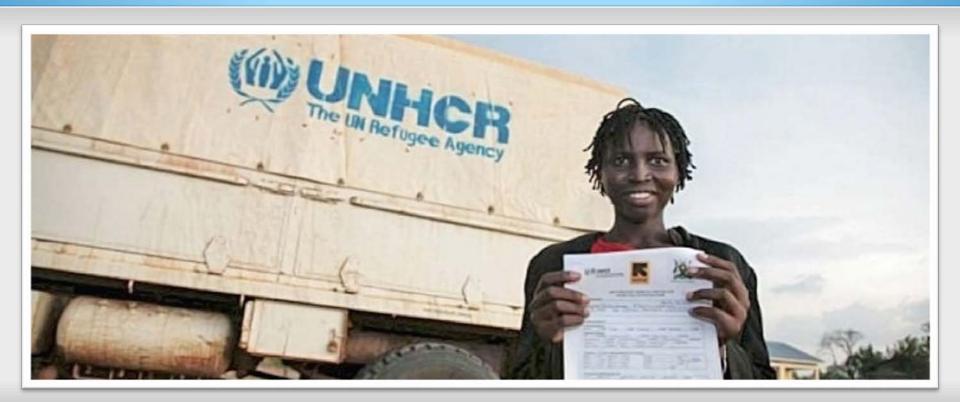
- Mental health screenings
- Psychotherapy
- Group treatment
- Community presentations
- Psychiatric case management





UNC global transmigration refugee mental health & wellness initiative

















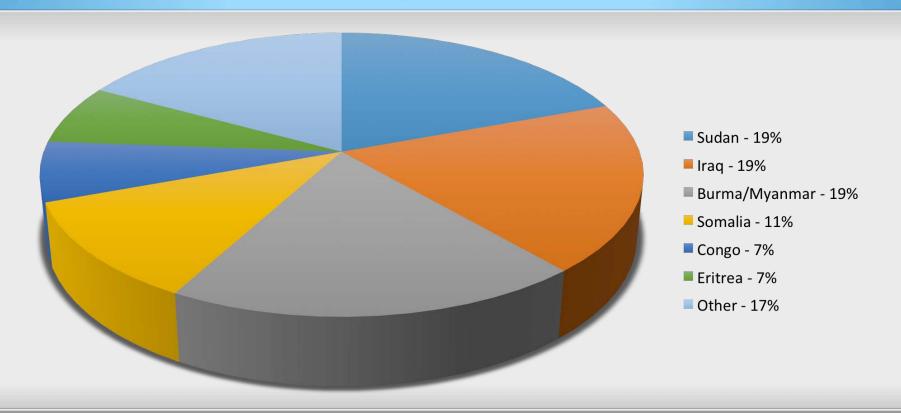


Community partners





Referral demographics: countries





"My whole time as a refugee, no one has ever asked how I am feeling. It feels good to be asked."



"You gave us hope that things would get better, and here we are. It was true. Even with words, you helped a lot."



"You open our eyes on many things. If someone gives you money, you spend the money and it's gone. But when you give advice, it stays. I use the teaching. You are not useless."





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