

WORLD REFUGEE DAY ADVOCACY TOOLKIT

WHOEVER, WHEREVER, WHENEVER
EVERYONE HAS THE RIGHT TO SEEK SAFETY



In honor of World Refugee Day on June 20, we invite individuals, churches, and partners to use this toolkit to show their support for the children, women, and men forced to flee. We invite you to join us as we lift up the courage, resilience, and perseverance of refugees worldwide.

As people of faith invested in the work of welcome, we have to utilize our stories to ensure that elected officials promote and maintain our nation's admirable tradition of refugee resettlement and implement humane and just immigration policies. Episcopal Migration Ministries and The Episcopal Church Office of Government Relations invite you to join in the work of welcome through advocating for our newest neighbors.

FIVE WAYS YOU CAN TAKE ACTION:

1

Prepare your statement.

Prepare to tell your members of Congress 1) Who you are, 2) Why you care, 3) What you want. Sample language follows on the next page.

2

Write to your Senators and Representative.

Send an [Action Alert](#) through the Episcopal Public Policy Network to urge your Senators and representative to support refugee resettlement.

3

Call your Members of Congress.

Amplify your advocacy by calling in addition to writing. Every action you take adds to the swell of support for legislative action. Instructions follow on the next page.

4

Post to Social Media.

Social media can be important touch-points tracked by Congressional offices. Post to Facebook and Twitter using #SupportRefugees, #WithRefugees, #EpiscopalAdvocacy, #WRD2022 and be sure to tag your Members of Congress, EMM (@EMMRefugees), and UNHCR accounts (@USAforUNHCR, @refugees, @UNHCRUSA). Sample social media post language follows on the next page.

5

Host a Refugee Sunday.

This is an opportunity to celebrate and share the Church's ministry of welcome, teach about refugee resettlement, and inspire the local community to take action in support of refugees and immigrants. Host a Refugee Sunday and share the message of welcome and hope with your community through stories, reflection, and prayer.

Request toolkit here: <https://dfms.formstack.com/forms/emmrefugeesunday>

TAKE ACTION!



Make a Donation to Support
the work of Welcome
episcopalmigrationministries.org/give



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Sample language for your call script

As an Episcopalian and your constituent, I am writing to urge you to support the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program and refugees who arrive in the country through this program.

The program, established in 1980, brings individuals fleeing persecution to seek safety into the United States. The Church has a long history of helping refugees that stretches from the late 1800s to the creation of the official resettlement agency, Episcopal Migration Ministries, in the 1980s.

Given the increased need around the world and that the U.S. has resettled fewer refugees in recent years, the program needs your continued support and commitment to ensure that we can continue receiving the most vulnerable individuals.

As such, Congress must prioritize the following:

- Fulfilling our refugee resettlement goal each year. We are well below the fiscal year 2022 goal of 125,000. Congress must think creatively to establish and maintain safe and orderly humanitarian protection for refugees and to ensure people are resettled and protected without delay.
- Robust appropriations in fiscal year 2023 for refugee accounts like the Refugee Entrant Assistance (REA) Account and the Migration and Refugee Assistance (MRA).
- Ensuring the refugee admissions program continues to accept those most in need by recognizing the unique risks vulnerable communities around the world face and providing just and equal treatment to each group processed through the program.

Call your Members of Congress

To find your Representative and Senators, visit: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/members>

You will make a total of three calls. Call the U.S. Capitol Switchboard at (202) 224-3121 and ask to be connected to one of your Senators. Repeat this process for your other Senator, as well as your Representative, either conveying your message to a staffer or leaving a voicemail.

Social media posts **(be sure to tag Members of Congress, EMM and UNHRC)*

#Refugees bring their resiliency & experiences to help make our communities better. We celebrate them this #WRD2022, #EpiscopalAdvocacy #WithRefugees #SupportRefugees

As we celebrate #WRD2022, join us in making sure the U.S. continues its welcoming legacy and resettles #refugees. #EpiscopalAdvocacy #WithRefugees #SupportRefugees

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