U.S. Pathways for Afghan Refugees

As tens of thousands of Afghan refugees arrive in the U.S., Iowa is preparing to welcome several hundred individuals. According to the Iowa Bureau of Refugee Services, most Afghan arrivals will be humanitarian parolees. A humanitarian parolee is an individual who was temporarily brought to the US (who would have otherwise been inadmissible for the country) because of an emergency in their country of origin.

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Dubuque resettled refugees for over 77 years, prior to our closure in 2018 due to federal limits on the number of refugees allowed into the US. However, we remain committed to assisting Afghan refugees in a number of ways. Our team of Immigration Attorneys will be assisting Afghan nationals with their legal processes once they arrive in the Archdiocese of Dubuque. Until this time, we are coordinating with local resettlement groups in Iowa and surrounding states to provide volunteer and financial support.

Over 13,000 Afghan nationals are currently being held at the Ft. McCoy army base between Sparta and Tomah, WI. Catholic Charities of the LaCrosse diocese is taking the lead in providing humanitarian relief and they need our help. If you
or your group is interested in volunteering at Ft. McCoy for 1-2 week deployments, please contact Tracy Morrison at t.morrison@dbqarch.org or 563-588-0558. The volunteer needs are changing rapidly, and volunteers should be able to be on their feet and active for 8-10 hour days providing social and humanitarian support to men, women, and children. We will be acting as an intermediary with the LaCrosse Catholic Charities and helping to coordinate volunteer opportunities and lodging needs. Please consider helping if you are able. If you are not able to volunteer, please consider a financial or in-kind donation. Click HERE for a list of items needed.

Click HERE to read more on how Catholic Charities of Lacrosse is working directly with Afghan refugees at Fort McCoy in Wisconsin to provide basic necessities and human connection to those who have suffered trauma.

Read more on the U.S. pathways available to Afghan refugees by clicking HERE. The operational phases of "Operation Allies Welcome" from the Department of Homeland Security are available HERE.

**Watch the 90 Faces of Hope Videos HERE**

**Attention Birth Parents:** If you or someone you know placed a child in an adoptive home and you desire to remain anonymous, please read the following information carefully. Per the Iowa Department of Public Health: Bureau of Health Statistics, adoptees may now receive a noncertified copy of the certificate of birth prior to adoption. **If you want to remain anonymous, this requires your immediate attention.**

Click Here for more information from the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) or call the IDPH Bureau of Statistics at 515.281.7689. Catholic Charities also has a resource page with more information, including FAQs.

**Now Accepting New Counseling Clients**

We are now accepting new counseling clients at our Waterloo office or via telehealth!

Janet Schuster, our master's level counseling intern, is available to help you along your journey to improved mental health.

Janet provides counseling services for individuals, couples, and families. She is ready to listen and engage in order to help you reach your goals.

United Way Partners in Keeping Families Together

Immigration Legal Services at Catholic Charities was recently featured as one of Cedar Valley United Way's four pillars of
service in the campaign video project. We are grateful for the partnership and generous financial support of United Way!

Featured in the United Way video are Anthony & Huda, whose years-long journey through the immigration process resulted in keeping their family together. Click HERE to watch the complete video.

“We actually get to keep families together. We actually get to bring a loved one here from abroad. Just seeing that kind of difference...that we make is very rewarding” - Miryam Antúnez de Mayolo, Catholic Charities Immigration Attorney

JOIN THE CATHOLIC CHARITIES TEAM!

Are you a motivated and compassionate individual with an interest in social services? Current openings include: Bilingual Administrative Assistant (Waterloo), Kennedy Park West Property Manager (Dubuque), & Mental Health Counselor.

To schedule your first appointment, call 563-588-0558

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Click HERE to View Current Employment Opportunities

A BETTER KIND OF POLITICS

Civilize It

Civilize It: A Better Kind of Politics responds to Pope Francis’ call in Fratelli Tutti to “seek the good of all people” (no. 182) by encountering our neighbors and entering into a dialogue that seeks the truth across perspectives. Click Here to pledge charity, clarity, and creativity to promote the common good and be one of the first 1,000 people to commit to Civilize It: A Better Kind of Politics.

Counseling Corner: Supporting Students at Home

The start of a new school year can be an exciting yet uncertain time for the whole family. Due to the circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic, many kids are facing mental health challenges right now. In fact, 82% of 11-17-year-olds who took a screen at mhascreening.org from March 2020-July 2021 were showing signs of a mental health condition.

If you are concerned about your child or teen’s ability to readjust to in-person school and have a good year, there are things you can do at home to set them up for success and support them during this transition. Click Here for resources to help support your students at home. To connect with a licensed mental health professional, call Catholic Charities at 563.588.0558.

U.S. Bishops & Catholic Charities USA Urge Humane Treatment of Haitians, Other Migrants

"As a Church at the service of all God’s people, we embrace Christ’s call to welcome the newcomer and accompany them wherever they may be...we are especially mindful of that obligation and saddened to see such a disregard for human dignity. After all, it is in the face of each migrant that we see the face of Christ...In addition to those services and works provided by many Catholic institutions, we offer our prayers for these migrants and all those seeking safety, security, and the opportunity to flourish in accordance with their God-given dignity." Click below to read the full statement:

Thank you for your continued support of Catholic Charities!

Together, we are providing help and creating hope for those most vulnerable in our communities.

Learn more about our services at CatholicCharitiesDubuque.org

Plan Your Legacy With Catholic Charities

You can have an everlasting influence on the lives of those we serve at Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Dubuque. Please ask your attorney to include a bequest for our organization in your will. If you would like more information about leaving a legacy gift to Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Dubuque, please contact Jeff Schneider at dbqcddevdir@dbqarch.org or call (800) 876-3546.
Do you have a story you would like to share about your experience with Catholic Charities? Contact us at 319.272.2141 or DBQCCPR@dbqarch.org.

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The Archdiocese of Dubuque
contactus@dbqarch.org