

**THE METRO DC SYNODICAL WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION
2017-2018 FUNDRAISER
FOR LUTHERAN IMMIGRATION AND REFUGEE SERVICE (LIRS)**

Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS) has welcomed more than 500,000 migrants and refugees to the United States through the initiative of Lutheran



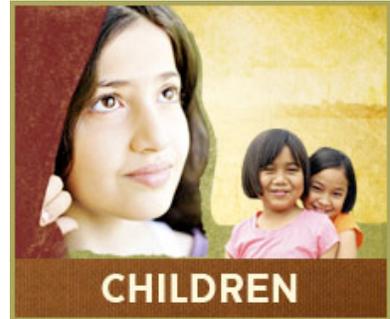
Millions of people around the world are forced to flee their homes and leave everything behind.

congregations that inspired their formation in 1939, and Lutheran churches remain their vital partners as they continue to welcome newcomers. Informed by their Lutheran faith and decades of experience with migrants and refugees, they have responded to people caught in conflict and facing persecution. They have developed new service programs, birthed new service organizations, and influenced public policy in the best interests of those they serve.

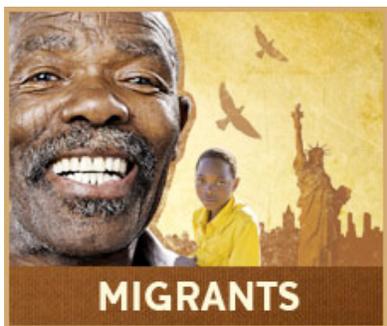
LIRS works with migrants and refugees, U.S. Lutherans, and many partners in service and

justice to accomplish their mission. Refugees are resettled through a network of local organizations in multiple states, most of which are Lutheran social ministry organizations.

Many of those organizations also provide immigration legal services. Asylum seekers, survivors of torture, and other migrants impacted by detention are served through partners providing legal and social services including visitation ministry. In addition, they work directly with foster care programs at the state level to provide family reunification and foster care services for unaccompanied refugee and immigrant minors.



Children are often orphaned or torn from their parents as a result of conflict around the world.



Many migrants arriving in the U.S. seek humanitarian protection from torture and persecution in their home countries.

WHAT CAN YOUR UNIT DO?

WELCA units and all congregations are invited to share their blessings and donate to this year's project. You can learn more about LIRS at <https://www.lirs.org/>.

WHERE DO YOU SEND YOUR COLLECTED MONEY?

By **May 31, 2018** please send your contribution* in the form of a check payable to

"METRO DC SYNODICAL WOMEN"

to:

Karen Ager
PO Box 44735
Fort Washington, MD 20749-4735

*Active congregational units are also asked to complete and enclose Offering Form A, which is found on page 11 of the Stewardship Guide.