

REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT IN Delaware

REFUGEE POPULATION OF DELAWARE

The United States has been a leader in welcoming [refugees](#) who seek safety from persecution based on their race, religion, nationality, political opinion or membership in a particular social group. Following World War II, the U.S. began welcoming refugees and over time the system has evolved to have a strong infrastructure centered on [public-private partnerships](#). Communities across the U.S. have recognized the important economic and social benefits of resettling refugees. Delaware residents have played a vital role in the resettlement program and refugees have positively contributed to DE communities. In 2013, organizations and communities across [Delaware](#) welcomed less than 1% of [refugees arriving in the U.S.](#) Of the 33 total newcomers, 20 were asylees, 7 were Cuban/Haitian entrants, and 6 were resettled refugees.

SERVICES AVAILABLE TO REFUGEES IN DELAWARE

In addition to [programming](#) to support refugees when they first arrive to the United States, the federal government provides monetary aid through grants to the state, Voluntary Agencies, and other refugee aid organizations for community and short-term refugee support. [Jewish Family Services of Delaware](#) serves as the refugee resettlement office for the state. [Primary program](#) services include cash and medical assistance, access to English as a second language classes, counseling, and case management.

FEDERAL FY14 ORR FUNDING TO DELAWARE FOR REFUGEE PROGRAMS (AS OF DECEMBER 2013)		
Total	Cash & Medical Assistance	Refugee Social Services
\$105,000	\$30,000	\$75,000

Another service available to refugees in North Carolina is the employment [Matching Grant Services](#), administered by Voluntary Agencies in the state. An alternative to public cash assistance, private agencies match federal contributions and provide intensive case management services to help refugees get employed and become self-sufficient within 120 days of arrival.

"In 2005, MCFS was awarded funding from the U.S. Department of Labor to provide job-readiness services to adults residing in Delaware County and Philadelphia. Since creating the "Preparing Older Youth for Success" job readiness program, participants can choose one of three credentialing courses in customer service, home care aide or General Educational Development (GED)."

-Upper Darby, Delaware, [Philly Tribune](#)

REFUGEES MAKE DELAWARE STRONG

Originally from Russia, Genrietta Mazina holds a PhD in Polymers and previously worked as a senior researcher at the Scientific Research Institute in Moscow. Subjected to anti-Semitism, she and her son were forced to flee Russia in 1989, but were able to be resettled in the U.S. Despite her advanced degree, Genrietta had difficulty finding employment in the U.S. and was thus incredibly grateful for the public support and assistance she and her son received through the Jewish Family Services during their first few months of resettlement. Currently, Genrietta resides in Claymont, Delaware. In her spare time, she happily indulges in American literature, frequents the Jewish Community Center pool and is a proud grandmother of two. She has stayed active in the refugee community and participated in the UNHCR's first Refugee Congress in 2011, which celebrated the 60th anniversary on the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the 50th anniversary of the Convention on Reduction of Statelessness.

LOCAL AFFILIATES AND OFFICES OF VOLUNTARY AGENCIES IN DELAWARE

- USCCB, Catholic Charities, Inc., Wilmington

In addition to these agencies, many ethnic community-based organizations (ECBOs) exist throughout the state to help various refugee communities integrate and succeed in their new homes. These organizations are run by refugees to aid in the resettlement of fellow refugees by providing a variety of direct services, increasing civic participation, and preserve the community's cultural identity and history.