

Who are refugees?

According to the United Nations Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees, a refugee is "a person who, owing to well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality and is unable, or owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country; or who, not having a nationality and being outside the country of his former habitual residence as a result of such events, is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to return to it."



For further information

In the Fort Wayne area call:
(260) 422-5625 or (800) 686-7459 (toll free)

And don't forget to visit our Web site, www.ccfwsb.org. There, you'll find stories about refugees adjusting to life in this country, as well as stories about a broad range of people benefiting from our services.

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Fort Wayne–South Bend Inc. is a social service agency accredited by the Council on Accreditation, serving people in the Indiana counties of Adams, Allen, DeKalb, Elkhart, Huntington, Kosciusko, LaGrange, Marshall, Noble, Steuben, St. Joseph, Wabash, Wells, and Whitley.

Catholic Charities provides assistance to all individuals regardless of their religious affiliation, race, national origin, or gender.

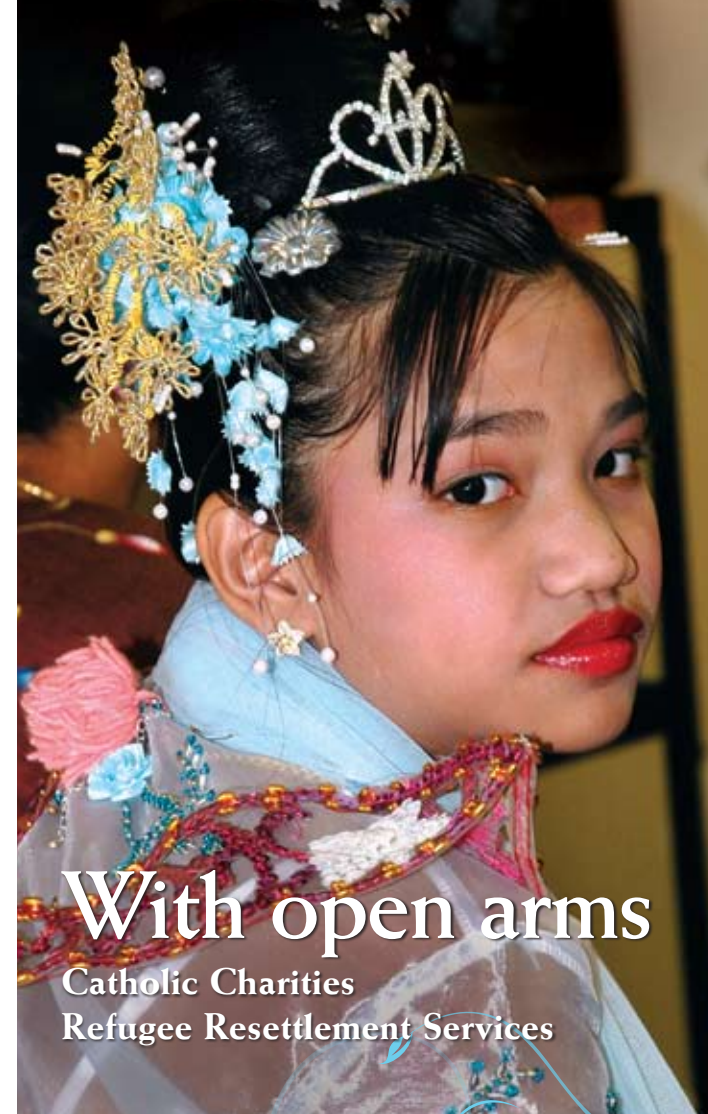


Catholic
Charities

Fort Wayne-South Bend Diocese

A service of Catholic Charities,
Diocese Fort Wayne-South Bend

*Through your compassion
and continued generosity,
we can welcome them.*



With open arms

Catholic Charities
Refugee Resettlement Services



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"My fellow
Burmese refugees
and I, as well as
other refugees
from around the
world, owe a debt of gratitude to
Catholic Charities and the entire
community for enabling us to start
new lives beyond the bonds of
oppression. There's still much to be
done, but with continued support,
we can accomplish great things."



—Nyein Chan Oo,
Supervisor, Catholic Charities
Refugee Resettlement Services

There are millions of refugees worldwide who have fled their homelands to escape ongoing conflict, inhumane treatment, and—in some cases—genocide. Left in limbo, often suffering harsh conditions in refugee camps for many years, all they ask is the opportunity to be productive members of a society in which they can live free of fear, persecution, and tyranny.

A very small number of those refugees are given the chance to resettle and begin life anew in this country. With assistance from the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, foundations, businesses, and individuals, Catholic Charities provides a wide range of services to make refugees feel welcome, to nurture their well-being, and to hasten their assimilation into our culture.

What Catholic Charities does:

- Satisfy the initial basic needs of newcomers with housing, home furnishings, food, and clothing.
- Coordinate medical evaluations and care.
- Provide essential transportation.
- Ensure that children are enrolled in school.
- Provide referrals to other appropriate social service organizations and governmental agencies.
- Provide language interpretation and translation.
- Facilitate English-as-second-language classes.
- Foster acculturation.
- Provide job training, development, and placement.
- Coordinate volunteer services.

What you can do:

Donate

- Money.
- Clothing.
- Household furnishings.
- Housekeeping and personal-care products.

Volunteer

- Help pick up donations.
- Help refugees set up housekeeping.
- Provide transportation to essential appointments.
- Introduce refugees to our culture.
- Teach life skills to adults.
- Teach English to adults and children.
- Tutor children.
- Help refugees find jobs.
- Teach adults how to drive.
- Just be a friend.

Hire refugees

- Refugees are legally admitted to the United States and authorized to work immediately upon arrival.
- Refugees have skills that are easily adaptable to your operations.
- Refugees are eager to work, provide for themselves, and be productive members of our community.