



Lutheran Immigration  
and Refugee Service





# Making a difference in the lives of Refugees



## Welcoming Refugee Families

Every day, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS) works with partners across the country to resettle refugees in safe and welcoming communities. The LIRS network helps refugees find their first home and their first job – and we provide ongoing support to refugees on their path to citizenship and integration into their local communities.

**14,760 Refugees Resettled\***

\*This figure includes Special Immigrant Visa holders who served in the U.S. military.

*"I arrived in America in 2014. On the day I arrived, it felt like a miracle to me. The pastor prayed and I realized something was truly different. The church clothed us, they fed us. We were very grateful. I left many people behind who suffer as I did. I would say I am very happy because I get to see my children go to school and come back, and they are well. And I know that their tomorrow will be good."*

– Germain, Father and former refugee from Uganda

## Protecting Vulnerable Children

Through our partnership with the U. S. government and our nationwide network, LIRS ensures that children entering the U.S. alone are placed in safe and nurturing environments. LIRS is the only organization in the country that offers comprehensive placement services for unaccompanied children – from family reunification to long-term foster care.

**26,697 Children Served**

*Rosa, now 16, came to the United States last year from El Salvador to join her mother. After years of enduring physical and verbal abuse from men in her family, LIRS was able to reunite Rosa with her mom in Boston and connect her with local children's services. With the support of a psychiatrist and mental health counselor, Rosa is working to rise above her past and build a better life in America. She dreams of being a pediatrician and someday helping children who, like her, need compassionate care on their way to adulthood.*



Across the globe each day, nearly 34,000 people are forced to flee their home country as a result of conflict or persecution.

Source: UNHCR

## Grassroots Advocacy

The LIRS advocacy team leads bipartisan efforts on Capitol Hill, advocating for the rights of refugees, unaccompanied children, and migrants in the United States.

- Following the inauguration, LIRS launched a petition that secured nearly 90,000 signatures demanding the preservation of refugee resettlement in the U.S.
- LIRS coordinated 100+ meetings with Lutheran leaders and Senate and House offices as part of the Lutheran Immigration Leadership Summit.
- On World Refugee Day, LIRS provided 48 migrants and refugees with advocacy training on Capitol Hill that culminated in visits with 53 congressional offices.
- LIRS hosted a webinar that equipped nearly 500 participants with grassroots tools and techniques to organize initiatives during the August congressional recess.
- LIRS published *Betraying Family Values* ([LIRS.org/bfv](http://LIRS.org/bfv)), a report that offers case studies and insight on immigration policy as it relates to issues of family separation.

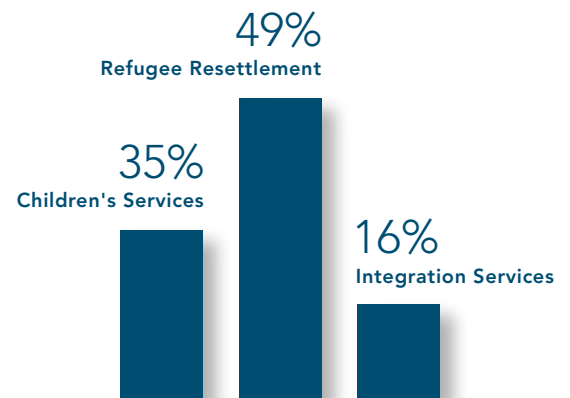


## Community Engagement



LIRS works with congregations and individual supporters, empowering communities of faith to stand for welcome in cities across the United States. Collectively, we are beginning to piece together a mosaic of hope in this country – countering fear with compassion and offering safe harbor to those who need it most.

- LIRS launched the Circle of Welcome, connecting 75 volunteers from 11 congregations with local resettlement partners to create meaningful ways for faith and community groups to engage with refugees.
  - LIRS detention visitation ministry mobilized 1,137 volunteers who made 13,447 visits to detainees.
  - LIRS supporters sent 3,982 holiday cards and 665 gifts to immigrant families that were spending the holiday season in detention centers, far from their homes.
- In its 5th year, the LIRS Migrant and Refugee Leadership Academy is now comprised of more than 190 former refugee and migrant leaders in 39 states.



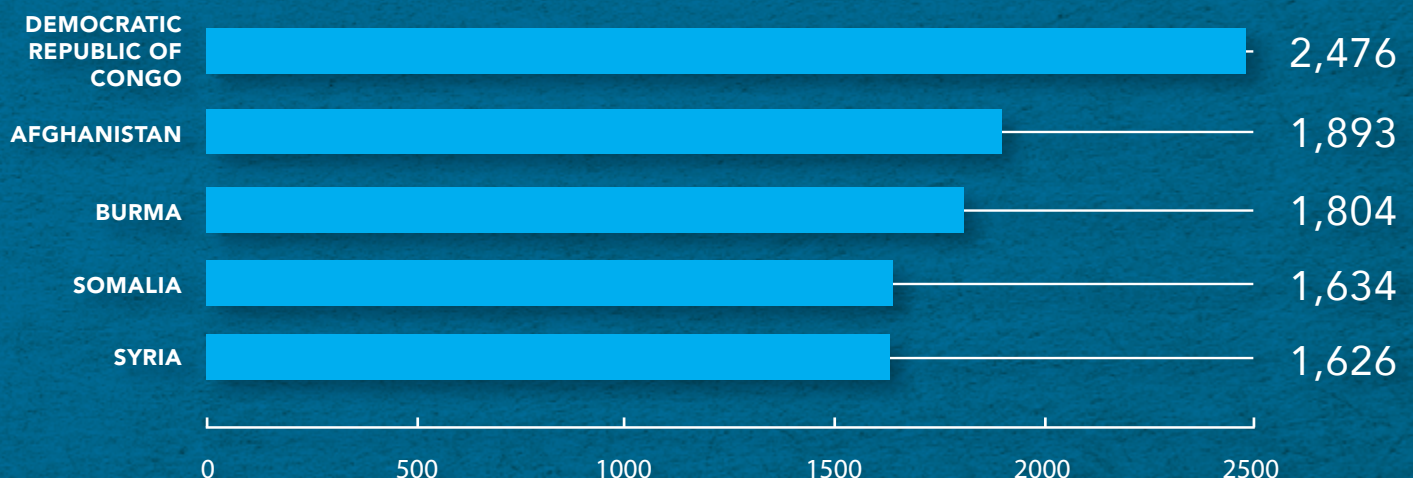
### LIRS Program Services

Figures are based on government revenue  
as reported in the 2016 LIRS budget.

*"Resettlement in the U.S. was a second chance at life. Our hopes were renewed and opportunities for success were opened up. We have enjoyed our life here and the promise that we can lead a dignified life which is rooted in self-determination, desire, and most importantly, to see the pride in our parents' eyes since we have succeeded."* – Claudette, Former refugee from Rwanda

## U.S. Resettled Refugees by LIRS in 2016

### Top 5 Countries of Origin







## Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service

### Statement of Financial Position

**AT DECEMBER 31, 2016**

Dollars in thousands

#### Current Assets

Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$ 11,793
U.S. Government Receivable	6,781
Investment in Lutheran Center Corporation	3,650
Other Assets	1,858

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<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 24,082</b>
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#### Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses	\$ 13,002
Long-term Debt	1,918

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<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 14,920</b>
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#### Net Assets

Unrestricted	\$ 8,366
Temporarily Restricted	796

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<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 9,162</b>
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<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 24,082</b>
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### Statement of Activities & Changes in Net Assets

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016**

Dollars in thousands

#### Support & Revenue

Contributions	\$ 2,567
U.S. Government and State	64,666
Fees and Other Revenue	2,187

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<b>Total Support and Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 69,421</b>
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#### Expenses

Program Services	\$ 61,970
Management and General	5,693
Fundraising	1,166

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<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 68,829</b>
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<b>Change in Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ ( 443)</b>
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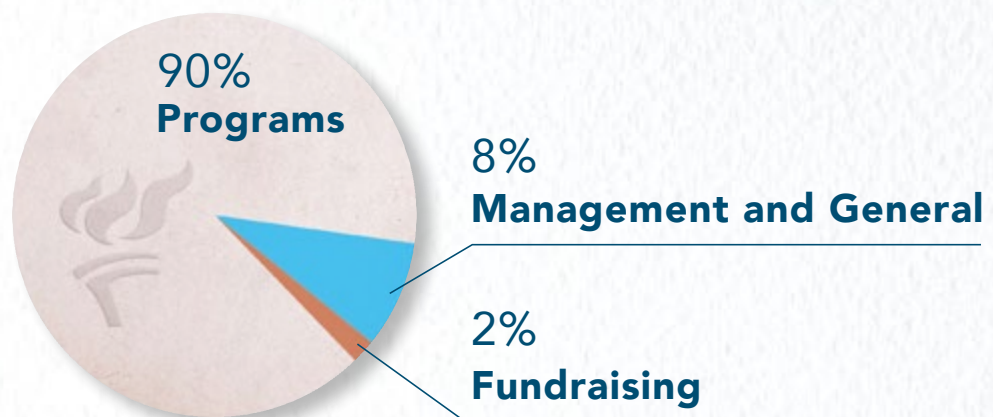
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	8,719
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<b>Net Assets, End of Year</b>	<b>\$ 9,162</b>
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*Audited financial statements and Form 990's are available  
at [LIRS.org/financial](http://LIRS.org/financial)*

### EXPENSES 2016





*As a witness to God's love for all people,  
we stand with and advocate for migrants and refugees,  
transforming communities  
through ministries of service and justice.*

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