**TAKE ACTION TODAY: Tell Your Local, State, and National Leaders to Welcome Refugees**

**Background:** Right now, as we prepare for President-elect Donald Trump to take office in January, it is more important than ever for **all** of our elected officials to hear that their communities welcome refugees. Refugee resettlement saves lives, encourages other countries to keep their doors open to people needing protection, and promotes regional stability and global security. We cannot turn our backs on the refugees we have pledged to welcome. Nor can we discriminate against individuals based on where they’re from or what religion they practice. Refugee resettlement must continue to be a cornerstone of U.S. global leadership.

More than 65 million people have been persecuted and forced from their homes and are seeking safety. As a nation, we must uphold our values of generosity, hospitality and compassion. Our actions must match gravity of this displacement crisis and live up to our welcoming legacy. Please spread the word and have everyone you know share this alert!

**Call your Senators and Representatives: 1-866-940-2439**

**Tell Them Your Community Welcomes Refugees**

Please call the same number three times to be connected with your Representative and both of your Senators.

Here’s a sample of what to say: *“I am a constituent from [CITY, STATE], and I urge you to welcome refugees and support the U.S. refugee resettlement program. Resettlement is a core American legacy that extends hospitality and offers a chance for refugees to rebuild their lives in safety and dignity. My community welcomes refugees and I urge you to reflect the best of our nation by supporting refugee resettlement in the United States.”*

Feel free to share a personal story about the importance of refugees to you, your faith, your community, your business, etc. Let them know the specific ways that refugees benefit and are welcomed into your community, and why refugee protection is so important to you.

You can also tweet your policy makers: *“.*[*@SENATOR/REPRESENTATIVE*](https://twitter.com/cspan/lists/members-of-congress/members)*, my community stands #WithRefugees! Show that #AmericaWelcomes by supporting U.S. refugee resettlement! #RefugeesWelcome”*

**Share This Message with Your State and Local Officials!**

Your state and local leaders need to hear the same message. Tell them that your community welcomes refugees. To find your governor, state legislators, mayor, and local officials, click here: <https://www.usa.gov/elected-officials>. To tweet your state and local officials, click to find the twitter handles for your [governor](https://twitter.com/gov/lists/us-governors?lang=en) and [state legislators](https://twitter.com/NCSLorg/lists/legislators2/members).

It is more important than ever for **all** our nation’s lawmakers to represent the hospitality that communities across the country are demonstrating. Take action today to stand with refugees.

For more tips on how to make your voice heard with Members of Congress, click here: <https://twitter.com/i/moments/798297193559904258>

Please spread the word and send this email to your networks! Follow [@RCUSA\_DC](https://twitter.com/RCUSA_DC) on Twitter and “like" [Refugee Council USA](https://www.facebook.com/Refugee-Council-USA-207752549279845/?fref=ts) on Facebook for up-to-date alerts.