Welcoming and Collaborating with Newcomers in the United States
Objectives

1. Introductions
2. Overview of Refugee Resettlement
3. Newcomer Arrivals Now
4. Educational Practices
5. Planning for the Future
Our mission is to cultivate a welcoming thriving community that collaborates with refugees and newcomers through education, engagement, and support.
Listen with more than your ears.

Tara  Dhan  Ram  Chara  Roshika
**Education**

**LITERACY**
- After-School Programs
- English Language Acquisition
- GLOBE Summer Camp
- School Orientations
- Financial and Digital Literacy

**PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT AND ADVANCEMENT**
- College Readiness
- Career Preparedness
- Life Skills
- Entrepreneurial Support
- Citizenship

**Support**

**CRISIS INTERVENTION**
- Mental Wellness
- Home Visits
- School Liaison Support
- Resource Referrals (partner/community agencies)

**Engagement**

**CROSS-SECTIONAL COLLABORATION**
- Sewing Circle
- Young Adult Leaders
- Special Groups
- Newcomers Soccer
- Cross-Cultural Programs
- Special Projects

**BASIC NEEDS**
- Food
- Clothing
- Drop-in Support
- Interpretation / Translation

**COMMUNITY OUTREACH**
- Community Dinners
- Mentoring
- Volunteer Integration
- ThanksLansing Event
- Thrive Event
- Community Presentations & Partners
Forced Migration

Migrant

Immigrant

Refugee

Asylee
“a refugee is someone who is unable or unwilling to return to their country of origin owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group, or political opinion.”

1951 UN CONVENTION
The Global Crisis is Our Crisis

+ 80 Million Forcibly Displaced People
26.4 Million Refugees
+ 51% Woman & Children
< 1% resettled
Who has stepped up?

- The State Offices
- Military who served in Afghanistan
- Grandmas
- Teachers
- New Citizens
- Retired Police Officers
- Survivors
- School Children
Lansing has welcomed nearly 300 Afghans in the past 4 months!
Steps for welcoming new Afghans

Lean on longstanding community relationships
Assist with support of Afghan Association of Michigan
Coordinate with the resettlement agency
Home Visits - Welcome
School Orientation
Basic Needs
Staff w/ Dari & Pashto
In person programming
In person English classes
Transportation needs
Addition of new class sites
A Holistic Approach

English is not the destination. It is a part of the toolbox used to reach student goals.
• Learn about your students.
• Be culturally inclusive.
• Learn about the cultures around you
• Don't assume.
• Remember, your students are first, not you.
• Student centered timelines.
Your SDG progress report can start with a brief review of your organization's alignment to the Global Goals. It can include the social responsibility and business case for taking action on the SDGs.

Creating a good SDG progress report means being transparent with your audience. Back up your claims with relevant data. Keep your sentences concise when necessary, but dive into detail when it comes to qualitative and quantitative evidence.

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Develop multilingual classrooms & activities.

Make room for play especially in adult classes.

Expect & Prepare for
Food scarcity
Transportation
Childcare
• Meet them wherever they are now.
• Recognize all success.
• Provide various levels of accessibility.

• Make task based lesson a priority.
• Expect non linear growth and performance.
• Mix your styles.
• Create trust by trusting.
www.roonga.com/rdc2022

20 Year Celebration
May 10, 2022
Find the light.
Thank you!

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