



## **Interim Human Services Committee | 4.27.22**

*Senator Judy Lee, Chairman*

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**Office of Refugee Services**

NORTH  
**Dakota**  
Be Legendary.™

| Human Services



# BUILDING A FOUNDATION FOR WELLBEING

Day 1 – 90



Day 90 up to 5 years

## National Volunteer Agencies

- Airport pickup
- Housing
- School Enrollment
- Cultural and Community Orientation
- Collaborate with local and state partners to determine refugee resettlement capacity



**Lutheran Immigration  
and Refugee Service**



**CHURCH WORLD SERVICE**

## NDDHS - Refugee Support Services (RSS)

**Guides refugee towards Economic Self-Sufficiency and Long-Term Integration**

Services Include:

- Temp Cash and Medical Assistance – 12 months
- Employment Services
- English Language Learning (ELL)
- Immigration Services
- Refugee School Impact
- Youth Mentorship
- Refugee Health Promotion
- Services to Older Refugees

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# US DEPT OF STATE APPROVED NUMBERS FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2022: 276



**CHURCH WORLD SERVICE**



## **Dickinson**

- (Community Sponsorship Afghan): 12

## **Bismarck**

- (Community Sponsorship Afghan): 15



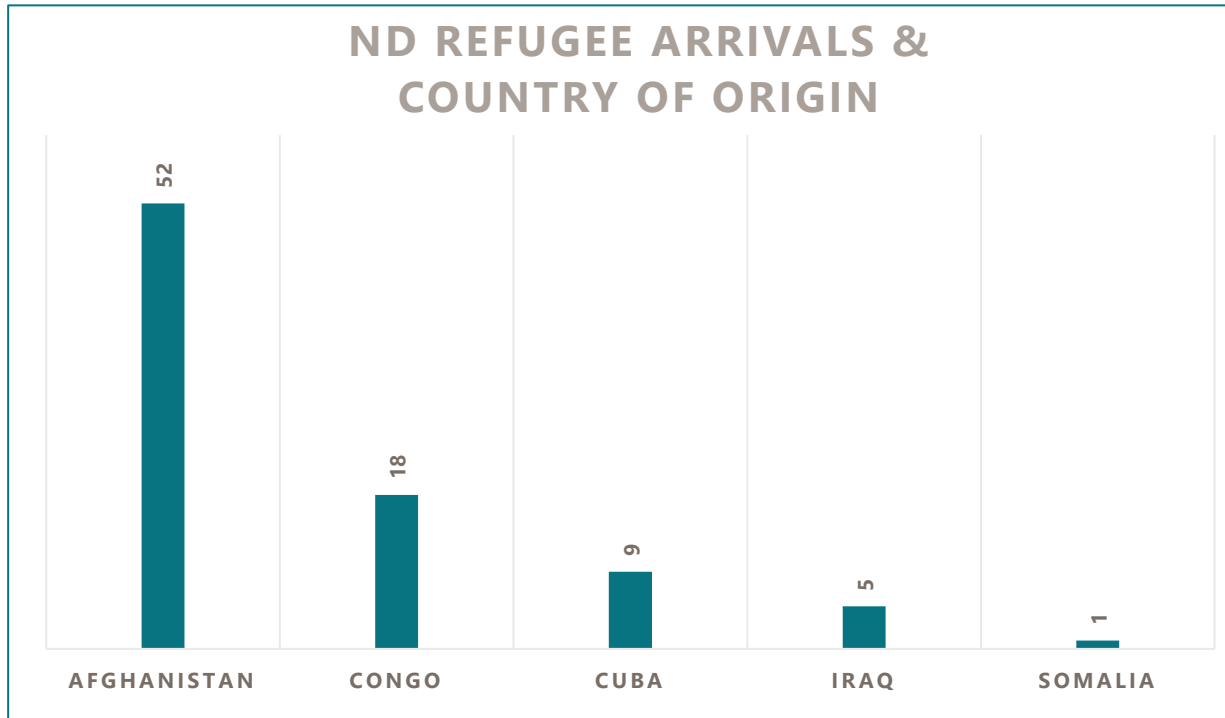
**Lutheran Immigration  
and Refugee Service**



## **Fargo**

- Afghan Evacuees: 69
- Refugees: 180
  - Placed within 100 miles of Fargo

# ARRIVAL STATISTICS FOR FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2022



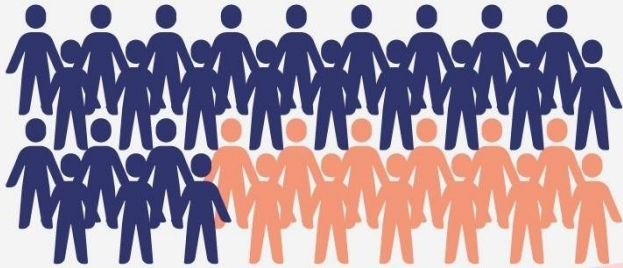
Total Approved Arrivals: 276  
Year to Date Arrivals: 85

# AFGHAN ARRIVALS: 52

## 18 EMPLOYABLE ADULTS

**12** heads of household are employed full-time with benefits.

**6** remain enrolled in English to prepare for the workforce.



\* 6 adult females are providing in home childcare

## AVERAGE WAGE

**\$18**



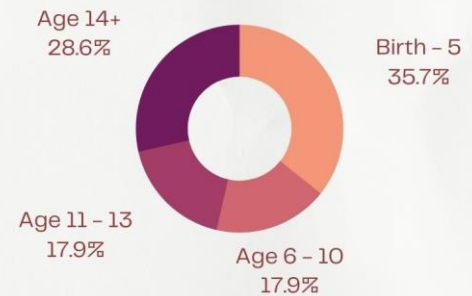
Hourly wages range from \$17 – \$19 per hour. Bonuses are expected at 90 days of employment.

## MANUFACTURING SECTOR



The majority (92%) are employed within the manufacturing sector. The remaining 8% work in food service.

## 28 CHILDREN



# GEOGRAPHIC EXPANSION



## Dickinson

- Evangelical Bible Church

## Bismarck

- Global Neighbors



**CHURCH WORLD SERVICE**

# NEW PROGRAMS & COLLABORATIONS

## Even Start

*Fargo Adult Learning Center*

**Goal:**

Pre-school +  
Parent  
Integration

## Youth Mentorship

**Global Neighbors -  
New American Consortium**

**Goal:**

Social Capital +  
Workforce  
Readiness

## Family Engagement

*Fargo Public Schools*

**Goal:**

Improved EL +  
Community  
Engagement

## Good Jobs Challenge

*M State – NDSCS  
Building Trades Union*

**Goal:**

Prepare 600  
Trade  
Professionals

## Immigration Services

*Immigrant Law Center of MN*

**Goal:**

Adjust status  
towards  
citizenship



# PLANS TO MAXIMIZE REFUGEE IMPACT AND WORKFORCE OUTCOMES

*The strongest single predictor of underemployment among college-educated immigrants is their level of English-language proficiency*

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## Building Collaborations

- Adult Learning Centers (ELL)
- Career Laddering Plans
- Employer Empowerment





# IMMIGRANTS IN NORTH DAKOTA

**ND Foreign-Born Population: 32,389\***  
**Enrolled in College: 4,700**

## Educational Attainment - ND Immigrants\*

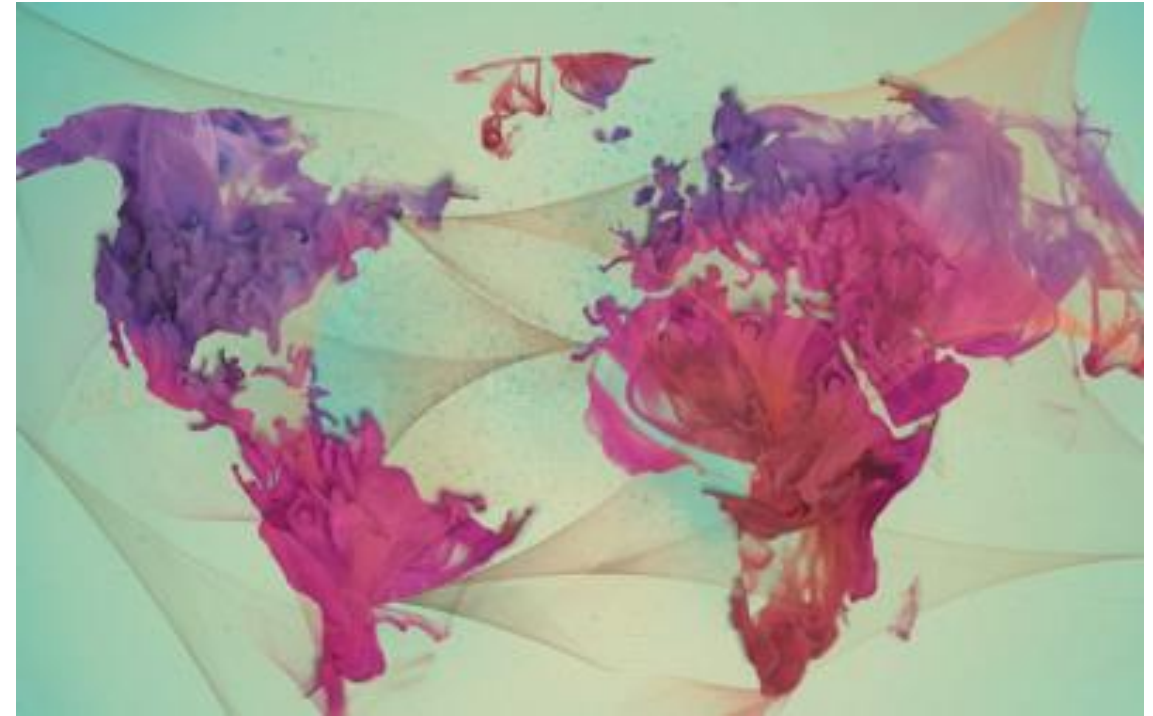
Some College or Associate's Degree	27%
Bachelor's Degree	20%
Graduate or Professional Degree	19%

## World Region of Origin ND Immigrants\*

Europe	10%
Africa	33%
Asia	33%
Latin America	16%

## 2020-21 Academic Year All ND School Districts

Languages Spoken	131
Total ELL Students	4,470
Percent Refugee	13.5%



## National Data – Migration Policy Institute

- 60% of refugees had a college degree or higher, aged 25+ at arrival in 2017
- Most are underemployed

# WELCOMING AS A WORKFORCE STRATEGY



## **Immigration is Our History:**

100 years ago, 80% of North Dakotans were immigrants or the children of immigrants.



## **Immigration Policy is Federal:**

The integration and inclusion of refugees and immigrants into our communities is local.



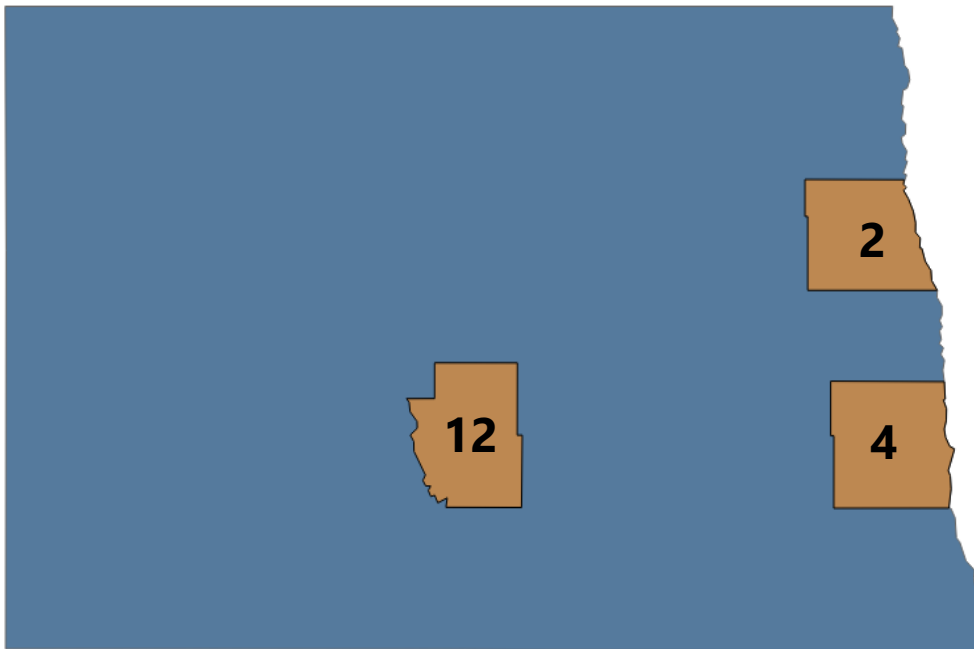
## **Integral Community Members:**

Helping refugees thrive will make our communities and the economy stronger.

# PATHWAYS FOR UKRAINIANS

US plans to resettle 100,000 Ukrainians seeking refuge

## Ukrainian Refugees Resettled in ND During the Last 5 Years



### US Refugee Admissions Program

- Lautenberg Program applications for religious minorities (18,000 in queue)
- Pathway for vulnerable individuals – takes 18-24 months

### Uniting for Ukraine Program

- Must have US Sponsor who will take financial responsibility





## Contact Information

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