

# McKinney-Vento and Refugees and Immigrants

October 2, 2024  
2:00pm-3:00pm

Melissa Rilette Burnce - OSPI McKinney-Vento Training Supervisor

Sarah Peterson - Washington State Refugee Coordinator

Whitney Eich - Program Manager, Office of Refugee and Immigrant Assistance



# Agenda

- ❖ Welcome, Introductions, and Housekeeping
- ❖ McKinney-Vento Review
- ❖ Refugees and Immigrants – Sarah Peterson and Whitney Eich
- ❖ Questions



## Vision

*All students prepared for post-secondary pathways, careers, and civic engagement.*

## Mission

Transform K–12 education to a system that is centered on closing opportunity gaps and is characterized by high expectations for all students and educators. We achieve this by developing equity-based policies and supports that empower educators, families, and communities.

## Values

- Ensuring Equity
- Collaboration and Service
- Achieving Excellence through Continuous Improvement
- Focus on the Whole Child



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# Equity Statement

Each student, family, and community possesses strengths and cultural knowledge that benefits their peers, educators, and schools.

Ensuring educational equity:

- Goes beyond equality; it requires education leaders to examine the ways current policies and practices result in disparate outcomes for our students of color, students living in poverty, students receiving special education and English Learner services, students who identify as LGBTQ+, and highly mobile student populations.
- Requires education leaders to develop an understanding of historical contexts; engage students, families, and community representatives as partners in decision-making; and actively dismantle systemic barriers, replacing them with policies and practices that ensure all students have access to the instruction and support they need to succeed in our schools.



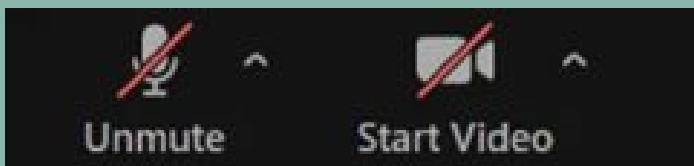
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# Tribal Land Acknowledgement

I would like to acknowledge the Indigenous people who have stewarded this land since time immemorial and who still inhabit the area today, the Steh-Chass Band of Indigenous people of the Squaxin Island Tribe.

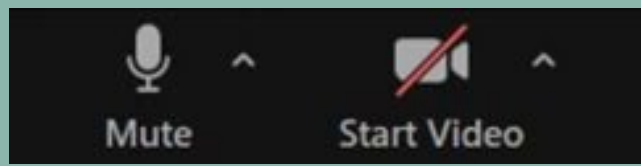


# Zoom Kindness



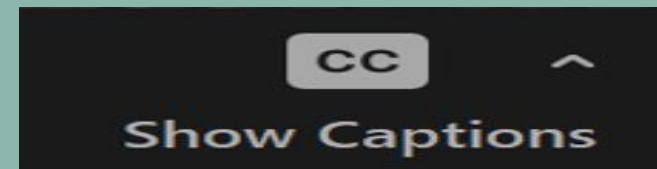
## Please Mute Your Microphone

To mute your microphone, simply click on the microphone icon in the bottom left corner of your screen or use the shortcut Alt+A.



## Please Turn on and off Video when Appropriate

To start or stop video, click on the video icon in the bottom left corner.



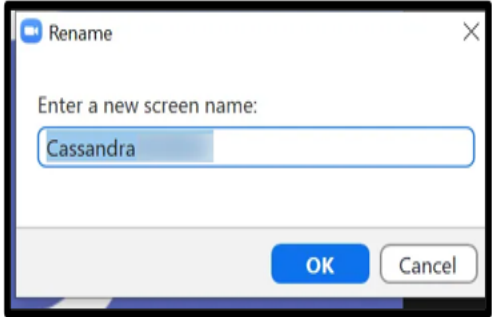
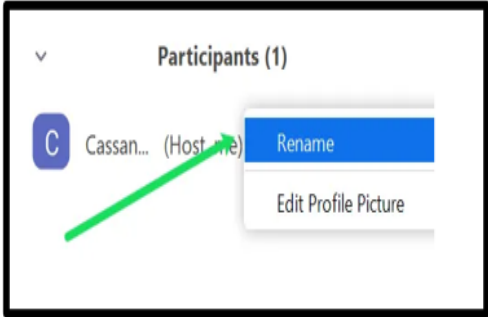
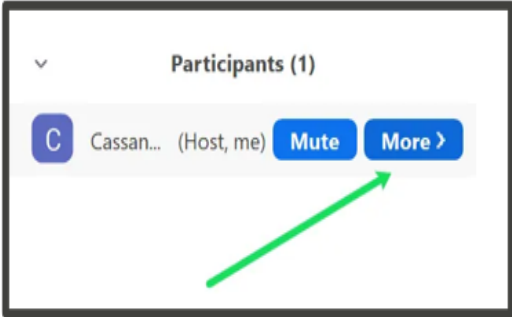
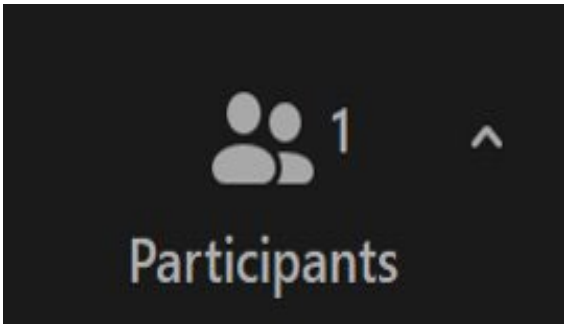
## Need Captions?

- Click on Show Caption in your Zoom toolbar.
- Select your language preference.

10/3/2024



Please make sure your Zoom identifier is your FIRST & LAST name, and your district. This will allow us to take attendance.



If you have questions, please go to the bottom navigation bar and click on the Q and A. This will allow us to answer questions without missing any. We will provide time at the end to review.



\*Please do not put questions into the chat.



# McKinney-Vento Act

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. § 11431 et seq.) is a federal law that provides important educational rights and services to PreK-12 children and youth experiencing homelessness.



# Eligibility

- “Homeless children and youth” refers to children and youth who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence,
- “Unaccompanied youth” includes homeless children and youth who are not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian. 42 U.S.C. 11434a(6).



# This includes students and families that are:

- sharing housing due to loss of housing, economic hardship or a similar reason
- living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or campgrounds due to lack of alternative accommodations
- living in emergency or transitional shelters
- abandoned in hospitals
- using an unordinary sleeping accommodation as their primary nighttime residence (e.g., park benches, etc.)
- living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations
- migratory and living in any of the above situations



# McKinney-Vento: Refugees and Immigrants

A school district may not ask about citizenship or immigration status of the adult enrolling the child or of the child to establish residency within the district, nor may a school district deny a homeless child (including a homeless child who is also an unaccompanied child) enrollment because he or she cannot provide the required documents to establish residency.

# How Are McKinney-Vento and Immigrant and Refugee Students' Issues Braided Together?



# Welcome

**Sarah Peterson**, MSW, CDE

Washington State Refugee Coordinator & Office Chief  
Office of Refugee and Immigrant Assistance  
Department of Social and Health Services

**Whitney Eich**

Program Manager  
Office of Refugee & Immigrant Assistance  
Washington State Department of Social and Health Services



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Welcoming Washington:

McKinney-Vento and Refugee and Immigrant Students

Sarah Peterson, Washington State Refugee Coordinator

Whitney Eich, Program Manager

Office of Refugee and Immigrant Assistance



# What will we cover today?

- How do refugees come to the United States?
- What other pathways do people use to get to the United States?
- What programs and services are newcomers able to access in Washington?
- How may newcomers interact with the McKinney-Vento system?
- What specialized services are available for newcomer children and youth?




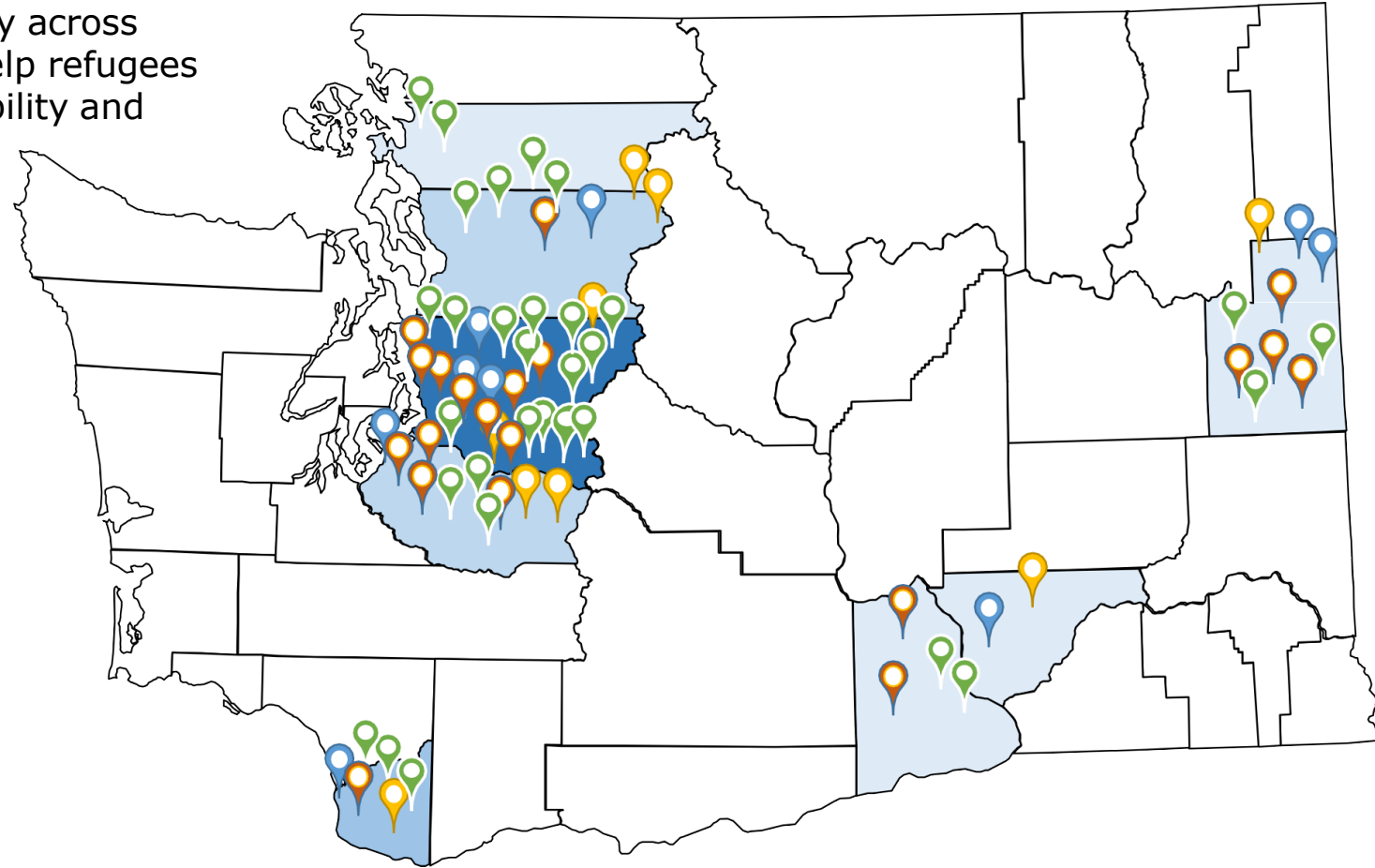



# Welcoming refugees is a collective effort.

## Office of Refugee and Immigrant Assistance

invests federal and state funding into local community across Washington to provide services and resources that help refugees and humanitarian immigrants achieve economic stability and supports long-term integration.

### Partners with more than 100 organizations:

- Refugee Resettlement Agencies
- Nonprofit Organizations
- Ethnic Community-Based Organizations
- Public Health Departments and Health Clinics
- School Districts
- Community Colleges
- Other State Agencies

 Refugee Health & Wellness Employment & Training Immigration Assistance & Naturalization Services Whole Family Programs

## Global Trends At-a-Glance

By the end of 2022, 108.4 million people were forcibly displaced worldwide as a result of persecution, conflict, violence or human rights violations. This includes:

- 35.3 million refugees
- 62.5 million internally displaced people
- 5.4 million asylum seekers
- 5.2 million people in need of international protection, a majority from Venezuela

As of May 2023, [more than 110 million individuals were forcibly displaced worldwide](#). This marks the largest ever single-year increase in forced displacement in UNHCR's history, propelled by the war in Ukraine and other deadly conflicts.

**110  
Million**

More than the entire population of Germany.

**Refugee:** A person forced to flee their home country due to **a well-founded fear of persecution due to that person's race, religion, nationality/ethnicity, membership in a social group or political opinion.**

Source: <https://www.unrefugees.org/refugee-facts/statistics/>

# Definitions

Asylum-Seeker: is a person who has left their country and is seeking protection from persecution, but who has not yet been recognized as a refugee.

Migrant: is a person who leaves their country of origin to seek permanent or temporary residence in another country.

Many new migrants and asylum seekers are entering the U.S. via the Southwest border and are being apprehended by the Department of Homeland Security. As a result, they are placed in removal proceedings with a Notice to Appear in front of an Immigrant Judge.

Refugee: is an individual that has fled their home country and cannot return because they have a well-founded fear of persecution due to their race, religion, national origin, membership in a social group, or political opinion. Refugees apply for and are granted a stable immigration status by the Department of Homeland Security and are admitted into the United States under that status.

Other immigrations statuses qualify for federal refugee resettlement services:

- Asylee or someone granted asylum by the U.S. government.
- Certified Victim of Human Trafficking.
- Amerasian.
- Cuban-Haitian Entrant.
- Afghan and Iraqi Special Immigrant Visa holders (SIVs).
- Certain Afghan and Ukrainian humanitarian parolees



# Pathways for New Arrivals for the U.S. Refugee Resettlement Program

|   | Refugees  |   | Humanitarian Pathways   | Asylum Seekers   |
|---|---|---|---|--|
| <b>How do they arrive to the United States?</b>         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>U.S. Refugee Admissions Program</li> <li>Travel Arranged by International Organization of Migration</li> </ul> |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supporter-Based applications</li> <li>Approved Travel Authorization</li> <li>Travel Independently</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Travel independently.</li> <li>May enter the United States without inspection</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Immigration Status</b>                               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work Authorized</li> <li>Pathway to legal permanent residency and citizenship</li> </ul>                       |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Varied humanitarian entrants</li> <li>Eligible to apply for EAD</li> <li>Pathways to LPR/Citizenship vary</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ask for asylum from USCIBP</li> <li>Case with Immigration Judge</li> <li>Apply for asylum,</li> <li>Apply for EAD (150 days)</li> </ul> |
| <b>What initial welcome services do people receive?</b> | Reception & Placement Program   | Welcome Corps                             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not eligible for R&amp;P resettlement services</li> <li>May be eligible to receive federal refugee resettlement services based on country of origin and immigration status.</li> </ul> | Not eligible for federal refugee resettlement services   |
|   | Refugee Resettlement Agencies   | Private Sponsor Groups                    |   | Eligibility for federal or state cash, food, and medical assistance vary depending on country of origin and immigration status.  |
|   | Federal stipend \$1,325 per person  | Privately raised funds \$2,235 per person |   | <b>Approved Asylum Status (Asylees)</b>  |
| <b>Public Benefits</b>                                  | Eligible to receive federal cash, food, and medical assistance  |   | Eligibility for federal or state cash, food, and medical assistance vary depending on country of origin and immigration status.   | Eligible to receive federal cash, food, and medical assistance   |
| <b>Federal Refugee Resettlement Services</b>            | Eligible for federally funded programs and services, including Matching Grant, Preferred Communities, and ORIA-administered programs and services.    |   | Certain HPs are eligible for federally funded programs and services, including Matching Grant, Preferred Communities, and ORIA-administered programs and services.  | Eligible for federally funded programs and services, including Matching Grant, Preferred Communities, and ORIA-administered programs and services.                             |



# Washington State Arrivals: U.S. Refugee Admission Program FFY 2024: Sept. 15 2024

| Month         | 2019         | 2020         | 2021         | 2022         | 2023         | FFY 2024 Arrivals* Monthly |              |           |          |              |
|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|----------------------------|--------------|-----------|----------|--------------|
|               |              |              |              |              |              | RE                         | SIV          | AM        | PRL      | TOTAL        |
| October       | 187          | 88           | 44           | 57           | 292          | 316                        | 119          | 0         | 0        | 435          |
| November      | 141          | 183          | 55           | 104          | 269          | 346                        | 164          | 1         |          | 511          |
| December      | 142          | 319          | 102          | 66           | 239          | 395                        | 266          |           |          | 661          |
| January       | 151          | 304          | 49           | 85           | 235          | 355                        | 234          |           |          | 589          |
| February      | 145          | 278          | 56           | 203          | 212          | 434                        | 174          | 0         | 0        | 608          |
| March         | 160          | 162          | 15           | 73           | 353          | 261                        | 166          | 2         |          | 429          |
| April         | 183          | 0            | 26           | 135          | 465          | 251                        | 162          | 2         |          | 415          |
| May           | 195          | 2            | 36           | 153          | 562          | 275                        | 103          | 6         |          | 384          |
| June          | 256          | 17           | 87           | 216          | 439          | 158                        | 98           | 0         | 0        | 256          |
| July          | 350          | 41           | 157          | 199          | 415          | 189                        | 169          | 0         | 0        | 358          |
| August        | 336          | 114          | 276          | 347          | 393          | 507                        | 154          | 0         | 0        | 661          |
| September     | 311          | 264          | 202          | 694          | 439          | 235                        | 138          |           |          | 373          |
| <b>Totals</b> | <b>2,557</b> | <b>1,772</b> | <b>1,105</b> | <b>2,332</b> | <b>4,317</b> | <b>3,722</b>               | <b>1,947</b> | <b>11</b> | <b>-</b> | <b>5,680</b> |

### AGE DATA\*

| Age Range  | Individuals YTD | % of arrivals |
|------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 0-4 years  | 610             | 12.38%        |
| 5-18 years | 1,646           | 33.65%        |
| 65+        | 90              | 1.93%         |

| Nationality*    | Individuals YTD | % of arrivals |
|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Afghanistan     | 2,762           | 48.63%        |
| Ukraine         | 521             | 9.17%         |
| Syria           | 305             | 5.37%         |
| Eritrea         | 231             | 4.07%         |
| Dem. Rep. Congo | 214             | 3.77%         |
| Venezuela       | 208             | 3.66%         |
| Guatemala       | 148             | 2.61%         |
| Iraq            | 138             | 2.43%         |
| Somalia         | 132             | 2.32%         |
| Burma           | 115             | 2.02%         |

| Language* | Individuals YTD | % of arrivals |
|-----------|-----------------|---------------|
| Dari      | 2059            | 36.25%        |
| Spanish   | 627             | 11.04%        |
| Pashto    | 557             | 9.81%         |
| Ukrainian | 455             | 8.01%         |
| Arabic    | 402             | 7.08%         |
| Russian   | 352             | 6.20%         |
| Tigrinya  | 146             | 2.57%         |
| Somali    | 126             | 2.22%         |
| Farsi     | 87              | 1.53%         |
| Rohingya  | 57              | 1.00%         |

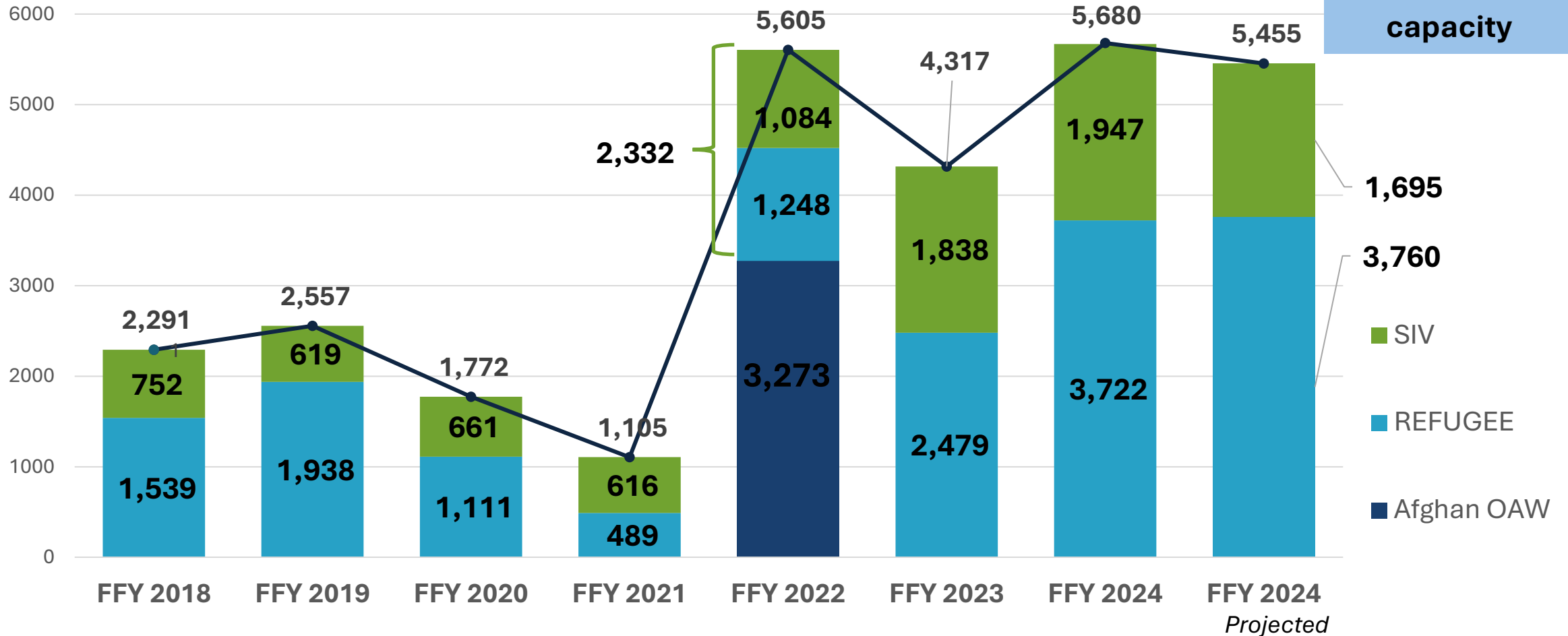
Sources: State Post-Arrival Demographics, Department of State Refugee Processing Center  
 Provided by: WA State Office of Refugee & Immigrant Assistance (ORIA), Department of Social and Health Services  
 Feb. 15, 2024



# Washington State Arrivals: Refugee, Special Immigrant Visa (SIV) and Afghan Humanitarian Parolees – Operation Allies Welcome Arrivals FFY 2018 to FFY 2024 and Projected Numbers for FFY 2024

As of Sept. 15, 2024

104% of total capacity

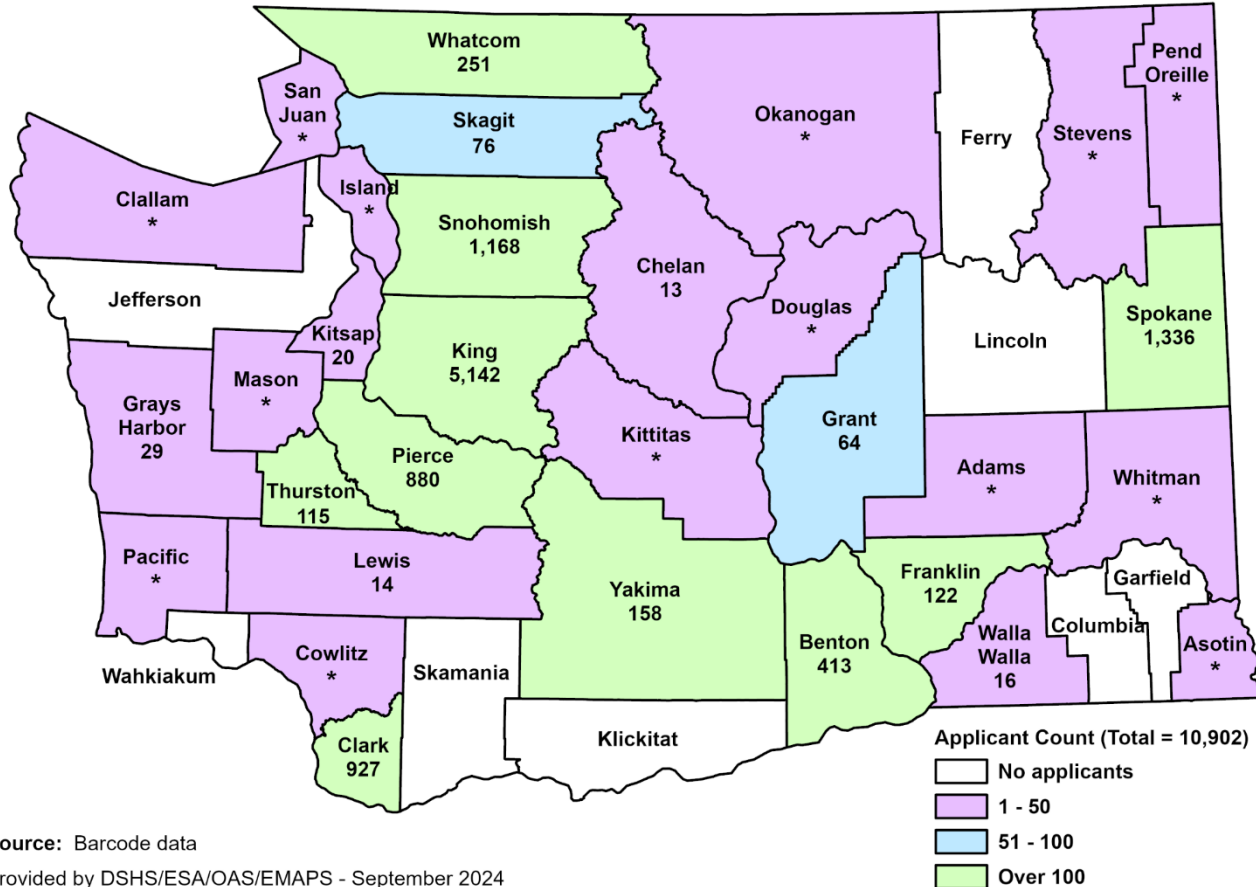


Sources: State Post-Arrival Demographics Report, Dept. of State, Bureau of Populations, Refugees and Migration  
Afghan Placement and Assistance Program - Weekly Departure Status Report



# Refugee and Humanitarian Immigrants in Washington in FY 2024

## Newly Arrived Refugee and Humanitarian Immigrant Applicants for DSHS Services by Residential County in Washington State: October 2023 - August 2024



Source: Barcode data

Provided by DSHS/ESA/OAS/EMAPS - September 2024

\* When necessary, values less than 10 (but greater than zero) are not displayed in order to help protect client confidentiality. These counties are denoted with an asterisk (\*).

### Newly Arrived Refugee Applicants for DSHS Services, August 2024

Source: DSHS-ESA/EMAPS Assignment - September 2024

### Serves all federal eligible immigrants, including:

- Refugees admitted under [§ 207 of the Immigration and Nationality Act \(INA\)](#)
- People granted asylum [under § 208 of the INA](#)
- Cuban and Haitian entrants
- Amerasians
- Certified victims of human trafficking
- Special Immigrant Visa Holders from Iraq and Afghanistan
- Afghan Humanitarian Parolees (See [ORR Policy Letter 22-01](#) and [22-02](#))
- Afghan Special Immigrant Conditional Permanent Residents
- Ukrainian Humanitarian Parolees (See [ORR Policy Letter 22-13](#))

| Unduplicated # of Newly Arrived Refugee Applicants |        |
|--|--------|
| August 2024  | 1,307  |
| FFY 2024 (Oct. 2023 - Sep. 2024) To-Date           | 10,902 |
| FFY 2023 (Oct. 2022 - September 2023)              | 14,652 |

### Top 10 Newly Arrived Refugee Applicants by Country of Origin

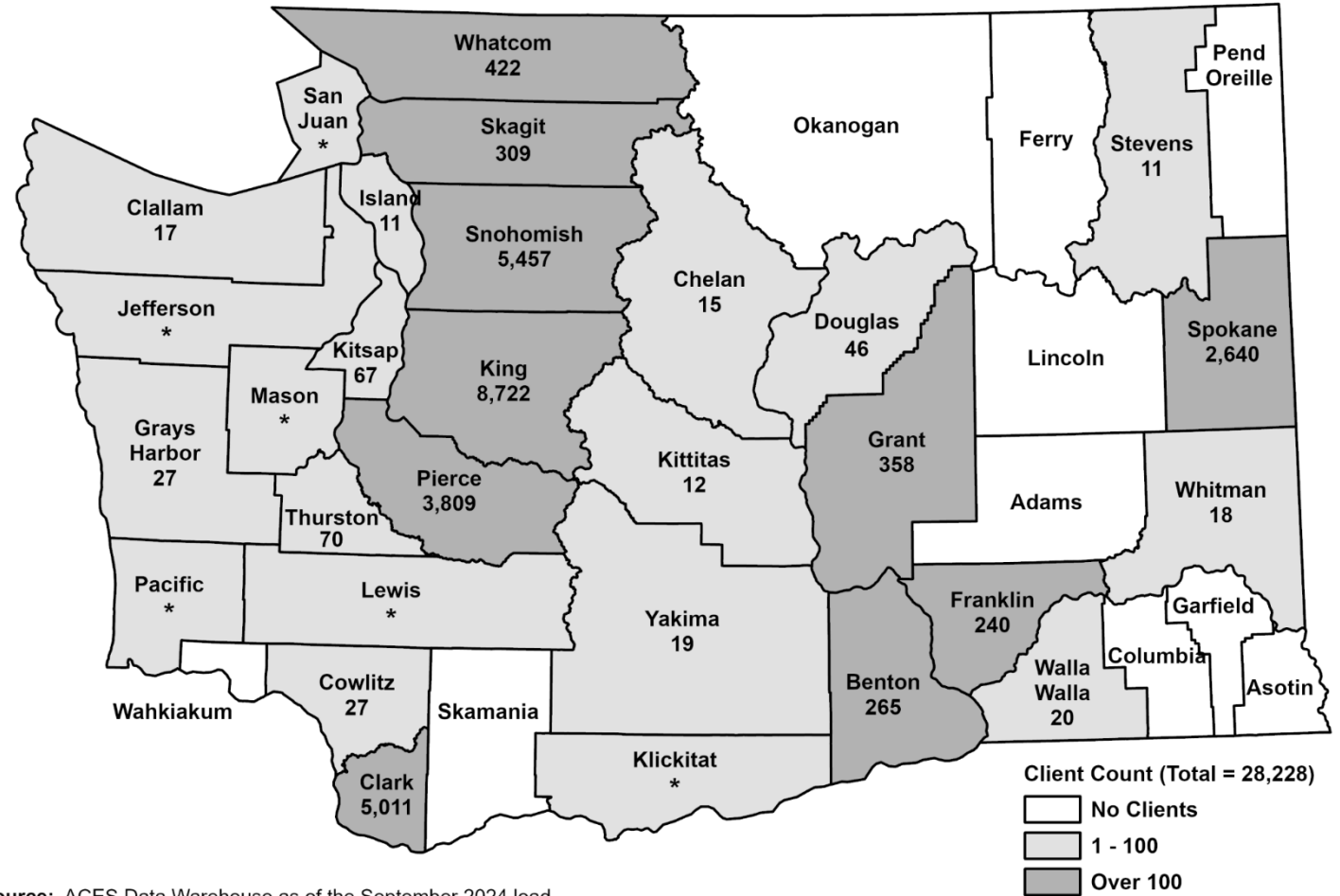
| Country                      | # of Applicants July 2024 | # of Applicants October 2023 - July 2024 |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| Ukraine                      | 491                       | 3,500                                    |
| Afghanistan                  | 299                       | 2,918                                    |
| Cuba                         | 40                        | 509                                      |
| Haiti                        | 44                        | 445                                      |
| Syria                        | 15                        | 288                                      |
| Venezuela                    | 59                        | 275                                      |
| Eritrea                      | 14                        | 198                                      |
| Colombia                     | 33                        | 197                                      |
| Democratic Republic of Congo | 33                        | 185                                      |
| Russia                       | 20                        | 181                                      |



# Ukrainian Arrivals in Washington January 2022 – August 2024

- **28,228 Ukrainians** have arrived in Washington and received cash, food, and/or medical assistance from DSHS.
- **13,744 Ukrainian households** received food assistance from DSHS.

Ukrainian Clients on Select Cash, Food, and Apple Health Medical Programs by County in Washington State, January 2022 - August 2024



Source: ACES Data Warehouse as of the September 2024 load  
 Provided by DSHS/ESA/OAS/EMAPS Assignment #M5655 - September 2024

\* When necessary, values less than 10 (but greater than zero) are not displayed in order to help protect client confidentiality. These counties are denoted with an asterisk (\*).

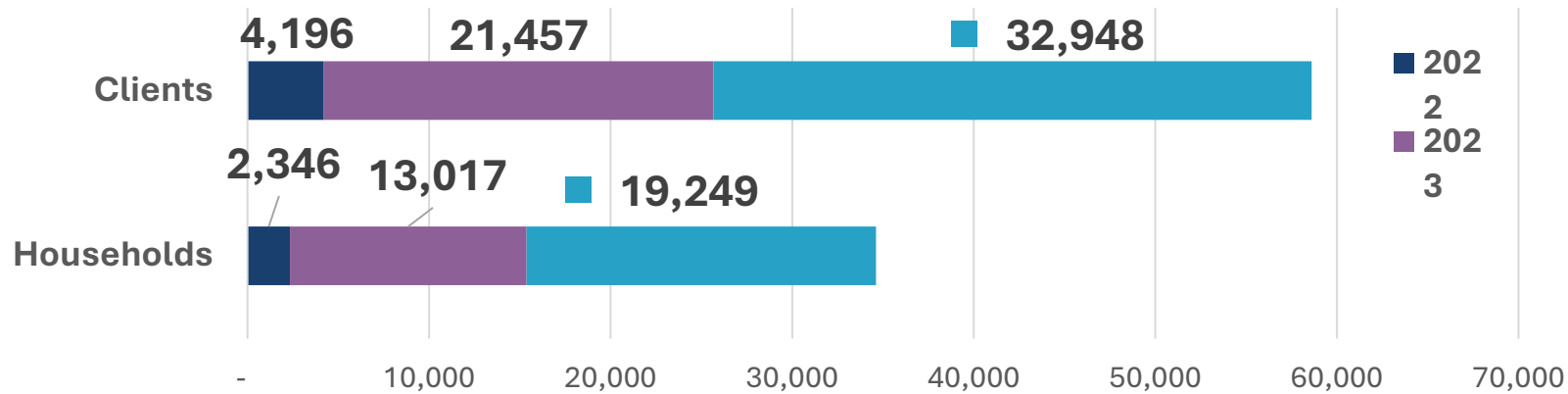
*Please join the Washington Ukrainian Welcoming Task Force for more information about our statewide effort.*

*Email: [oriainfo@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:oriainfo@dshs.wa.gov)*





**Profile of DSHS Clients Who Arrived in the U.S. between January 2022 – June 2024:  
Non-federally qualified immigrants receiving State Family Assistance or Food Assistance Program**



**37,105 unduplicated clients**

| County of Residence <sup>5</sup> | # of Clients 2022-2024 |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| King                             | 17,887                 |
| Snohomish                        | 4,219                  |
| Clark                            | 3,027                  |
| Yakima                           | 2,784                  |
| Pierce                           | 2,601                  |
| Franklin                         | 1,207                  |
| Benton                           | 1,135                  |
| Grant                            | 770                    |
| Spokane                          | 704                    |
| Whatcom                          | 457                    |
| Chelan                           | 348                    |
| Mason                            | 337                    |
| Thurston                         | 291                    |
| Skagit                           | 281                    |
| Douglas                          | 226                    |
| Walla Walla                      | 144                    |

| Country of Origin | # of Clients | # of Households |
|-------------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Mexico            | 7,533        | 3,342           |
| Venezuela         | 7,213        | 4,806           |
| Colombia          | 3,932        | 2,385           |
| Russia            | 3,401        | 1,776           |
| Nicaragua         | 1,417        | 1,108           |
| Honduras          | 1,242        | 690             |
| Angola            | 1,139        | 579             |
| Peru              | 1,115        | 660             |
| Guatemala         | 1,075        | 582             |



# Washington Migrant and Asylum-Seeker Support Project ( WA MASS)

**Purpose:** To build a statewide network of organizations to deliver a coordinated response to meet the specific and immediate needs of recently arrived migrants and asylum-seekers.

**Pilot Project to provide up to one year of services for eligible migrants and asylum-seekers.**

| Service Area  | Number of Organizations  | County Locations   |
|---|--|--|
| Newcomer Navigation and Reception Hub   | One primary organization   | King, Pierce, Snohomish, Spokane, Skagit, Whatcom, Clark, Yakima, Benton, Franklin |
| Migrant Housing Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Emergency Shelters and Hotels</li><li>• Transitional Housing Subsidies</li></ul> | Multiple Organizations   | King, Pierce, Snohomish, Kitsap, Clark, Whatcom, Skagit                            |
| Immigration-Related Legal Services  | One lead coordinating organization<br>Multiple organization to provide client services | King, Pierce, Yakima, Chelan, Spokane, Whatcom, Skagit, Clark, Cowlitz             |
| Culturally Responsive Case Management Services  | Multiple Organizations   | King, Thurston, Whatcom, Benton, Spokane, Pierce, Snohomish                        |



# Washington Migrant and Asylum-Seeker Support Project

**Purpose:** To build a statewide network of organizations to deliver a coordinated response to meet the specific and immediate needs of recently arrived migrants and asylum-seekers.

**Funding for school districts that have seen a significant increase in numbers of McKinney-Vento students seeking asylum.**

| Service Area  | Funding   | Districts Funded                                    |
|---|-----------|---|
| School Districts Serving Asylum-Seeking McKinney-Vento Students<br>State Fiscal Year 2024 | \$250,000 | Shelton, Tukwila, and Wapato                        |
| School Districts Serving Asylum-Seeking McKinney-Vento Students<br>State Fiscal Year 2025 | \$750,000 | Pending. <b>Funding will be released this fall.</b> |

# Services Available for Newcomer Children and Youth

- ORIA Funding for School Districts Serving Asylum-Seeking McKinney-Vento students
- Afghan Support to Schools Initiative (districts funded by ORIA/OSPI)
- Refugee School Impact Program (districts funded by ORIA/School's Out Washington)
- Afghan and Ukrainian School Impact (CBOs funded by ORIA/School's Out Washington)
- Early Refugee School Impact program – Birth to 5 (CBOs funded by ORIA).

*Check out ORIA's resource tool for additional information on our service providers*

[ORIA Resource Tool - Smartsheet.com](#)



# Refugee School Impact Program

Program goals promote academic performance and successful integration of school-aged children and youth.

Districts partner with community organizations to deliver activities such as:

- Tutoring and afterschool programs
- Mentoring
- Programming that supports integration
- Developing capacity for school staff and systems.

## Districts Funded

- Auburn
- Bellingham
- Central Valley
  - Everett
  - Evergreen
- Federal Way
- Kennewick
  - Kent
- Mukilteo
- Puyallup
- Spokane
- Tacoma
- Tukwila



# Early Refugee School Impact Program

Program goals are to support early childhood education, facilitate childcare access, and facilitate parent early childhood education.

Activities include:

- Childcare/preschool systems navigation
- Administration of developmental screenings (ASQs)
- Play and Learn groups
- Home Visiting
- Parent Workshops

## Contractors Funded

### King County:

- World Relief of Western Washington
- Communities of Rooted Brilliance
- Voices of Tomorrow
- Open Doors for Multicultural Families

### Snohomish:

- Volunteers of America Western Washington

### Spokane:

- Community-Minded Enterprises, in consortium with Thrive International and Spokane Slavic



Questions?



**DSHS**

WASHINGTON STATE  
**Department of Social  
and Health Services**

**Thank you!**

Sarah Peterson, MSW  
Washington State Refugee Coordinator  
Office of Refugee and Immigrant Assistance  
Email: [sarah.peterson@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:sarah.peterson@dshs.wa.gov)

Whitney Eich  
Program Manager  
Office of Refugee and Immigrant Assistance  
Email: [whitney.eich@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:whitney.eich@dshs.wa.gov)



# Upcoming, Office Hours, Webinars and Regional Meetings

- October 4- [Office Hours, 11:00am-12:00pm](#)
- October 8- [McKinney-Vento Building Bridges for a Gentle Hand-Of 10:00am-11:30am](#)
- October 16 and 17- Repeat of Fall Trainings- [\(Day 1\) \(Day 2\)](#)
- October 30- [Regional ESD 112 Gathering in Vancouver, WA 9:00am-11:00am](#)
- November 1- [Office Hours, 11:00am-12:00pm](#)
- November 7- [McKinney-Vento and Foster Care 3:00pm-4:30pm](#)
- November 21- [McKinney-Vento, Department of Licensing, and State ID 1:00pm-2:00pm](#)





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