

Supporting Higher Education in Refugee Resettlement

Building the capacity of colleges and universities to support resettlement.



PRESIDENTS' ALLIANCE | ON HIGHER EDUCATION AND IMMIGRATION



HIGHER EDUCATION PARTNERSHIPS IN REFUGEE HEALTH SHERR SPOTLIGHT WEBINAR CO-HOSTED WITH THE SOCIETY OF REFUGEE HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS

December 5, 2024

Funded by the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration

Supporting Higher Education in Refugee Resettlement

ABOUT SHERR

Purpose: Increase higher ed engagement in resettlement, with the larger aim of growing and strengthening the domestic capacity for placement of refugees in communities across the U.S.

- Expanding and coordinating a network of higher education institutions across the U.S. committed to supporting refugees
- Identifying 'pathways of engagement' and supporting partnerships between higher ed and resettlement organizations
- Designing and coordinating toolkits, curricula, briefings, webinars, virtual trainings and communities of practice and action



HIGHER EDUCATION PARTNERSHIPS IN REFUGEE HEALTH WEBINAR LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- ✓ Understand opportunities for partnerships between U.S. colleges and universities and refugee serving organizations in the context of refugee health
- ✓ Learn about the value of refugee-focused health engagement for campuses and their community
- ✓ Discover strategies for addressing challenges and available resources to support refugee health engagement and partnerships

Supporting Higher Education in Refugee Resettlement

TODAY'S SPEAKERS



Mariam Iskajyan
ECDC/SHERR



Sarah Clarke
Society of Refugee
Healthcare Providers



Kari H. McDonough
Welcome.US/Welcome Fund



Dr. Melissa Sharer
St. Ambrose University



Dr. Danielle Hoffman
St. Ambrose University



Dr. Aniyizhai Annamalai
Yale Refugee Health Program



Kimberly Curry
International Rescue Committee,
Spokane

Higher Education Partnerships in Refugee Health

Framing the Refugee Health Journey

And How it Relates to Higher Education Institutions



Society of Refugee
Healthcare Providers

Our refugee health conference
BY THE NUMBERS

1
Our deep gratitude to everyone who planned, supported, and attended the North American Refugee Health Conference this year! We are thrilled to report our **LARGEST** conference to date!

1,083
Attendees

21
countries



2
Our attendees came from 21 different countries including 45 U.S. states and 7 Canadian provinces.

3
Our conference attendees, serve as healthcare providers, nurses, researchers, and resettlement workers - together serving 1.4 million refugees.



1.4 MILLION
REFUGEES
SERVED

The Birth of a Specialty

From <100 people in 2010 to...



About the Society

- 1** **Mission:** reduce health disparities through education, professional connection, and advocacy at individual, institutional, and governmental levels
- 2** **Who we support:** medical providers, nurses, social workers, resettlement workers, academics, researchers, and other professionals
- 3** **What we do:** provide mentorship, networking, health technical assistance, educational opportunities, organize the International Refugee & Migration Health Conference, collaboration & committees

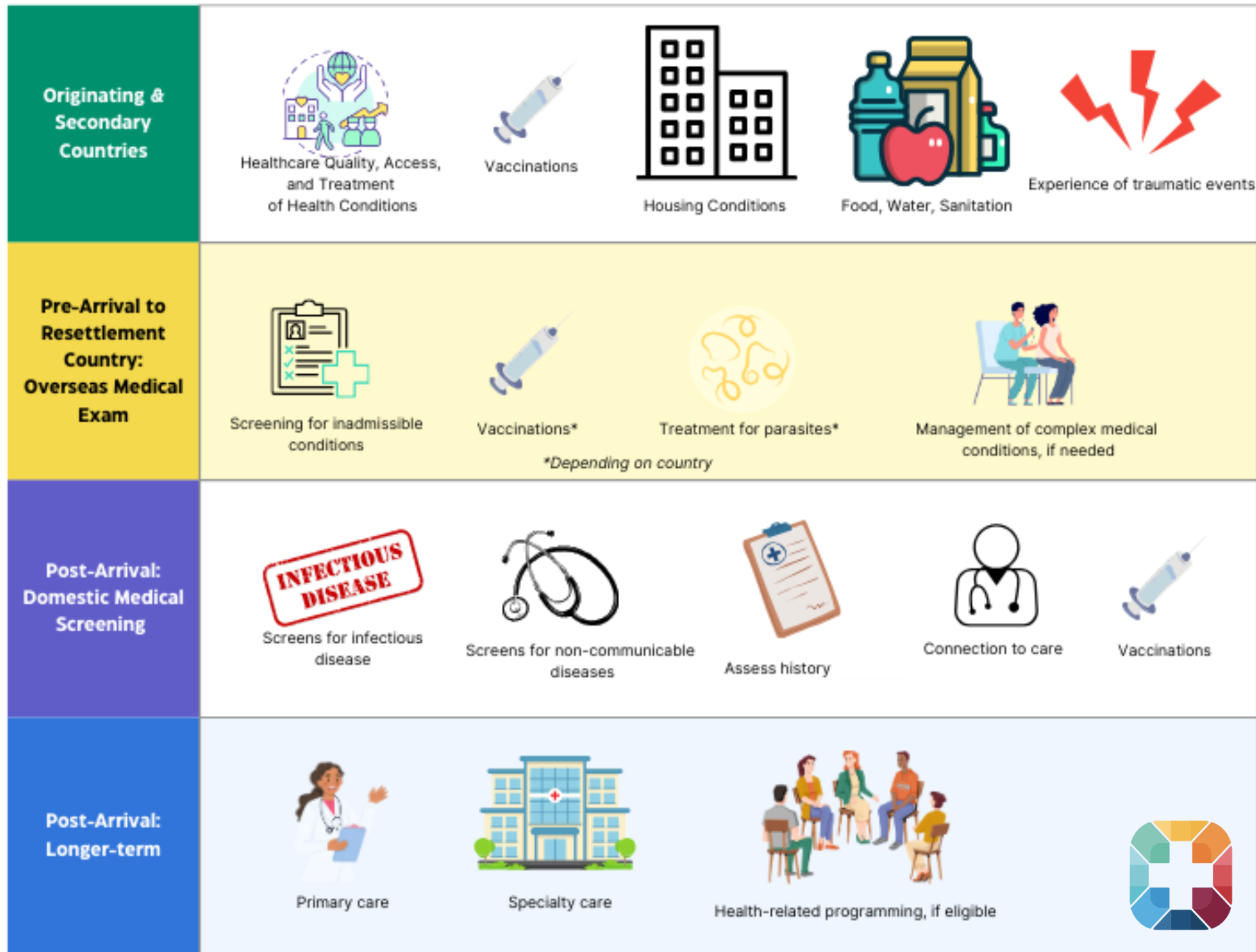


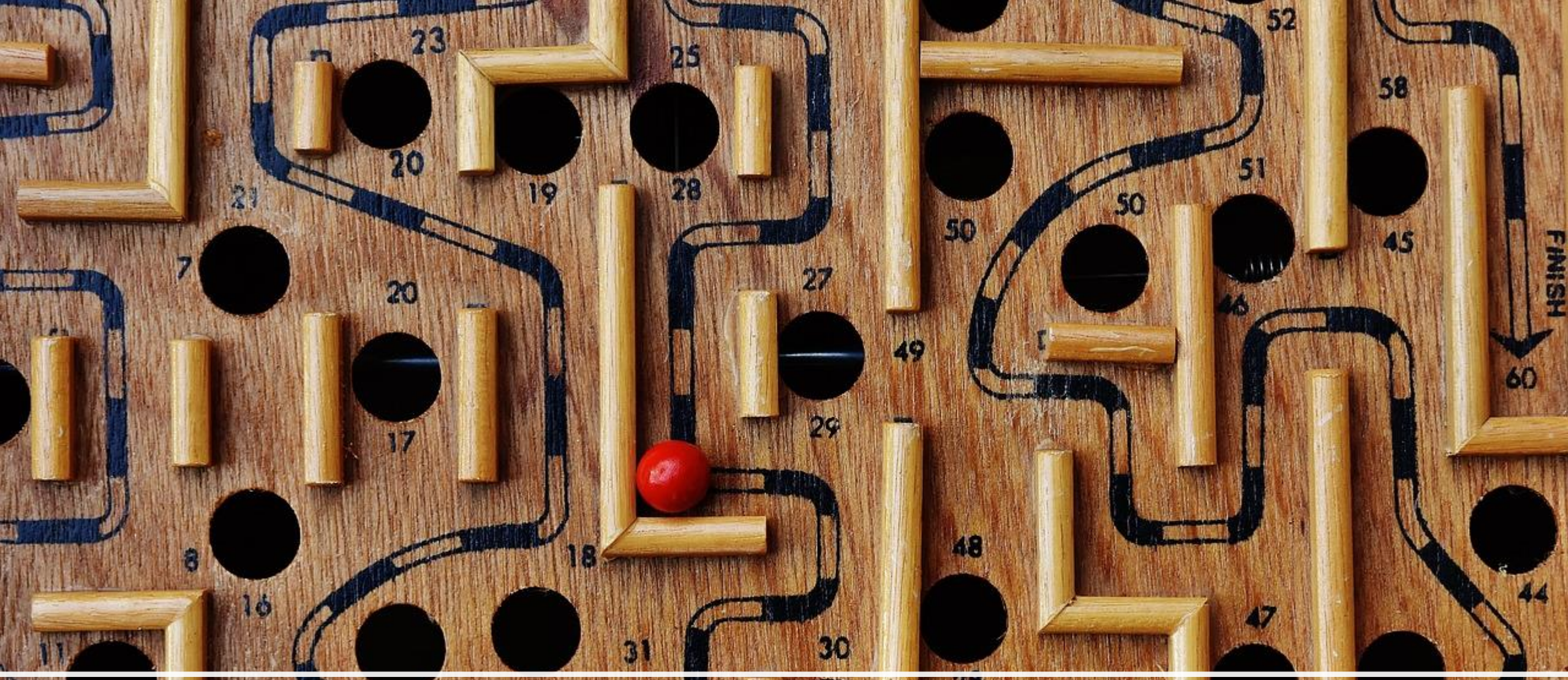
An Overview of Refugee Health in Resettlement

Pre-departure to post-arrival



Refugee Health Journey: Major Events





US Healthcare System



Health Factors & Barriers

**Stressors &
Competing
Priorities**

**Language &
Cultural
Factors**

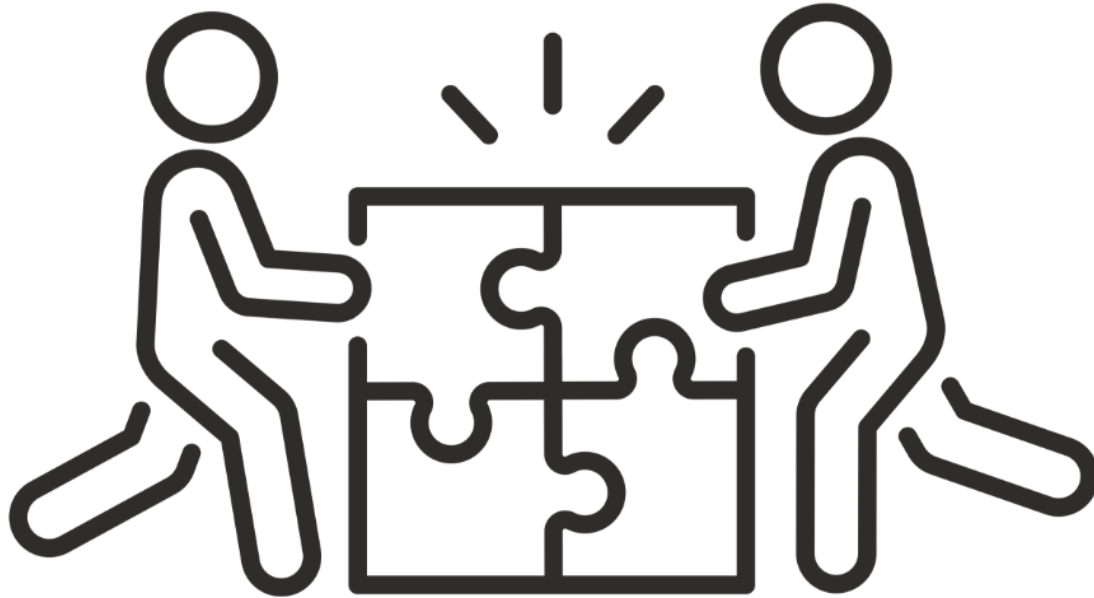
**Access &
Other Social
Determinants
of Health**

**Knowledge &
Expectations**



Overcoming Challenges:

Partnerships, partnerships, partnerships



Refugee
Communities

Healthcare
Providers

Academic
Institutions

Resettlement
Agencies

Community
Orgs



Further Resources

<https://refugeesociety.org>

Email: sarah@refugeesociety.org



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PANEL SEGMENT

Dr. Danielle Hoffman, St. Ambrose University

Dr. Melissa Sharer, St. Ambrose University

Dr. Aniyizhai Annamalai, Yale School of Medicine, Yale Refugee Health Program

Kimberly (Kimmie) Curry, International Rescue Committee, Spokane

Moderator: Kari McDonough, Welcome.US/Welcome Fund

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HIGHER EDUCATION PARTNERSHIPS IN REFUGEE HEALTH

ST AMBROSE UNIVERSITY

Speakers:

Dr. Danielle Hoffman (DNP, MPH, RN, TNS, EMT-P, CNE)

Associate Professor of Nursing

Dr. Melissa Sharer (PHD, MPP, MSW)

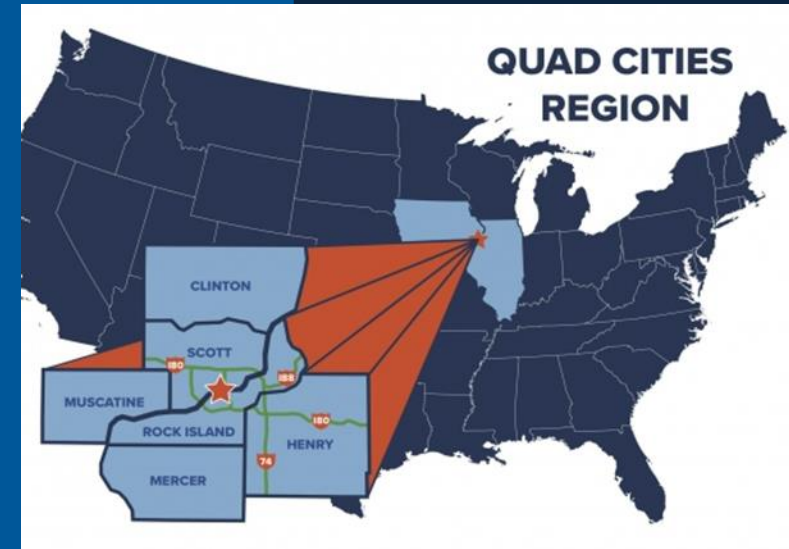
Assistant Professor and Director of the Master's in Public Health program

Quad Cities: Since 1999 resettled more than 10K individuals in our area mostly from DRC, Myanmar, and Afghanistan.



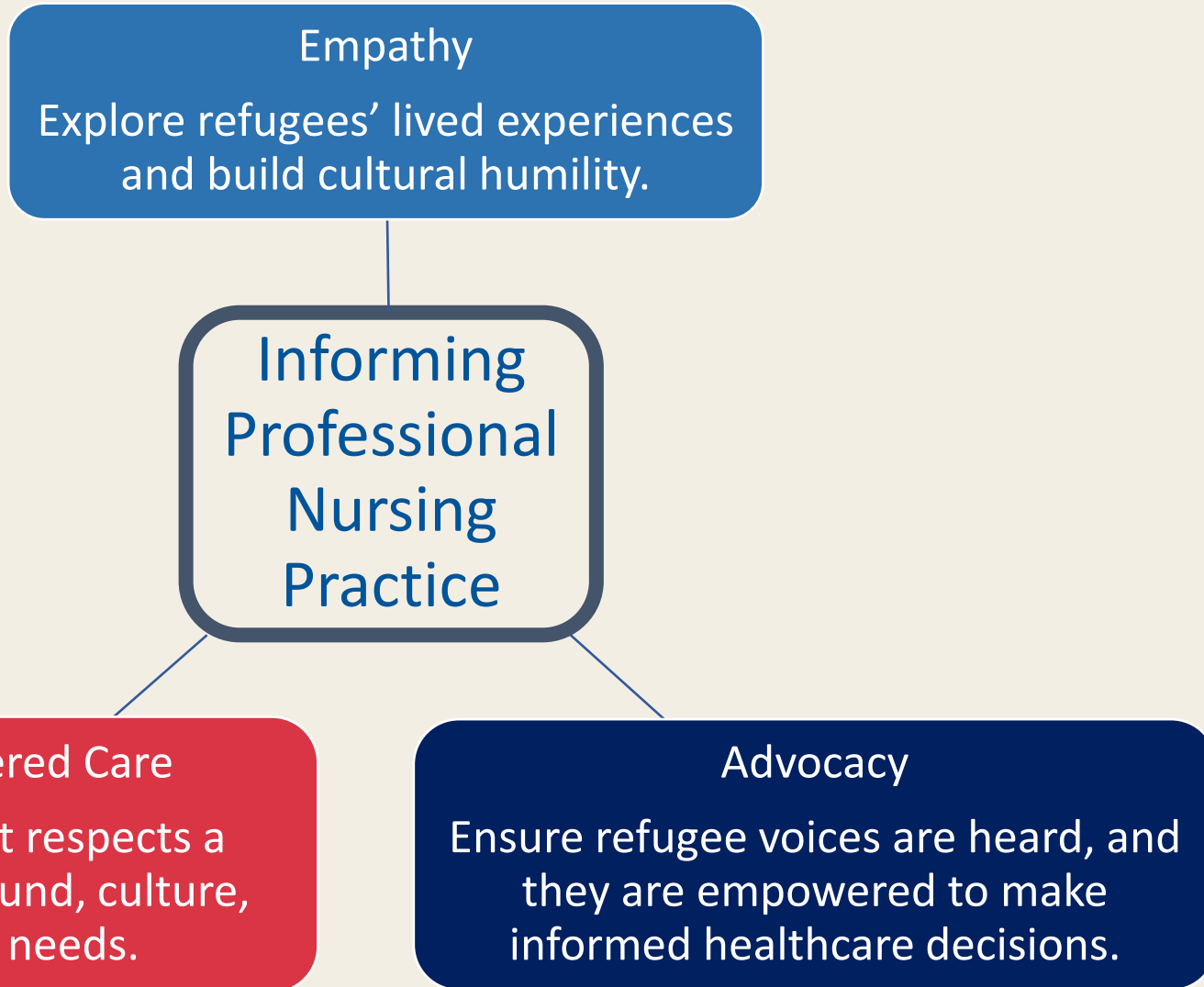
SHERR Grant Partnership to Pilot Promising Approaches:

- 1. Affordable housing mapping**
- 2. ESL curriculum/teaching**
- 3. Interprofessional Day-Refugee focus**
- 4. Nursing curriculum developed, taught and evaluated.**



**St AMBROSE
UNIVERSITY**

Experiential Learning in a **Nursing Curriculum**



Student Reflection

"...easier to understand someone when you have walked in their shoes."

"...bring more humility to the care we provide."

"Understand that people all over the world are going through something."

"A key takeaway is the importance of using trauma informed care."

"Very beneficial experience that gave new perspective on my worldview."

"Amazing experience, I think everyone should go through the simulation."



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HIGHER EDUCATION PARTNERSHIPS IN REFUGEE HEALTH

YALE REFUGEE HEALTH PROGRAM

Speaker:

Dr. Aniyizhai Annamalai (MBBS, MD)

Medical Director, Adult Refugee Clinic

Yale Refugee Health Program, Yale School of Medicine

Funded by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration.



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Empowering refugees
and immigrants
since 1983



Yale Refugee Health Program

Academic Community Health Partnerships



Cornell Scott
Hill Health
Center



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HIGHER EDUCATION PARTNERSHIPS IN REFUGEE HEALTH

INTERNATIONAL RESCUE COMMITTEE SPOKANE (LOCAL RESETTLEMENT AGENCY PERSPECTIVE)

Speaker:

Kimberly (Kimmie) Curry

Community Engagement Manager

International Rescue Committee, Spokane

Funded by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration.



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International Rescue Committee Spokane & Washington State University's Refugee Health Partnership

*IRC Spokane & WSU partner in April of 2022 in a co-sponsorship to resettle an Afghan family in Pullman.

*Over the next 2 years, the partnership would expand to include 5 co-sponsor families, co-creating a training curriculum for interns, and engaging nursing students to support refugee health outcomes.

*Nursing students support by:

- Bus training clients to clinic
- Accompanying clients to appts
- Office Hours for basic questions
- Digital Literacy for telehealth
- Develop client resources, such as "*I speak*" cards & medication management illustrations



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HIGHER EDUCATION PARTNERSHIPS IN REFUGEE HEALTH

Q&A DISCUSSION

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HIGHER EDUCATION PARTNERSHIPS IN REFUGEE HEALTH

SUMMARY & RESOURCES

Speaker: Mariam Iskajyan

Senior Program Officer, ECDC/SHERR

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APPROACHES/MODELS/EXAMPLES

- Community-engaged/student service learning
- Leveraging resources (health clinics, etc.) and expertise
- Primary and specialized care
- Curriculum and resource development
- U.S. healthcare system navigation/cultural orientation
- Research



-
- St. Ambrose University Partnership with World Relief Quad Cities and Tapestry Farms
 - Yale Refugee Health Program Partnership with Integrated Refugee & Immigrant Services
 - Washington State University Partnership with International Rescue Committee, Spokane

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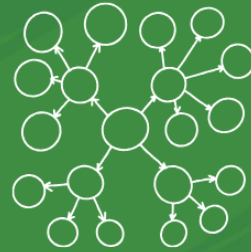
REFUGEE RESOURCE HUB



Pathways of Engagement



Spotlights & Models



Eco-system of Orgs



Contextual Info on Refugee Resettlement



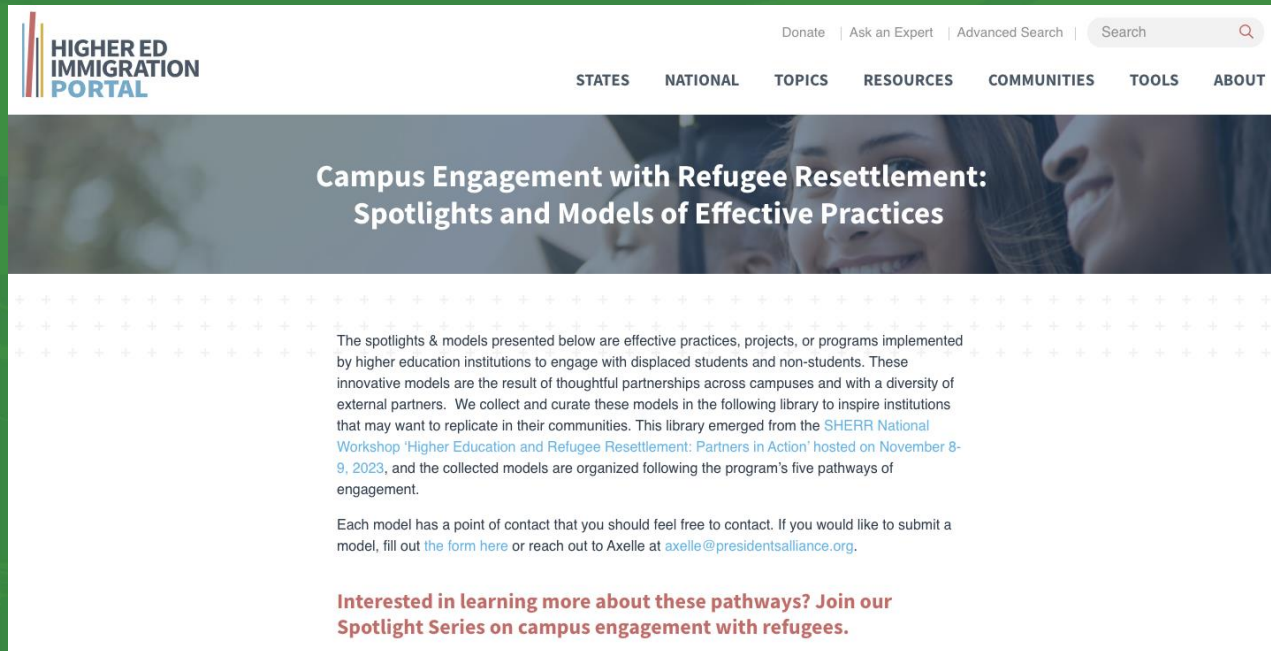
Directory & Networks



<https://www.higheredimmigrationportal.org/communities/refugee-hub/>

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REFUGEE RESOURCE HUB SPOTLIGHTS & MODELS



HIGHER ED IMMIGRATION PORTAL

Donate | Ask an Expert | Advanced Search | Search

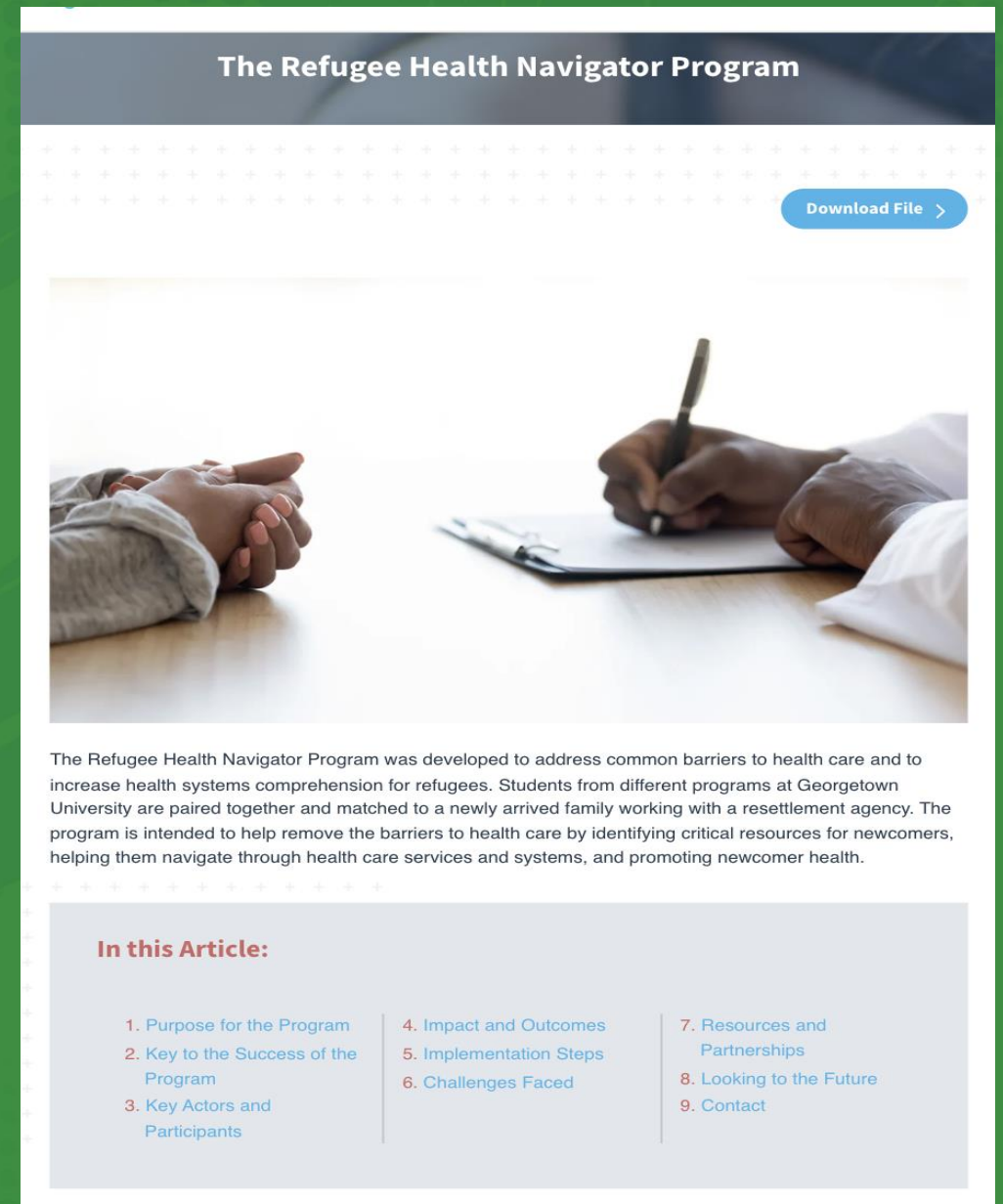
STATES NATIONAL TOPICS RESOURCES COMMUNITIES TOOLS ABOUT

Campus Engagement with Refugee Resettlement: Spotlights and Models of Effective Practices

The spotlights & models presented below are effective practices, projects, or programs implemented by higher education institutions to engage with displaced students and non-students. These innovative models are the result of thoughtful partnerships across campuses and with a diversity of external partners. We collect and curate these models in the following library to inspire institutions that may want to replicate in their communities. This library emerged from the [SHERR National Workshop 'Higher Education and Refugee Resettlement: Partners in Action'](#) hosted on November 8-9, 2023, and the collected models are organized following the program's five pathways of engagement.


Each model has a point of contact that you should feel free to contact. If you would like to submit a model, fill out [the form here](#) or reach out to Axelle at axelle@presidentsalliance.org.

Interested in learning more about these pathways? Join our Spotlight Series on campus engagement with refugees.



The Refugee Health Navigator Program

[Download File >](#)



The Refugee Health Navigator Program was developed to address common barriers to health care and to increase health systems comprehension for refugees. Students from different programs at Georgetown University are paired together and matched to a newly arrived family working with a resettlement agency. The program is intended to help remove the barriers to health care by identifying critical resources for newcomers, helping them navigate through health care services and systems, and promoting newcomer health.

In this Article:

- 1. Purpose for the Program
- 2. Key to the Success of the Program
- 3. Key Actors and Participants
- 4. Impact and Outcomes
- 5. Implementation Steps
- 6. Challenges Faced
- 7. Resources and Partnerships
- 8. Looking to the Future
- 9. Contact

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CONSIDER JOINING THE WELCOME CAMPUS NETWORK

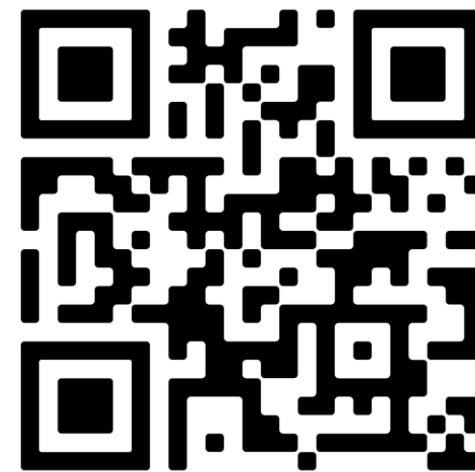


WELCOME CAMPUS NETWORK

The Welcome Campus Network amplifies the work of colleges and universities in welcoming and supporting newcomers who are seeking safety from across the globe.



If interested in joining the Welcome Campus Network, visit our website and complete the membership form! (Membership is free.)



[Welcome.us/more-ways-to-help/welcome-campus-network](https://welcome.us/more-ways-to-help/welcome-campus-network)

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OTHER RESOURCES

The screenshot shows the top of the NRC-RIM website. It features the University of Minnesota logo and the tagline "Driven to Discover". The main heading is "National Resource Center for Refugees, Immigrants, and Migrants (NRC-RIM)". Below the heading is a "Menu" icon and the word "Home". A large image of a man holding a child is visible at the bottom of the page. The URL nrcrim.org is shown in a blue box at the bottom left.

The screenshot shows the Switchboard website's Resources page. The top navigation bar includes "switchboard", "TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE", "LEARNING", "RESOURCES", "RESEARCH", "EVENTS", and "ABOUT". A search bar is present with the text "Search All Switchboard". The "Resources" section is highlighted, and a sidebar menu lists various topics: ADULT EDUCATION, CASE MANAGEMENT, CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, DIGITAL INCLUSION, EMPLOYMENT, FINANCIAL LITERACY, HEALTH (highlighted), HOUSING, IDENTITY & INCLUSIVE SERVICES, IMMIGRATION LEGAL NEEDS, and MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS. The main content area includes the Switchboard logo and a description of the multimedia resource library. The URL switchboardta.org is shown in a blue box at the bottom left.

The screenshot shows the CDC Immigrant and Refugee Health website. The top navigation bar includes the CDC logo and the URL cdc.gov/immigrant-refugee-health/. The main heading is "Immigrant and Refugee Health". Below the heading are links for "Technical Instructions for Panel Physicians", "Technical Instructions for Civil Surgeons", and "Refugee Health". The URL cdc.gov/immigrant-refugee-health/ is shown in a blue box at the top right. The URL nrcrim.org is shown in a blue box at the bottom left.

NEXT STEPS

- ✓ Map your campus and community for needs and opportunities
- ✓ Connect with local resettlement office OR connect with the public health school, medical school, or community engagement office at a local college or university
- ✓ Set up a meeting with a member of the SHERR team

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**REGISTER FOR A
SHERR SPOTLIGHT
WEBINAR**



Click [here](#) for the flyer and registration information or email us at SHERR@worldlearning.org

Educational Opportunities

Enrolling and Supporting Resettled Refugee Students (January 22, 2025)

English Language Learning and Career Pathways

Supporting Refugees with English Language Learning and Career Pathways (February 12, 2025)

View past webinars spotlighting partnerships on Student-service/Community-Engaged Learning and Housing at:

<https://www.worldlearning.org/sherr-webinars>

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Society of Refugee
Healthcare Providers

THANK YOU!

SHERR email address for questions and communications:

SHERR@worldlearning.org

Society of Refugee Healthcare Providers contact form:

<https://refugeesociety.org/about/frequently-asked-questions/#contact-form>