ENGAGING REFUGEES TO PROMOTE RESETTLEMENT

Presentation by:
Joseph Sackor, UNHCR Refugee Congress Delegate, PA
Why would anyone want to involve former refugees

- They are volunteers or Ethic Based Organizations (EBO) that understand the cultures of new arrivals
- Ambassadors to local communities in which new arrivals will live
- Serve as navigators of refugee assistance
- Suggest programs that may help future refugees based on their own experiences
Where do they fit in the Resettlement process

- Pre-Arrival
  - Cultural Orientation
- Post Arrival
  - Social Support
  - Job Hunt
  - Acculturation Process
  - Other
Steps to Getting Refugees Involved

- Identify Refugee Organizations in PA
- Identify former refugees that are enrolled at various institutions of learning to serve as Youth Ambassadors
- Engage Refugee Cultural Entertainment Groups
- Hold periodic consultative meetings with Refugee Organizations and Provide them training
Benefits to New Arrivals and Resettlement Agencies

- Reassurance
- Seamless integration and break of cultural barrier
- Serve as advocate Groups that can represent the voice of the refugees during policy formulation
Questions

- ?????????????

- Thanks for Listening