



Welcome the stranger.
Protect the refugee.

Refugee Resettlement Core Services

About HIAS

Founded in the 1880s to help resettle Jews fleeing persecution, HIAS is the world's oldest refugee agency. Today, guided by our Jewish values and history, we bring more than 130 years of expertise to our work providing services to all refugees in need of assistance, regardless of their national, ethnic, or religious background.

Core Services

HIAS is one of nine resettlement agencies authorized through the federal government to resettle refugees. HIAS works with a network of non-profit affiliate partners across the country to provide direct services to refugees and to help them integrate into their new communities. There are two main federal offices that provide benefits to refugees. All programs have very detailed agreements outlining requirements of compliance and require monitoring by HIAS and the government agency administering the grants.

The U.S. State Department's Bureau of [Population, Refugees, and Migration](#) (PRM) funds life-sustaining overseas assistance to refugees and internally displaced persons. They also provide funding for the U.S. Resettlement Admissions Program (USRAP), which brings refugees to the United States, as well as the Reception and Placement (R&P) program, described in greater detail below.

The [Office of Refugee Resettlement](#) (ORR) in the Department of Health and Human Services provides services that assist with the integration, health, and self-sufficiency of refugees. Programs like the public-private partnership Matching Grant program assist refugees to enter the workforce without utilizing federal or state assistance programs. ORR also supports health promotion, financial literacy and integration programs, and human trafficking survivor programs. Additionally, these accounts support [Special Immigrant Visa recipients \(SIVs\)](#), which are reserved for Iraqi and [Afghan](#) citizens whose affiliations with the United States endangered their lives.

Reception & Placement (R&P)

The R&P program provides funds for refugees to have caseworker support for 90 days from arrival. A dedicated caseworker is provided to each refugee and their family to assist them in navigating their new life. The Department of State provides \$2,175 per refugee resettled, \$925-\$1,125 of which goes towards the material needs of the refugee and \$1,050 of which goes to the local resettlement agency for administrative costs. **R&P services must include:** pick-up at the airport; housing (securing housing, furniture, establishing utilities); transportation training (e.g. how to use the bus); cultural orientation (cultural mores, financial literacy, U.S. laws); enrollment in English language courses; benefits registration; medical care; enrollment in employment services; and, school enrollment. After three months, refugees are expected to be self-sufficient, meaning that they are employed and make enough money to pay their rent and other household expenses, and understand how to navigate relevant systems in the U.S., such as accessing medical care.

HIAS Fast Facts

In Fiscal Year 2017, HIAS

- resettled 3,299 refugees to the United States
- resettled refugees of 38 nationalities to the United States
- resettled 647 Special Immigrant Visa holders to the United States
- 70 percent of HIAS clients joined a friend or family member in the United States

Integration and Extended Support

Two additional ORR funded programs in which HIAS participates provide additional integration support. **The Matching Grant (MG) Program** is a successful public private partnership employment program¹. HIAS, through our resettlement partners, matches federal funds provided by the federal Office of Refugee Resettlement, with cash and in-kind contributions of goods and services from local resettlement communities. The MG program offers **employment-focused services** and intensive case management support for eligible refugees, starting within the first month of a refugee's arrival and lasts for up to 180 days, with the stipulation that the refugee does not access Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) while enrolled in the program. The types of support offered through the MG program can include resume writing, job application support, and interviewing preparation, in addition to job placements and employer outreach. **Case management support includes**, but is not limited to, cash allowance, coverage of housing, utilities, and transportation assistance.

There is a \$2,100 per capita amount for MG clients that goes to HIAS affiliates to provide cash and rental assistance to MG clients. Unlike the R&P program, there is no amount designated specifically for administrative costs.

In 2015, 82 percent of refugees enrolled in the Matching Grant program attained self-sufficiency² within the first 180 days of arrival to the United States and close to 70 percent of participants found employment in that same period.³ In 2016, 84 percent of refugees attained self-sufficiency within the first 180 days of arrival.

The Preferred Communities (PC) program provides additional **intensive case management** for particularly vulnerable refugees, such as those with medical or mental health issues, LGBTI refugees, single parent households, and elderly refugees without family support. The PC program provides case management to help these refugees navigate relevant systems, such as learning to manage their health concerns and become connected to community support systems. There is no cash assistance component to the PC program. In 2017, HIAS provided intensive case management services to 474 clients through the Preferred Communities Program, most of whom had a physical disability or medical condition, social or psychological difficulties, were single parent households, or were women at risk.

Additional Stakeholders

State and local governments typically provide direct or indirect services for refugees such as funding for translation services, transportation, and dedicated refugee staff at assistance offices. Each state is required to have a State Refugee Coordinator (SRC) and sometimes a State Refugee Health Coordinator (SRHC). Part of the R&P reporting structure also requires that local resettlement offices meet once a quarter in Quarterly Consultation meetings with their SRC and/or SRHC, in addition to local school systems, assistance offices, municipality governments, and other key community stakeholders to ensure a cohesive integration of refugees within a community.

Additionally, in many communities, you will find coalitions or networks of private citizens, community-based organizations, and medical practitioners. **Through HIAS' Welcome Campaign**, there are over 350 Welcoming Congregations of Jewish Americans ready and willing to support refugees in the United States. To learn more - or to have your congregation join - please visit: hias.org/hias-welcome-campaign.

¹ The Matching Grant program begins within the first thirty days of arrival and offers extra employment support for qualified refugees for upwards of 180 days, with the stipulation that the refugee cannot access TANF (welfare).

² Self-sufficiency is defined by the Matching Grant program as salary from employment meets or exceeds the cost of monthly expenses.

³ The Heritage Foundation (2017). *The U.S. Refugee Admissions Program: A Roadmap for Reform*.