

## EO Press Release

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### **After 80 % Cuts, Refugee Resettlement Supporters Celebrate Biden-Harris Commitment to Rebuild the Refugee Program, Call for Further Action**

*This [Executive Order](#) shows that together, we will restore and strengthen the refugee resettlement program after the previous administration worked to completely dismantle it.*

**Austin, Texas-** Refugee Services of Texas celebrates the Biden-Harris administration's commitment to restoring and strengthening the U.S. refugee resettlement program through today's executive order. This is an important opportunity to support refugee agencies in rebuilding and increasing the infrastructure to welcome a higher number of refugees in the coming years. We will work to welcome and encourage newly arriving refugees. We are encouraged by the administration's inclusion of important advancements to enhance the resettlement program's ability to reunify families and assist with long term integration. Additionally, we encourage the Biden administration and Congress to work together to introduce and pass the Refugee Protection Act to improve access and protection for refugees and asylum seekers.

"I thank the American people for allowing refugees to find peace and a new home. Thank you, America, for restoring welcome."

**-Qusay Hussein, Texas Refugee from Iraq**

"It warms my heart to be able to see and serve new refugees, we are not only celebrating their arrival to the U.S., but also celebrating their new lives here, their safety and dignity. We will work to welcome, support, and encourage newly arriving refugees and the agencies serving them and enjoy seeing them reuniting with their families."

**-Marwa Al Ibrahim, Texas Refugee from Iraq**

"It is not this thing where we are coming in and being this big helper... refugees are people who are taking control of their life and control of opportunities and thriving."

**-Brooks Veazey Director of Operations, Honest Mary's**

Refugee Services of Texas calls on the Biden administration and Congress to work together to introduce and pass the Refugee Protection Act to improve access and protection for refugees and asylum seekers.

*For more information, contact Refugee Services of Texas at [info@rstx.org](mailto:info@rstx.org)*

*Founded in 1978, Refugee Services of Texas (RST) is a social-service agency dedicated to providing assistance to refugees and other displaced persons fleeing persecution based on race, religion, nationality, political opinion, or membership in a particular social group - as well as to the communities that welcome them. Learn more about our refugee and asylum programs at [www.rstx.org](http://www.rstx.org)*

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