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Although new developments are happening very quickly, we'll do our best to post subsequent newsletters as events unfold, with the best information we have after our own analysis informed by our national partners. We'll also include links and references to other sources for more detailed information and post about upcoming community events and advocacy efforts. | |      |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | | | |      |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Here's what we know about the Refugee Admissions Program**  Per the Administration's [Executive Order Realigning the U.S. Refugee Program](https://t.e2ma.net/click/ly3vap/tgr41yzd/xnbotwd) issued Jan. 20, 2025, refugee admissions are suspended for at least 90 days from the date of the order. The primary implications of this directive, as we understand them, are as follows:   * No refugees will be admitted until the end of April with few exceptions if any. * The overseas processing of refugee applicants that is part of their pre-admission approval process is also being suspended. * Refugee admissions may be authorized again after the initial 90 day suspension period. However, there are no signs to date that re-authorization is a priority of this administration, and we expect that if admissions are allowed later this year, the number of refugees coming will be at levels much reduced from what we are accustomed to. * This suspension of refugee admissions does not extend to Afghan SIV's.   in addition to the above EO, all of the national resettlement agencies who work with the U.S. Dept. of State to resettle refugees received administrative memos that indicated that federal funding to support newly arrived refugees was immediately suspended as of Jan. 24, 2025. The implication of this news is that resettlement providers across the country such as CCFCS no longer have the financial support to cover refugee families' basic needs for their first 90 days in country. This support includes first month's rent, security deposit, food and medicine, as well as case management to help secure housing, provide orientation and apply for public benefits, school enrollment, and health services. CCFCS will continue to provide these services within the 90-day period, in recognition that there is no guarantee that such services will be reimbursed to the agency. We will not abandon the new arrivals to this country who are relying on us for assistance. At this time, we understand the halt of initial resettlement funding also applies to Afghan SIV's. | |      |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | | | |      |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **How CCFCS is responding to this Executive Order**  We are all heartbroken for the refugee families we were expecting to welcome over the next months as their cases have been placed on indefinite hold. It is even more tragic that refugees who were expecting additional members of their families to join them in Rochester, now have no indication when this will happen in the future, if at all.  In the three months prior to the suspension of the refugee resettlement program, CCFCS had welcomed 61 refugee families (295 individuals) to Rochester. They are directly impacted by the pause of federal funding. However, CCFCS remains committed to fulfilling our responsibilities to our clients. We will make sure all of these newly-arrived refugee families receive resettlement services that are in our regular standard of practice. Our other refugee and immigration assistance services to help refugees find employment and overcome osbtacles to self-sufficiency are all in operation as usual.  More news is sure to come soon. In the meantime, thank you for working with us to help our immigrant community achieve hopeful, fulfilling lives. We are grateful for all who are advocating for their human rights and humane treatment. We are proud to partner with you!  Please feel free to forward this newsletter to others in your organizations or networks who may be interested in learning this news from CCFCS. | | |      |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | | | |  |  | | --- | |  | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | CCFCS Refugees in the News | | | |      |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | | | |      |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Refugees In the News**    [Immigration Crackdown](https://t.e2ma.net/click/ly3vap/tgr41yzd/dgcotwd) (Rochester Beacon)  [Rochester refugee resettlement efforts halted by Executiver Order](https://t.e2ma.net/click/ly3vap/tgr41yzd/t8cotwd)(13Wham)  [Trump order halting refugee program blocks dozens bound for Rochester](https://t.e2ma.net/click/ly3vap/tgr41yzd/90dotwd)(WXXI News) | | |

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