



UTAH REFUGEE EDUCATION & TRAINING CENTER



MISSION

- **To foster opportunities** for refugees to access family-sustaining employment
- **To support refugee communities'** efforts to find appropriate solutions toward integration

Core Partners:



The **Utah Refugee Education and Training Center** is a successful public-private partnership embraced by the refugee communities we serve, who are also engaged in providing services. This is a unique model nationwide, providing refugees with the tools for successful integration by providing support, building access and creating a hub for resources and partners.

Opened doors in
2015

80,000
visits

Hosted more than
5,648
activities

Programming Partners:



25+ Refugee Community Organizations

Center Phase 1:

- Higher Wages:** Space for people to find family-sustaining employment
- Average current wage of refugee job seekers is \$13.26
 - Average post-training wage increased by 54% for training participants
- Access Hub:** Space for refugees, service providers and the general community to interact
- In 2018, 67 organizations partnered with the center
- Refugee Gathering Space:** Space for refugees to feel at home and organize community programs and events
- In 2018, 16 refugee community-based organizations were funded, providing 36 programs with 1,526 participants

Center Phase 2:

- On-site Commercial Kitchen**
- Funds have been raised; the lead partner is Saffron Kitchen, Inc.
- Community Event Space:** Space for refugee communities to host personal and public events
- Global Market and Cafe:** Commercial space for refugee entrepreneurs and culinary students to use their skills while providing area residents with international cuisine

Utah Refugee Education and Training Center • 250 West 3900 South, Building B, Salt Lake City, Utah 84107
at the Salt Lake Community College Meadowbrook Campus

For questions, please contact:
Refugee Center Manager, Michael Pekarske • mpekarske@utah.gov • 801-989-7808

REFUGEES IN UTAH

There are approximately
27,000,000 refugees in the world

Less than
.05%

will be accepted for refugee resettlement by developed countries, including the United States



Refugees are people who are forced to flee their homes because of persecution on account of their race, religion, political opinion, or membership in a particular social group.

- Approximately **65,000 refugees** call Utah home, with the vast majority in the Salt Lake Valley.
- The **largest** refugee communities that recently resettled in Utah include Somali, Sudanese, South Sudanese, Congolese and Iraqi.

WORKFORCE SERVICES REFUGEE SERVICES



The Refugee Services Office (RSO) is responsible for providing coordinated services to refugees in Utah. RSO partners with community agencies to provide integration support for up to five years in areas such as English literacy, job skills training and housing support.

Resettlement agencies in Utah provide initial resettlement services to newly arriving refugees.

RSO contracts with these agencies to provide extended case management support for families beyond the 90 days funded by the federal government. Asian Association of Utah is also funded to provide case management support for refugees who relocate to Utah from another state, referred to as secondary migrants.



Refugee & Immigrant Center
 ASIAN ASSOCIATION OF UTAH



- Utah's unique model for supporting refugees features:
- Extended case management
- Job skills training
- Utah Refugee Education and Training Center

