



Dear Friends of New Americans,

During the worst refugee crisis in world history, [reports](#) surfaced last week that some administration officials have proposed **resettling ZERO refugees in fiscal year Fiscal Year 2020, which will start on October 1, 2019**. Zeroing out refugee resettlement would amount to a **full refugee ban**. This will have grave long-term implications and devastate thousands of refugees who are fleeing war and persecution and for whom the U.S. has been a shelter to begin a new life. As people who care about refugees, we must demand that Members of Congress publicly denounce this proposal and weigh in with the administration directly, urging them to commit to resettling 95,000 refugees (the historic average) next year.

Years of research by the New York State Fiscal Policy Institute (FPI) shows that **immigration and refugee resettlement make economic sense for New York State and the nation**. Disrupting our ability to welcome newcomers ignores our history as a nation that has grown socially, culturally, and economically through immigration.

David Dyssegaard Kallick, Deputy Director of the New York Fiscal Policy Institute, affirms: “Our state has a long and proud history of refugee resettlement that makes local communities and economies stronger and richer. Refugee resettlement agencies and the people they help settle are playing an important role in the revitalization of Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse, Utica, and Albany—and refugee settlement and integration are hugely successful in the diverse immigrant communities of New York City and Long Island. There is no possible justification for renegeing on the country’s longstanding and bipartisan commitment to refugee resettlement. Refugee resettlement helps refugees, it helps American foreign policy, and in the process, it helps New York, too.

Facts about refugee resettlement:

- Between 2008 and 2017, New York resettled the third largest number of refugees, surpassed only by California and Texas, according to the [New York Fiscal Policy Institute](#).
- Three Upstate New York’s cities are in the country’s top 50 metro areas for refugee resettlement across the country: Buffalo (#12), Syracuse (#21), and Rochester (#34), according to the [New York Fiscal Policy Institute](#) study.
- A [major study of Somali, Burmese, Hmong, and Bosnian refugee communities](#) found that over the long term, refugees successfully establish themselves in the U.S., getting jobs, starting businesses, buying homes, learning English and becoming citizens.
- Employers that hire refugees see positive outcomes in their businesses, with managers becoming more versatile as they adjust to a more diverse workforce and refugee turnover rates less than half or more of other workers, according to a study conducted by the [FPI and the Tent Partnership for Refugees](#).
- Governor Cuomo and the New York State Legislature have recognized the importance of refugee resettlement with a \$2 million annual investment in the state’s unique

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program of enhanced services to refugees. The program has been crucial to helping support resettlement efforts and anchor institutions in our communities.

Share on Social Media

Don't forget to tweet [Members of Congress](#). Sample posts:

- America stands for welcome. Banning refugees is not who we are or what we stand for. #NORefugeeBans #SaveRefugeeResettlement
- Shutting down the refugee resettlement program is an assault on our values. #NORefugeeBans #SaveRefugeeResettlement
- Refugee families will die if the administration shuts down the resettlement program. We will not back down. #NORefugeeBans #SaveRefugeeResettlement

Thank you for your support of refugees!