 Programs & Services
Aging & Wellness Services
Case Management
Counseling & Family Support
Employment & Career Services
Food Assistance
Jewish Connections
Parenting & Youth
Refugee & Immigration
Citizenship & Naturalization
DACA
Know Your Rights & Family Safety Planning
Employment & Job Placement Services
General Immigration Services
Refugee Reception & Placement
Teen Leadership
Coachella Valley
Programs By Name

REFUGEE & IMMIGRATION SERVICES

We stand with immigrants and refugees. Read our official statement in response to the Executive Order on immigration and refugee admittance, see recent press coverage, and discover meaningful ways to take action on this issue.>

There are more than 21.3 million refugees worldwide—people who have been forced to leave their own countries, due to persecution. People whose own homes have become a place of fear and danger. People who have seen political upheaval, instability, war, terror, and in some cases, have experienced kidnappings, torture, and the murder of loved ones. People who have endured the loss of friends, family, and everything they’ve ever known.

Download our flyer to learn about the refugee journey to San Diego.

Since our beginning in 1918, we’ve offered resettlement services to newly arriving refugees and asylees from around the world. Today, our Refugee Resettlement department works with approximately 45 cases each month. We help refugee families adjust to their new lives here in the U.S. We help them learn English and find jobs. We teach them how to navigate the medical system, banks, and public transportation. We provide a fully furnished apartment, airport pick up, acculturation services, translation/ESL services, employment services, advocacy, and more.

JFS is one of only four resettlement agencies in San Diego County. In the past year, we have welcomed 390 refugees from 14 different countries. When we pick them up from the airport, they have only their memories, their hopes, and a few belongings. They are ready to start from scratch, in a foreign country, with new customs and traditions, and a new language. They are new Americans—our next wave of American citizens.

For more information about Refugee & Immigration Services, call (858) 637-3030 or email.

Immigration Services

General Immigration Services
We offer help applying for green cards, replacing missing immigration documents, applying for work authorizations and refugee travel documents, and petitioning for family members.

Citizenship & Naturalization Services
We complete and send the N-400 (application for Citizenship) or N-600 (application for Citizen Certification), as well as offer classes to prepare for the Citizenship Interview, English and Civics tests.

DACA
Temporary protection against deportation; Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and Deferred Action for Parents of U.S. Citizens and Lawful Permanent Residents (DAPA).

Know Your Rights & Family Safety Planning
This resource provides practical tips for things immigrant families can do now to prepare as well as information on rights everyone has in the United States, regardless of immigration status.

Refugee Services

Refugee Reception & Placement – When a newly arrived refugee family arrives to the United States, we pick them up from the airport, place them in a
fully furnished apartment, and immediately begin acculturation services to help them adjust to life here.

Employment & Job Placement Services
JFS offers resettlement services, including employment case management and assistance, to legally-authorized individuals from around the world.

Volunteering with Refugee & Immigration Services
You can help welcome immigrants and refugees to the United States through a variety of volunteer opportunities. For information on volunteering with Immigration Services, please contact Celeste Calen at (619) 637-3024 or celeste@jffsd.org. For information on volunteering with Refugee Resettlement, please contact Jessica Martin at (619) 637-3366 or jessica@jffsd.org. Start the application process today!>