

REFUGEE SERVICE BAI 9/27/2016

- **Intro to the staff**

- The Asian Pacific American Student Services Department houses Refugee Services
 - Director, Tsuru Bailey-Jones and Administrative Assistant, Rachel Sanchez
 - All 11 Student Success Specialists work with Refugee Students
 - 8 Student Success Specialists are paid from the APASS Budget
 - Masbil Bulale (Maay Maay, Somali & Swahili)
 - Bac Dinh (Vietnamese)
 - Hem Gajmer (Nepali, Dzongkha & Hindi)
 - Yoon Lee (Korean & a little Spanish)
 - Leonard Muhunga (Portuguese, French, Kirundi, Swahili, Kinyarwanda & tribal dialect)
 - Lydia Sahyouni (Arabic & French)
 - Narapati Subedi (Nepali & Hindi)
 - Joyce Tominaga (Spanish)
 - 3 Student Success Specialists are paid from the Language Acquisition Budget
 - Amina Hussein (Somali & Arabic)
 - Desire Ndabibonye (French, Swahili, Kirundi, Kinyarwanda & tribal dialect)
 - Wadiah Sarah (Arabic)

- **Languages we support**

- Korean, Vietnamese, Nepali, Hindi, Swahili, Somali, Portuguese, Kirundi, Kinyarwanda, French, Arabic, Spanish and some tribal dialects

- **Where our refugee students come from (a breakdown)**

- Refugee students come from 51 countries (in descending order)
 - Democratic Republic of Congo
 - Iraq
 - Somalia
 - Burundi

- Sudan
- Congo
- Eritrea
- Syria
- Ethiopia
- Kenya
- Rwanda
- Afghanistan
- Central African Republic
- Ivory Coast
- Tanzania
- Columbia
- Chad
- Cuba
- Iran
- Palestine
- Russia
- Myanmar
- Kuwait
- Liberia
- Uganda
- Jordan
- Egypt
- Equatorial Guinea
- Honduras
- Nepal
- Pakistan
- Gabon
- China
- Burma
- Cameroon
- Sri Lanka
- Togo
- Vietnam
- Yemen
- Zambia
- Uzbekistan

- Turkmenistan
- Ukraine
- Ghana
- Guatemala
- Guinea – Bissau
- Dominican Republic
- Libya
- Kyrgyzstan
- India
- United States (which is incorrect)

- **What schools the refugee students attend**

- In SY 2015-16 there were approximately 970 documented refugee students
 - 315 in K-5
 - 232 in 6-8
 - 423 in 9-12
- This school year, there are over 600 students who are between the ages of 5 and 18 and have been in the country less than 3 years.
- Refugee students are in 52 schools, including AGAVE and TAPP.
- High Schools with the largest population in descending order: Rincon, Catalina, Palo Verde.
- Middle Schools with the largest population in descending order: Naylor, Doolen, Mansfeld, Secrist. Elementary Schools with the largest population in descending order: Naylor, Myers-Ganoung, Dietz, Wright, Tully.
- There are identified refugees in all of the high schools except Mary Meredith K-12 and Santa Rita.
- There are refugees in all of the traditional middle schools except Pistor.
- There are refugees in 6 K-8 schools.
- There are refugees in 26 elementary schools.

- **Above and beyond support we provide to our refugee students**

- Student Success Specialists give their personal cell phone numbers to the community

- Registration of newly arrived refugees. Since the beginning of the school year, APASS & Refugee Services has registered 245 refugee students. Each has had a home visit where we provide an orientation to the TUSD school system and complete registration paperwork and lunch application forms.
- Foreign transcript evaluation
- Connect families with community and social services resources
- Provide cultural awareness training
- Act as cultural experts for teachers and administrators in terms of appropriate cultural behaviors exhibited by students
- Teach students how to use facilities
- Provide language support for K-12 students to complete student surveys
- Work with school staff to communicate with students regarding personal hygiene, lunch choices (i.e. hamburger is not made of ham), how to rotate from class to class, purpose of homework, school expectations
- Provide information for library cards and utilizing Pronunciator to improve English skills
- Provide summer school math remediation and language reinforcement for those not in summer school
- Support students by giving them a voice in their native language
- Organize advocacy groups for high school students to discuss graduation requirements, filling out scholarships, tips for writing college/scholarship essays, brainstorming cultural challenges and solutions, and preparing for the workforce
- Collaborate with the Refugee community for the World Refugee Celebration in June
- Collaborate with Christ Community Church for Turkey Dinner boxes and providing guidance to the families on how to prepare the various items in each box
- Inform parents about Social Security, rental assistance, utility assistance, mental health options, immunization clinics
- During home visits, identify students for Child Find and explain to parents what services this provides
- Contact parents regarding open enrollment and magnet so applications may be completed on time

- Provide primary language assistance for students taking the GATE test.
- Provide interpretation for students in cases of emergency such as paramedics called, law enforcement, DCFS, administrator/teacher needs to speak with student regarding an incident.
- When we have the resources, provide shoes, socks, underwear, backpacks, school supplies, jackets, toothpaste/toothbrushes, personal hygiene items, laundry detergent
- Complete McKinney Vento questionnaire so McKinney Vento eligibility can be determined since Liaison can not communicate with families to ask qualifying questions
- Work with psychologists to evaluate students in their native language
- Assist speech therapists while working with students with limited English Language proficiency
- Visit families to educate them on hygiene, housekeeping, how to eliminate bed bugs, cockroaches, etc.
- Provide sanitary lessons to families to ensure the home is safe and healthy for students and family members.
- **Social Service agencies with whom we collaborate on behalf of our refugee students**
 - La Frontera
 - Catholic Community Services
 - Lutheran Social Services (Refugee Focus)
 - International Rescue Committee
 - University of Arizona School of Public Health
 - Arizona State Office of Refugee Resettlement
 - Pima County Public Library
 - Ethnic Community Based Organizations
 - Horizons for Refugee Families
 - Bhutanese Mutual Assistance Association of Tucson
 - Community Organizations
 - RISPNET (Refugee and Immigrant Integrated Service Provider Network of Tucson)
 - Ishkashitaa Refugee Network
 - Tucson Refugee Ministry
 - 4-Tucson
 - Christ Community Church

- Casas Adobes Church
- Latter Day Saints