



STATEMENT—In Response to the President’s FY18 Cap of Refugee Admissions

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Today, the Trump administration set a historically and arbitrarily low cap of 45,000 refugee admissions for fiscal year 2018. Lutheran Social Services of the National Capital Area (LSS/NCA) is disheartened by the drastic reduction of refugees who will be able to build new lives in the United States and find safety from the persecution and violence that threaten their livelihood every day.

Since 1917, LSS/NCA has aided the most vulnerable among us, and since World War II, it has resettled thousands of displaced persons and refugees. Today we hold our heads high, proud of our history and steadfast in the knowledge that thousands of families and children have had the opportunity to build a future in our community because of our work.

With over 65 million forcibly displaced persons worldwide, 22.5 million refugees – over half of whom are children – LSS/NCA, with our national and local partners, believes that now is not the time to limit lifesaving services to our most vulnerable neighbors. Tens of thousands of refugees will be denied the opportunity for a new beginning. They will not be able to experience the freedom, safety, and prosperity that has defined generations of immigrants and new American citizens

LSS/NCA CEO Christine Connell said, “Historically, the United States has been a global leader in offering protection to refugees. At this urgent moment of disproportionate global displacement, it is more important than ever before to demonstrate the love and compassion that has defined our faith and organization for 100 years.”

From the global stage to the family next door, the needs of our broken world and divided humanity are overwhelming and seemingly insurmountable. In the face of such odds, we have two choices: to accept the status quo, or to believe in the transformative power of service to provide comfort and restore hope and dignity. Our hearts and thoughts are with the millions of people still waiting for an opportunity to build a new home; and we pray that they hold firm to their hope and strength through the continued wait.

Help us and show your support by visiting [the LSS/NCA “Stand With Refugees” webpage to take action.](#)

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Lutheran Social Services of the National Capital Area (LSS/NCA) has devoted a century to SERVING BOLDLY, offering hope and mobilizing communities to serve the most vulnerable among us. LSS/NCA is a registered 501c3 nonprofit organization that serves more than 2,000 families and children in crisis throughout the Greater Metro-DC region through Children’s Services and Refugee & Immigrant Services. LSS/NCA does not discriminate on the basis of ethnicity, age, race, creed, gender, or sexual orientation.