

STATEMENT—In Response to the recent Presidential Executive Order, Lutheran Social Services of the National Capital Area Commits to Stand in Solidarity with Refugees

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Since 1917, Lutheran Social Services of the National Capital Area (LSS/NCA) has aided the most vulnerable among us, and since World War II, it has resettled thousands of displaced persons and refugees fleeing war, mayhem, and persecution. 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 new lives free of persecution and fear because of our work.

The direct implications of the President's recent Executive Order on LSS/NCA programs and our ability to serve the refugee community are still being evaluated and discussed with our national affiliate and federal partners. But the impact on our refugee brothers and sisters is clear. At a time when the world faces one of its largest refugee crises, 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, "Every donor, congregation, community partner, staff member, and volunteer has played an integral role in restoring hope for the refugees we serve. Together, we will continue to welcome and embrace our neighbors and support our community. LSS/NCA will continue to live out our faith by praying for a quick resolution so that people can continue to come to us for safety and security."

In a world where despair comes easy, where the disparities between the haves and have-nots grow increasingly wide, where the marginalized and weak have few prospects of growing strong, we must SERVE BOLDLY. We will continue stand up for AND stand by those who need a hand to hold and voice to speak for them. 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.