

**Check it Out**

Ramadan will take place around June 28–July 27, this year.

Ethnomed has resources to help providers understand Ramadan and the potential changes it may require when providing services for individuals.

See the link below for more information.

<http://ethnomed.org/calendar/ramadan-2014>

**Upcoming Events**

**Refugee Mental Health Subcommittee Meeting**

July 10, 2014 @ 1:00 p.m.  
LDS Hospital (8th Ave. & C St.)  
Classroom G

**Refugee Provider Meeting**

July 17, 2014 @ 9:30 a.m.  
1385 S. State Street  
Room 157A

**\*Please note that the Refugee Health Advisory Committee is not currently meeting.**

**Utah Refugee Health**

**Program Contact**

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Health Coordinator  
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**Refugee Health Stakeholder Newsletter**



**ORR Budget Shortfall and Potential Effects on Refugee Health Programs in Utah**

The US Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) announced on June 19, 2014 that they plan to reprogram \$94 million from their refugee services side to the Unaccompanied Alien Children (UAC) side. This is being done to help meet the needs of increasing numbers of children arriving in the United States, mainly from Central America. Notification of this change in how funds will be used was made to Congress on June 20 with the expected reprogram occurring as early as July 1, 2014. Funds are being reprogrammed from several different places including 100% of monies designated for Preventive Health activities (\$4.6 million).

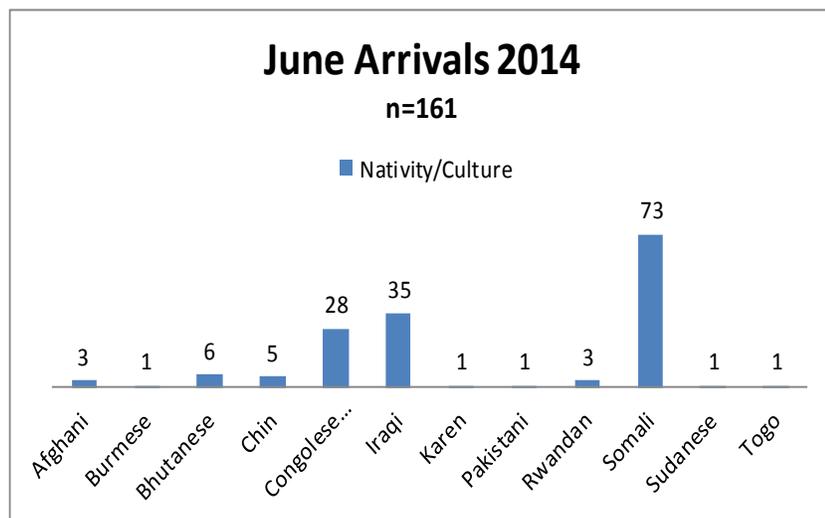
This has concerned many providers of refugee health services across the country as Preventive Health funds allow for the provision of critical services for refugees being resettled in the U.S. Advocacy efforts are being made across the country to stop these potential cuts to refugee services. Although the Refugee Health Program is unable to advocate for specific changes, we did want to make you aware of what is at stake if this money is lost. More information about these cuts is available from Refugee Council USA at: <http://www.rcusa.org/>

Additionally, information about the influx of UACs to the United States can be found here:

<http://www.usnews.com/news/world/articles/2014/06/03/child-migrants-driven-to-us-by-violence-poverty>

<http://womensrefugeecommission.org/resources/document/844-forced-from-home-the-lost-boys-and-girls-of-central-america>

**Refugee Arrivals Monthly Update:**



Total arrivals: 161 Arrivals by agency: CCS: 136 IRC: 25

## Cultural Backgrounder Additional Resources:

UNHCR Regional Operations  
Profile– South Asia  
[www.unhcr.org/  
pages/49e487646.html](http://www.unhcr.org/pages/49e487646.html)

Proposed Refugee  
Admissions Report for FY  
2014, Pgs. 44-51  
[www.state.gov/documents/  
organization/219137.pdf](http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/219137.pdf)

About Refugees From Bhutan  
[www.culturalorientation.net/  
learning/populations/  
bhutanese](http://www.culturalorientation.net/learning/populations/bhutanese)

Nepali-Speaking Bhutanese  
(Lhotsampa) Cultural Profile  
[http://ethnomed.org/culture/  
nepali-speaking-bhutanese-  
lhotsampa/nepali-speaking-  
bhutanese-lhotsampa-cultural-  
profile/?searchterm=bhutan](http://ethnomed.org/culture/nepali-speaking-bhutanese-lhotsampa/nepali-speaking-bhutanese-lhotsampa-cultural-profile/?searchterm=bhutan)

Bhutan Country Conditions  
Report  
[http://  
gulfoastjewishfamilyandcom-  
munityservices.org/refugee/  
files/2011/07/CCR-  
bhutan1.pdf](http://gulfoastjewishfamilyandcommunityservices.org/refugee/files/2011/07/CCR-bhutan1.pdf)

CDC's Bhutanese Refugee  
Health Profile  
[http://www.cdc.gov/  
immigrantrefugeehealth/  
profiles/bhutanese/index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/immigrantrefugeehealth/profiles/bhutanese/index.html)

Association of Bhutanese in  
America  
<http://www.aba-usa.org/>

## Newsletter Feedback and subscription to Refugee Health Program Listerv

If you have any feedback or  
suggestions for the newsletter  
or would like to subscribe to  
the Refugee Health Program  
Listerv please contact Chelsey  
Butchereit.

Email: [cbutchereit@utah.gov](mailto:cbutchereit@utah.gov)  
Phone: 801-538-6834

## Local Resource Spotlight: English Skills Learning Center

The English Skills Learning Center (ESLC) provides free individualized English instruction to adult English language learners in Salt Lake County. They have operated continuously since 1988, and provide English classes for specific purposes. Their students speak little or no English, and often are not literate in any language. They recruit, train, and supervise volunteers who teach small groups of students twice a week at a convenient location.

The ESLC teaches about 800 students from more than 40 different countries every year with the assistance of 300 volunteers. The majority of their students are women, and about half are immigrants and half are refugees. Their approach focuses on empowering students to become better integrated members of American society.

New student registration is between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Monday-Thursday at the ESLC's office which is located at 4444 South 700 East, Suite 100. Each new student should bring a picture ID and a family member or friend who speaks English (if needed).

For more information about the ESLC's programs, volunteer opportunities, or to donate visit <http://www.eslcenter.org> or contact Beth Garstka at **801.328.5608**.

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## Cultural Backgrounder: Refugees from Bhutan

Thousands of ethnic Nepalis in Bhutan were forced out of Bhutan in the early 1990s as a result of the Bhutanese government's policy of "one nation and one people" (also referred to as "Bhutanization"). Despite many rounds of formal negotiations between Bhutan and Nepal and pressure from the United States and other governments, Bhutan has not changed its policy.

Due to concerted resettlement efforts that began in late 2007 by the United States and other resettlement countries, approximately 80,000 of the original population of 108,000 Bhutanese refugees in Nepal have departed after spending two decades in camps in eastern Nepal. As of May 2013, UNHCR had referred over 100,000 Bhutanese refugees for resettlement to eight countries and more than 80,000 of these Bhutanese refugees have been resettled since late 2007. Many of these refugees have come to the United States. (Proposed Refugee Admissions Report, 2014)

There have been 1335 Bhutanese refugees resettled in Utah since the Utah Department of Health began recording refugee nativity/culture in 2005.

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## Clinical Refugee Health Resources and Updates: Suicides Among Bhutanese Refugees in the US

Rates of suicide among Bhutanese refugees in the United States is higher than other groups of resettled refugees. The CDC published a report about this titled, "An Investigation into Suicides Among Bhutanese Refugees in the US 2009-2012." The report can be accessed through this link: [http://refugeehealthta.org/files/2012/10/  
Bhutanese-Suicide-Stakeholder\\_Report\\_October\\_22\\_2012\\_Cleared\\_-  
For\\_Dissemination1.pdf](http://refugeehealthta.org/files/2012/10/Bhutanese-Suicide-Stakeholder_Report_October_22_2012_Cleared_-For_Dissemination1.pdf).

Additionally, the Refugee Health Technical Assistance Center has a toolkit specific to suicide prevention among resettled refugees. It can be accessed at: [http://  
refugeehealthta.org/physical-mental-health/mental-health/suicide/suicide-prevention-  
toolkit/](http://refugeehealthta.org/physical-mental-health/mental-health/suicide/suicide-prevention-toolkit/)

# National Refugee Resources and Updates: North American Refugee Health Conference 2014 Recap

The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual North American Refugee Health conference was held June 19-21, 2014 in Rochester, New York. The conference, which is a collaborative effort between Rochester General Health System and the University of Toronto, provides an opportunity to engage with stakeholders working with refugees throughout the U.S. and Canada. Conference sessions strive to provide data-driven research and best practices, aimed at improving the health of refugees.

This year's conference was an exciting one for Utah, as representation from the Utah refugee health stakeholder community accounted for 5% of all participants. Not only did Utah have a great turn out with regard to attendance, but the state was also able to highlight the great work being done in refugee health in Utah. Yda Smith of the University of Utah, Division of Occupational Therapy and Sheri Palmer of Brigham Young University, College of Nursing, presented on their work with refugees. In addition, Dr. Karl Kirby and Dr. Brian Beesley, from St. Mark's Family Medicine Residency, presented a poster on abdominal complaints in the primary care setting.

Next year's conference, "Health Means the World to Us," will be held June 4-6, 2015 in Toronto, Canada.

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## Utah Refugee Health Program Update: Updated Website and Statistics from Trimester Report

### Updated Website:

The Utah Refugee Health Program recently updated its website. The new link to access information and materials is <http://health.utah.gov/epi/healthypeople/refugee/index.html>. We hope you will visit the site and provide us with any feedback!

### Trimester Report:

Three times a year the Utah Refugee Health Program submits a report to the Refugee Services Office regarding health services provided for refugees. The most recent trimester report was submitted in June and below are some of the data that were included in the report detailing services provided between February 1, 2014– May 31, 2014.

