

Bridging Refugee Youth & Children's Services (BRYCS)

Separated & Unaccompanied Children

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Agenda

- BRYCS
 - Description
 - Resources
- Terms
- Statistics
- Special Needs of Separated Children and Unaccompanied Children
- Guardianship
- SIJS and VAWA
- URM Programs

BRYCS Provides...

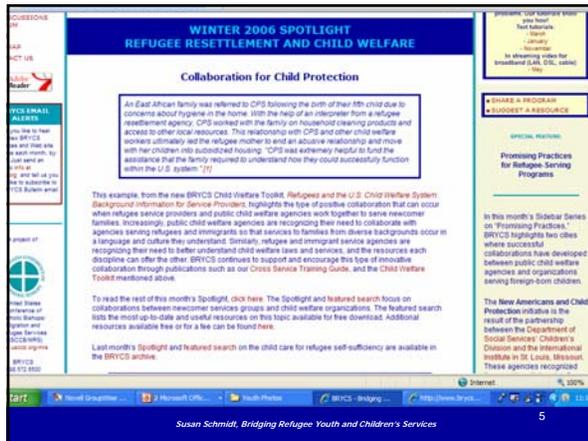
National Technical Assistance on refugee children, youth, and families

- Consultations and Training
- Web site and Clearinghouse (www.brycs.org)
- Resource Development
- National Coordination
- Promising Practices Initiative

Web Site & Clearinghouse www.brycs.org

- Quarterly Spotlights – includes descriptions of “Promising Practices”
- “What’s New” resources are posted monthly and are drawn from over 40 listservs
- Monthly Email Bulletin Alerts
- Clearinghouse – your one-stop location with over 1,500 resources

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BRYCS Publications

- **Toolkits**
 - *Child Welfare*
 - *Child Care*
 - *Positive Youth Development*
 - *Parenting*
- **Other Child Welfare Related**
 - *Serving Refugee Children in Foster Care: Fundamental Considerations*
 - *Developing Refugee Foster Families: A Worthwhile Investment*
 - *Building Bridges: A Cross-Service Training Guide*
 - *Foster Care at a Cultural Crossroads: Refugee Children in the Public Foster Care System*

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Coming Soon from BRYCS... "Raising Children in a New Country: An Illustrated Handbook"



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Terms

- Refugee
- Asylee / Asylum seeker
- Immigrant or Migrant
- Undocumented
- Trafficking victim
- Federal Alphabet Soup
 - DHS: ICE or CIS
 - DOJ: EOIR
 - DOS: BPRM
 - HHS: ORR

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Terms: Unaccompanied & Separated Children

- Unaccompanied
- Separated
- Separated or unaccompanied after arrival
- Mixed status families
- Unaccompanied alien child / DUCS

Susan Schmidt, Bridging Refugee Youth and Children's Services

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MN Statistics

- **Legal Immigrants** (from DHS' "Yearbook of Immigration Statistics")
 - LPR adjustments in MN:
 - 18,254 in 2006
 - Non-immigrant (temporary) admissions to MN:
 - 149,451 in 2005
 - Naturalizations in MN:
 - 9,137 in 2006
- **Undocumented**
 - Estimated 80,000 - 85,000 in MN (from "The Impact of Illegal Immigration in MN," Dec 2005)

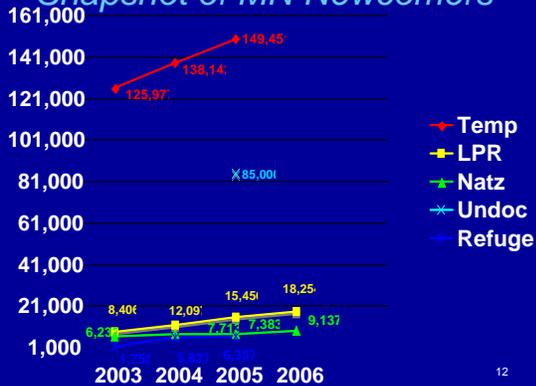
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Statistics -- Refugees

- **Total Refugee Arrivals to the U.S.** (from www.state.gov)
 - U.S.
 - FY06: 41,277
 - FY05: 53,813
 - MN
 - FY04: 5,827
 - FY03: 1,750
 - FY02: 701
 - FY01: 3,232
 - FY00: 3,492

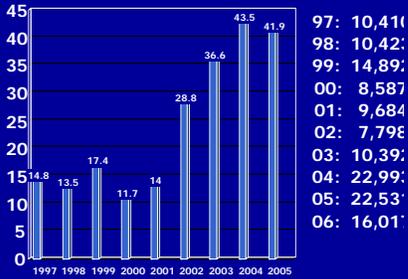
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Snapshot of MN Newcomers



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USA: Children as a Percentage of Total Refugee Arrivals



97: 10,411
 98: 10,421
 99: 14,891
 00: 8,587
 01: 9,684
 02: 7,798
 03: 10,391
 04: 22,991
 05: 22,531
 06: 16,011

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Refugee Children Coming to MN

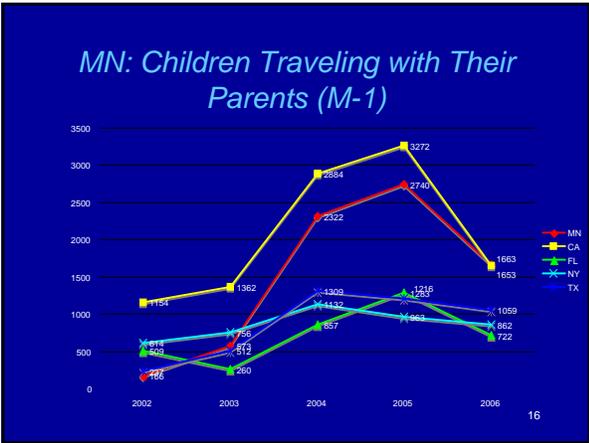
- MN # 1 in 2006!
 - Overall refugee child arrivals
 - M-1: Minors traveling with parents
 - M-2: Minors traveling with relatives
 - M-3: Minors traveling with non-relatives
 - M-5: Minors coming to join parents

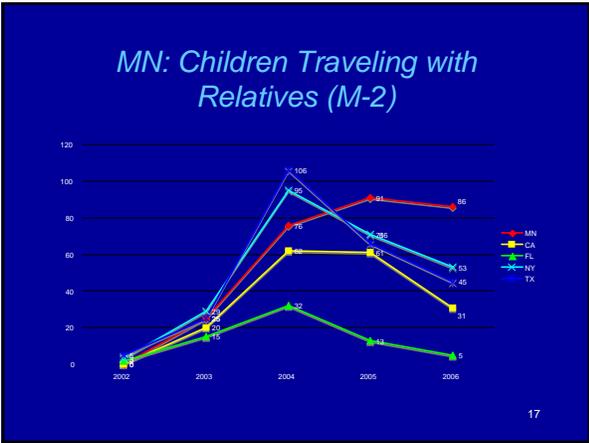
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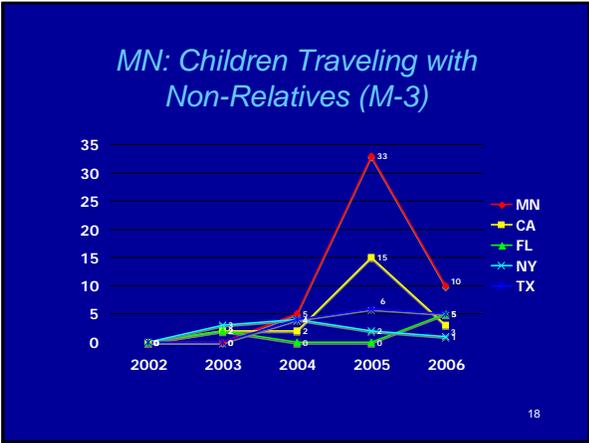
MN: Nationalities of Children Resettled

| Origin | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 |
|---|------|------|------|------|------|
| Burma | - | 5 | 79 | 69 | 70 |
| Ethiopian/ Eritrean | 15 | 185 | 232 | 125 | 168 |
| Laos | - | - | 1205 | 1735 | 154 |
| Liberia | 20 | 167 | 163 | 234 | 141 |
| FSU Bel/Rus/Ukr/ Mol/Lat/Kyr/Kaz/Uzb | 93 | 86 | 104 | 89 | 52 |
| Somalia | 16 | 129 | 697 | 696 | 1230 |

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MN: Children Coming to Join Parents (M-5)

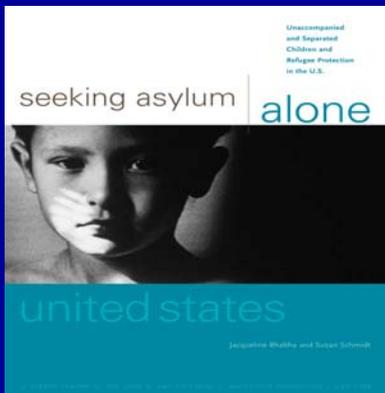


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Refugee & Undocumented Kids: Similar or Different ?

- *Similar*
 - Cultural adjustment
 - Family separation
 - Possible trauma
 - Potential mistrust of government authorities
 - Educational needs
 - Guardianship needs
 - Need for legal assistance
- *Different*
 - Legal status
 - Benefits eligibility
 - Sense of permanence
 - Reasons for coming

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http://www.humanrights.harvard.edu/conference/Seeking_Asymly_Alone_US_Report.pdf

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Guardianship

- Relevance to refugee / immigrant kids
- BRYCS Resources
 - “Guardianship Fact Sheet for Staff Assisting Refugee Families”
 - “Guardianship FAQ Summary”
 - “Guardianship Information by State”
 - Available at www.BRYCS.org on the “Publications” page
- <http://www.minnesotaguardianship.org>

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SIJS

- *Special Immigrant Juvenile Status*
- *Basic definition*
- *Foster care, guardianship, or juvenile delinquency cases*
- *Important role of child welfare workers*

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VAWA

- *Violence Against Women Act*
- *Basic description*
- *VAWA & SIJS connection*

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URM Programs / Reclassification

- *URM*
 - *Who, What, Where*
- *Reclassification*
 - *Who, What, Why*
- *URM Program Contacts*
 - U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) / BRYCS
Laura Gardner, (202) 541 - 3232
 - Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Svc (LIRS)
Amy Anderson, (410) 230 - 2796

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BRYCS Contact Info

- *Send an email to info@brycs.org*
- *Call 1-888-572-6500 or 202-541-3232*
- *Available for consultations*

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