PCC4Refugees E-Newsletter!

PCC4Refugees at the Kennedy Center REACH in Washington D.C.

Thank you to all who visited us in Austin, Texas at the Peace Corps Connect Conference in June! It is always wonderful to re-connect and hear about all the great work you are doing!

Our next event will be on September 22 in Washington, D.C. In coordination with the National Peace Corps Association, PCC4Refugees will host a panel and exhibit at the new Kennedy Center complex, REACH. Please see below to learn more.

Latest News

Kennedy Center REACH event

The Kennedy Center is hosting the REACH opening day festival in its newly-built REACH space. The National Peace Corps Association is coordinating a day of events including a film screening of the Peace Corps documentary, "A Towering Task". PCC4Refugees will host refugee youth who will share their experiences of arriving and living in the US with event visitors.

We will also facilitate an RPCV volunteer panel at 2:35pm moderated by Valerie Kurka featuring three RPCVs:

- Ron Ison (Cincinnati, OH), volunteer in Cincinnati
- Eirene Chen (Paris, France), volunteer in Lesvos, Greece
- Glenn Blumhorst (Washington, D.C.), President of NPCA and volunteer in El Paso at the Southern US Border.

The REACH event offers free timed passes for entry, which are recommended but not required. Because of limited space, guests without passes may wait in a line for entry. A link to obtain passes is here. Please join us!!
RPCV attends UNHCR consultation in Geneva, Switzerland

Eirene Chen (RPCV Uzbekistan 2000-2001), who had just finished volunteering in a refugee camp in Greece through our overseas program with NPCA, represented our affiliate as part of UNHCR’s Annual Consultations for NGOs at its Global Refugee Forum in Geneva, Switzerland, July 3-5.

Each year, over 500 people from approximately 300 organizations and 120 countries participate in the week-long discussions. This is the first year in which Peace Corps Community for Refugees (or any affiliate group of the National Peace Corps Association) has participated in the UNHCR Annual Consultations for NGOs.

Stay tuned for a summary of her report on our website!

Volunteer with the Karam Foundation

The Karam Foundation works with Syrian refugee families in select cities in the US. They are always looking for mentoring, sponsorship, and donation support to the families they work with. Opportunities are in Michigan, Ohio, New Hampshire, Seattle, Chicago, and others. We’re happy to connect you!

Know the words!

Recent attention in the media has elevated awareness of asylum seekers, immigration, refugees, and asylees. Would you like to understand more about the terminology you read? Please read our article, Get to Know These Words About Asylum, to learn more.

The National Immigration Forum also has an article about the asylum process to learn more about how an asylum seeker interacts with the legal system in the US.

New Public Charge Rule

The Federal Register published the “Inadmissibility on Public Charge Grounds” final rule. This new policy will go into effect on October 15th unless it’s blocked by courts. If implemented, the altered public charge will deny legal immigrants in the United States the opportunity to become permanent residents if they are considered likely to receive government benefits. Although immigrants make up a small percentage of people using public benefits, the threat of being denied a green card will most certainly dissuade them from applying for Medicaid or the
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). Legal immigrants have the right to access these programs and, more than likely, their children are U.S. citizens.

Volunteer in Lesvos, Greece

PCC4Refugees is recruiting volunteers for service this fall in Lesvos, Greece. They will be hosting a webinar for anyone to learn more, please see more information [here](#) about volunteering. Stay tuned for webinar information!

Find your local resettlement network on our map!

Unsure of where refugee and asylum seeker service agencies are in your community? Check out our [interactive map](#) to see what agencies are near you!

Please update your address

We’ve shared dozens of local advocacy issues and updates tailored to our members. So PCC4Refugees can target important advocacy issues, we request members to please update their addresses in SilkStart, and/or the state and U.S. Congressional legislative district. To do so, please visit our [website](#) and Login to the platform to access your contact information.

We’re becoming more active in advocacy on refugee and immigration issues, and hope to communicate further. Thank you in advance!

Community Support Efforts

Learn what others in the Peace Corps Community and NPCA Affiliate Groups have been doing to support refugees in our featured Articles.
Are you serving refugees in your community? We would love to hear what you’re up to! Your answers help us stay connected to Peace Corps Community efforts by sharing stories and experiences with others through outreach. Please take a short survey!

Helpful Resources
Find helpful resources for supporting refugees

Connect with Us:
Facebook
Twitter

Contact:
info@pcc4refugees.org
www.PCC4Refugees.org

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