Refuge
Egypt
Our Mission

Refuge Egypt serves refugees, migrants and asylum seekers living in Egypt who have fled their original country of nationality due to war or disaster, and who have well founded fears of return due to persecution or loss of rights. We seek to provide humanitarian assistance, spiritual guidance and encouragement to help build self-sufficiency and self-respect in preparation for repatriation, resettlement or integration into Egyptian society.

Refuge-Egypt is a ministry of the Anglican Episcopal Diocese of Egypt with North Africa.
Our Work

Refuge Egypt’s work aims to meet the many and varied needs of those who arrive in Egypt seeking help.

Our humanitarian assistance programs provide for refugees’ most basic and immediate needs—food, clothing, and community.

Our capacity and livelihoods programs are designed to provide refugees with the skills need for self-sufficiency in Cairo.

Our medical services offer immediate medical help and provide education on key health issues.

The Happy Child Preschool meets the educational needs of refugee children while providing a safe place for children so families can work.

In addition, Refuge Egypt provides informal support through prayer, community, mentorship, encouragement, and spiritual guidance.
A total of 267,820 refugees and asylum seekers live in Egypt. While many have fled the recent Syrian conflict, now in its fourth year, over the last decade, hundreds of thousands have come to Egypt to escape the ongoing war, famine, and persecution in Sudan and South Sudan, Ethiopia, Eritrea, and Somalia.

Refugees arriving in Egypt find that the odds are stacked against them. Essential services are denied, jobs are hard to come by, and as a result, many are exploited. With Egypt’s own context in uncertainty, the need among refugees in Cairo is great.
From Ethiopia
2,900 asylum seekers

From Somalia
6,300 refugees
1,800 asylum seekers

From Sudan
15,000 refugees
1,800 asylum seekers

From other countries
79,600 refugees
6,700 asylum seekers
20 stateless persons

From Syria
140,000 refugees

From Egypt
267,820

Source: UNHCR, 2015
We register refugees when they first arrive in Cairo, with our own assessment process. On the basis of that, we aim to meet some of the most basic needs new arrivals have—food, clothing, information, and community.

We encourage persons of concern to register with UNHCR for particular support. UNHCR cards are given to all refugees after their assessments. However, this process can be delayed, and it can be some time before a refugee is eligible for food aid.

We aim to help these in particular as they await status from UNHCR. Many of them, newcomers in an overwhelming city, find themselves in particularly vulnerable and difficult circumstances.

The assistance we give to refugees includes food bags, clothing, blankets, and basic information services, as well as a youth program that meets the basic need of a supportive community.

To meet that particular need, our youth program offers a safe place for faith, fellowship, and fun, with a broad program of activities that ranges from one-on-one mentorship to boat rides on the Nile.

### in 2014...

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<tr>
<td>3,430</td>
<td>people registered</td>
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<tr>
<td>7,058</td>
<td>food bags distributed</td>
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<tr>
<td>1,923</td>
<td>items of clothing given</td>
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Although most refugees see Cairo as a gateway to the West, only about 2% are resettled elsewhere. Refugees in Cairo must find work in order to make ends meet.

That work, however, is very difficult to find. As a result, many are forced to work in the informal sector, doing dangerous work for little reward.

Refuge Egypt works to enable refugees to access employment so that they can be self-reliant and integrated into Egyptian society.

Our Domestic Placement Office places prospective employers and employees together. It also provides short cleaning courses, providing refugees with employable skills.

Refuge Egypt also acts as a mediator between employees and employers when difficulties occur, and offers classes in the basics of employment.

In addition, we provide short, intensive English language courses that cover a range of day-to-day topics.

Through all these programs, refugees gain the skills and experience to develop their own future as self-sufficient in Egypt.
Access to quality medical care and psychosocial support is a challenge for refugees. Refuge Egypt delivers accessible and comprehensive health care for refugees in Cairo, under the leadership of Dr. Eman Kamal, with qualified doctors, nurses, counsellors, community health workers, and volunteers.

Refuge Egypt’s medical doctors provide primary health care services to refugees in Egypt, and give referrals to other trusted health care providers.

These services include comprehensive maternal health clinics, HIV counseling and testing, TB and HIV clinics, malnutrition clinics, as well as general physical check-ups.

In addition, the Well Baby and Well Child Clinics hold multiple sessions of health education for groups of caregivers, with a focus on infant care. At the UNHCR registration office, based in Zamalek, our doctors give these health education sessions to refugees from Syria. Across our various clinics, education topics range from breastfeeding, anemia, immunizations, HIV, and TB.

The four clinic sites are spread throughout the city close to slum areas, with a fifth clinic in Zamalek.
Access to education is one of the most essential needs denied to refugee children. Although in theory refugee children are able to attend Egyptian schools, in the absence of clear regulations, many schools simply refuse.

Other refugee children are simply left with no choice but to stay at home while parents work, often in poor living conditions, where they are more vulnerable to disease and violence.

The Happy Child Preschool, provides the foundational literacy, numeracy, and social skills for access to further education, as well as the structure and the predictability all children need.

It also frees the time of parents and caregivers so that they can pursue any employment opportunities or attend school.

The preschool also gives an opportunity for people of different backgrounds to forge friendships and learn together from a young age.

KG 0, 1 and 2 classes are 5 days a week, and Montessori-trained teachers cover a range of topics, including English, Arabic, math, music, and religious studies, with free and structured play throughout the day.

in 2014...
55 registered for pre-school classes
20 graduated
With thanks to our partners...

Support Us

Our work relies on the prayers and generosity of our local and worldwide supporters like you.

If you wish to make a one-off or regular donation, our international banking details can be found on our website (www.refuge-egypt.org/index.php/support).

You can also support us through our international partners in the USA (www.friendsanglicandioceeseegypt.org) or the UK (www.eda-egypt.org.uk).