

The Journey

Journey's End Refugee Services



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Buffalo Through Their Eyes

What began as a way to involve our clients in the celebration of our silver anniversary has quickly grown into a project documenting the experiences and perceptions of our clients as they resettle in Buffalo. They have captured intimate portraits: images of their families' maintaining their cultural heritage, while assimilating to their new home. They've also produced images of familiar landmarks from new perspectives.

This year's show featured the work of 11 artists representing six nationalities including Karen and Chin (from Burma), Nepali, Iraqi, Eritrean, and Cameroonian and more than 80 works of art.

Many thanks to our sponsors, attendees, and artists. You can view this years images at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/jersbuffalo/> This year's show grew by more than 35% and we're already planning for next year. Hope to see you then.



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MATCH GRANT

We need your help as our clients transition to self-sufficiency. Page 4.

Notes From Nairobi

Molly Short

As you read this I am beginning a two week trip to East Africa as part of a Church World Service (CWS) Overseas Exchange. CWS is one of two national offices that Journey's End has direct service agreements with to resettle refugees. CWS is also responsible for operating Refugee Service Centers in Nairobi, Kimpala, and Mbarara. As part of an exchange, I will be working to develop a better understanding of the overseas experience including the selection process, cultural orientation, special projects, health assessments, and much more. My first objective is to share the knowledge of the post-resettlement environment to better connect the services and information provided to refugees before they depart for the United States. My second objective is to learn about the realities of life in the refugee camps and the long and difficult process of being admitted to the US Refugee Program.

During our time in East Africa we will meet with the United Nations High Commission for Refugees, the International Organization for

Migration, Church World Service field staff, and refugees applying to the US program. Each day I will be writing a blog that you can read at the Journey's End Facebook page or under the News section of the Journey's End website at jersbuffalo.org. I will be sharing my experiences, thoughts, feelings, and pictures from East Africa.



When I return I will share what I learned with the large community of people that support and work with refugees in WNY. I believe it is vital to understand where our clients came from and the process they undertook to come here so we can provide the best possible services. Our purpose is to provide refugees with the tools they need to become successful and contributing members of our community. We must understand the diversity of hardship and strength that our clients bring with them on their journeys to freedom.

Refugee 2nd Edition



Join us for an authentic
Burmese Dinner

Hosted by: **Mike "Danger" Bernhardt
& Khin San Wai**

O'Connell's American Bistro
946 Kenmore Avenue
November 13 • 6 PM
Tickets - \$40

Purchase online:
dinnerwithdanger.com

Just facts

1. During flight from areas of conflict, families continue to be exposed to many dangers, such as sudden attacks, shelling, snipers and land mines.
2. Refugee camps often lack water, electricity, sanitation and health care. Children are especially at risk of malnutrition in these camps.
3. In times of war, the disintegration of families and communities leaves women and girls especially vulnerable to violence.

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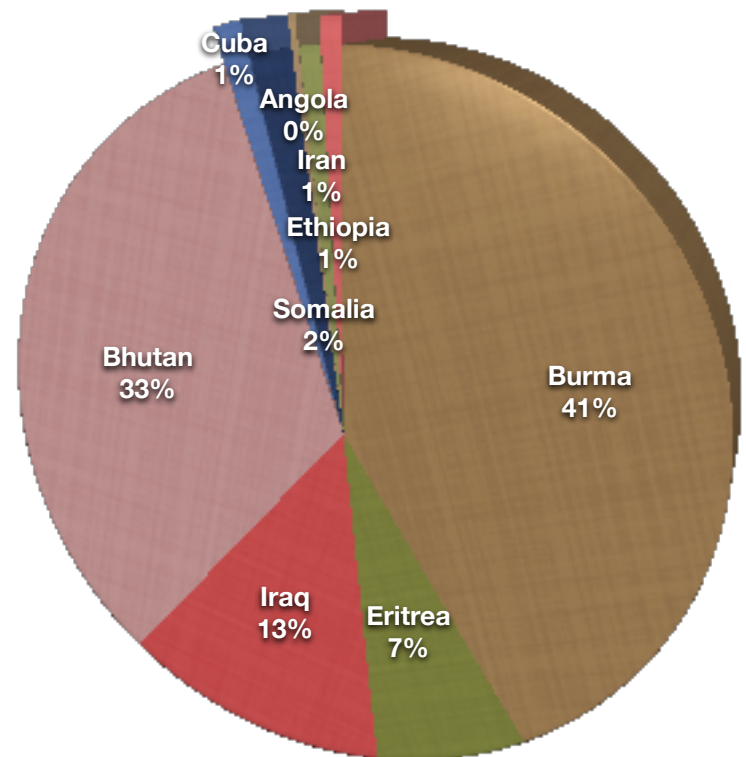
OUR MISSION

Journey's End Refugee Services Inc. is a Christian community-based organization with the mission of welcoming refugees without regard to ethnic origin or creed and to assist them to become healthy, independent, contributing members of the community.

Another Busy Year

Journey's End assisted 353 refugees from nine countries resettle in Buffalo last year.

Even with rapidly changing processing and screening procedures, last fiscal year we welcomed more than 350 clients from 9 countries. Below find a break down by country of who we served the previous 12 months:



● Burma ● Eritrea ● Iraq ● Bhutan ● Cuba
● Somalia ● Angola ● Iran ● Ethiopia

A Hand Up

The Match Grant program is an employment-focused alternative to cash assistance.

The refugees who choose this program are driven to start their new lives on the right foot, and want to become self-sufficient as quickly as possible to take care of themselves and their families. The federal government gives us \$2 for every \$1 in donated items and services we provide through the Match Grant program. That means the more you give, the more money we have to help our clients with rent, utilities, transportation costs and more. For more info contact Phillip Barr at housing@jersbuffalo.org or at 716-882-4963 x218 to arrange a pick-up or drop-off. Call or emails will be returned weekly on Thursdays.

We're especially looking for:

- Winter coats, hats, gloves, scarves
- Televisions
- DVD players
- Computers
- Electronics
- Baby cribs
- Gift cards (with receipts)
- Working Bicycles, locks, helmets.



*Official Affiliate of Church World Service and
Episcopal Migration Ministries*



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Permit #3978

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