OVERVIEW

The IRC Youth Program believes refugee youth have unlimited potential and with the right support structures will realize this potential and become successful contributors to their communities. In efforts to help them reach that potential we strives to support the educational, social and cultural needs of more than 450 new refugee students from their very first days of arrival in the U.S.

PROGRAM AREAS

School Orientation: The IRC Youth Program provides new refugee families with an orientation to the US school system, school supplies for their children, aid in enrolling their children in school, and continued support around educational youth programming. Newly arrived families are evaluated during a family social and educational history intake that is to be shared with the school staff serving them. This is to ensure that school staff knows as much about the family as possibly before they even arrive in their school. Often times this even includes accompanying refugee youth through every step on their first day of school; starting with walking them to the bus stop that first morning. We have close partnerships with 63 schools in 4 different school districts.

In-Home Tutor Program: A six month in-home tutoring program for refugee youth ages 6-18 designed to provide intensive, in-home help focusing on parent participation, homework, and English language acquisition.

Early Childhood Education: Provides services for children from ages 2 to 4 who are within the 2 years of IRC case management. This includes educating parents on early childhood interventions and aiding in school enrollments within Head Start Programs, UPSTART online program, and public Pre-schools (Granite School District).

College Readiness: Provides support to high school students during their journey through secondary education. Working closely with the students' school counselors, the program ensures that students are on track to graduation, receive appropriate support to succeed in their education, and assists them in their transition to college, ESL classes and adult high school programs when needed.

Community and Parent Engagement: The IRC also helps refugee youth continue their acculturation into their new community by referring them to programs at their schools or in the community based on their interests, needs, talents and personal goals. This includes partnering with afterschool programs and summer opportunities. IRC Youth Program is passionate about parent engagement and is looking into new opportunities to involve and educate parents in their kid’s academic success.

IRC Youth Program Team and Contact Information:
Youth Program Coordinator- Krysti Nellermoe
krysti.nellermoe@rescue.org or call (801) 883-8475