



Every Campus A Refuge: Proposal

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Executive Summary

Through becoming an 'Every Campus A Refuge' Chapter, TU would:

- Make a meaningful difference in the lives of refugees by offering them housing and support on campus, while making a meaningful difference in the lives of students through facilitating their interaction with newcomers to Tulsa.
- Provide students with unique service-learning opportunities and experiential classroom work through helping with the refugee resettlement process and supporting refugees on campus.
- Become a partner in refugee resettlement in Tulsa by working with local resettlement agencies and other non-profits.
- Every Campus A Refuge contributes to the TU mission through the experiential learning opportunities that are “(g)uided by our commitment to diversity, equity, and service...” and that will “...prepare individuals to make meaningful contributions to our campus, our community, and our world”

Introduction

The recent evacuation of Afghanistan, coupled with the ongoing war in Ukraine, has highlighted the needs of displaced communities around the world. While Tulsa has been receiving refugee communities for decades, recent geo-political events have dramatically increased the number of newcomers to Tulsa, and these numbers will likely continue to grow. Through work with the Afghan community, including providing housing, legal, and community support for youth, the University of Tulsa has shown the positive impact that higher education institutions can have on the lives of refugees. To continue this work and provide institutional structure moving forward, I propose that The University of Tulsa become a chapter of **Every Campus A Refuge (ECAR)**. Becoming a member of ECAR will help foster deeper student engagement with the refugee community and local non-profit organizations, including refugee resettlement agencies and the YWCA, providing a myriad of service-learning opportunities for TU students. In joining ECAR, TU would be the first Oklahoma institution to join this organization, becoming a leader in refugee work in Oklahoma and a partner with other institutions across the United States.

Every Campus A Refuge contributes to the TU mission through the experiential learning opportunities that are “(g)uided by our commitment to diversity, equity, and service...” and that will “...prepare individuals to make meaningful contributions to our campus, our community, and our world”. Furthermore, ECAR contributes to the fifth area of priority in the 2021 Strategic Plan: *Truly The*

University of Tulsa, through welcoming new Tulsans into the city and making them feel like they are part of the Heart of Tulsa.

Every Campus A Refuge (ECAR)

ECAR is a higher-education initiative founded in 2015 at Guilford College, in Greensboro, North Carolina. Its mission is to make every U.S. college and university a Resettlement Campus, partnering with local refugee resettlement agencies to host refugees on campus grounds and supports their successful integration.¹ Recognized by the United Nations Academic Impact Report² and the U.S. Department of State³ as a leader in higher education initiatives for the support of refugees, founder Dr. Diya Abdo is a strong advocate for the role of universities in the refugee resettlement process. ECAR helps facilitate this process through providing best practice documents, curriculum materials, and financial support. Joining ECAR will also connect TU with a community of other campuses hosting refugees, providing an important resource network and opportunities for students. More details about ECAR can be found on their website at: <http://everycampusarefuge.net/>

How ECAR works:

- University partners with local refugee resettlement agency
 - Refugee resettlement agency has oversight of hosting and interactions with the refugee family
 - Both the university and the refugee resettlement agency sign a Memorandum of Understanding outlining their roles and responsibilities
- Refugee family (or families) are assigned to the university by the refugee resettlement agency.
- University provides free housing and utilities, as well as access to campus resources like the gym and library, until each family is financially stable and can integrate into the local community.
- University works with each family's case manager to help offer case management support and community integration.
- University helps support each family as they look for off-campus housing and helps them make the transition to new housing.

For affiliated chapters, ECAR offers the following support:

- Training and technical assistance for volunteers and key personnel (in a program coordinator role)
- Monthly training tackling an aspect of being a resettlement campus – culturally responsive communication and psychological first aid, ESL tutoring, mental health support, leveraging campus resources, navigating complex relationships with hosted families, etc.
- Zoom coaching, consulting, and strategy sessions
- Funding support and support with fundraising efforts
- Internships (both paid and unpaid) at Every Campus A Refuge, a national award-winning non-profit organization
- Eligible for member spotlights and national features

¹ <http://everycampusarefuge.net/>

² <https://www.un.org/en/academic-impact/resettlement-campuses-are-future-higher-education>

³ <https://2009-2017.state.gov/documents/organization/257067.pdf>

The Refugee Resettlement Process

“Under the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA), a refugee is an alien who, generally, has experienced past persecution or has a well-founded fear of persecution on account of race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion.” - U.S. Department of State

All people seeking refugee status are first processed through the Resettlement Support Center (RSC) while in their home country or a safe third country. Through the RSC agency, applicants are vetted by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), including security screenings, interviews, and adjudications. If approved for resettlement, applicants must also undertake a health screening to identify any medical needs and mitigate against the transportation of contagious diseases into the US.

Upon arrival in the U.S., refugees are assigned to a refugee resettlement agency. There are nine federal refugee resettlement agencies, each of which have local affiliate offices in cities across the country. In Tulsa, there are two refugee resettlement agencies, Catholic Charities of Eastern Oklahoma (affiliated with United States Conference of Catholic Bishops /Migration and Refugee Services) and B’nai Emunah (affiliated with HIAS). These agencies typically support their clients for the first 90 days that they are in the U.S. This support includes providing furnished housing, food, clothing, enrolling in employment services, registering children in school, applying for Social Security cards, applying for benefits, and connecting families with language classes. These tasks are usually conducted by a case manager at the resettlement agency. In addition, all newcomers must take a Cultural Orientation class, which includes information about navigating their new city, federal benefits, and cultural differences. For more information on the refugee resettlement process, see the state department website at:

<https://www.state.gov/refugee-admissions/>

Each arriving individual is provided with **\$1,225** in ‘welcome money’ as part of their resettlement package to begin their new life in the United States. This is a small amount of money to establish a new life in a new city, putting an enormous amount of financial stress on recently arrived families.

TU’s Role in Refugee Resettlement

In becoming an ECAR chapter, TU would take an active role in the refugee resettlement process, working with a local resettlement organization to house refugee families on campus. This housing is a core service in the resettlement process and would build on the housing program we are currently offering to Afghan newcomers living on campus. By providing a family or individual with housing, we create a supportive community to begin their new lives in the United States.

In addition to housing, as an ECAR chapter we can offer additional support services to the refugee family(s) living on campus. Through service-learning opportunities and/or course work, students would act as assistant case managers for a refugee resettlement agency, helping enroll families in benefits, taking them to medical appointments, and offering other support as needed. Students would also have the opportunity to teach Cultural Orientation classes to newcomers.

Some of the services that TU and TU students could offer include:

Housing

- Housing: house refugees without cost for 6 months to help them find permanent housing in Tulsa. By not charging rent, TU would allow the family to save their welcome money.

- **Furnishing:** it is required that all refugee families are housed in furnished accommodations. TU would provide furnishings for the apartment. These furnishings can be provided with support from donations through the resettlement organization.
- **Payment of electric bills:** by covering the costs of the family/individual's electric bill, we would allow them to save their welcome money for their permanent housing.

University Services

- **Food:** access to the food pantry on campus to help offset the cost of food.
- **Gym:** access to the Collins Fitness Center.
- **Library:** access to McFarlin Library to use library resources, printers and have a quiet space to read.

Case Management Support

- **Benefits and Social Services:** Helping the resettlement agency to register the refugees in benefits and other social services.
- **Transportation:** this is one of the largest barriers in Tulsa for newcomers. In helping transport families to medical appointments, legal appointments, and grocery shopping, students would help facilitate their resettlement process.
- **Cultural Orientation:** all refugees need to take cultural orientation classes, taught by their resettlement organization. Student would have the opportunity to teach these classes from a set curriculum, giving them valuable teaching experience and work with the larger refugee community.

Community Support

- **Cultural Exchange Program:** continue to run the TU-Afghan Cultural Exchange Program, scaling it outwards to encompass other refugee communities, thereby making TU a hub for refugee youth-peer support.
- **Interpersonal Connections:** living on campus and working closely with TU students would allow refugee families to develop friendships within the community, helping to foster a sense of belonging and 'home' in Tulsa.

Student Engagement

Becoming an 'Every Campus A Refuge' chapter would allow TU students to become involved in refugee resettlement through a number of different avenues. These include through participating in ECAR through courses such as ANTH4983 *Internship/Service Learning* in the Department of Anthropology, or *Public Service Internship* courses run through True Blue Neighbors. The program articulates with coursework on migration and global studies currently being offered in Anthropology, Media Studies, and Global Scholars. There is further potential for student engagement through the weekly TU-Afghan Cultural Exchange Program and as student volunteers with ECAR.

Based on the success of the service-learning courses, in the future it would be possible to expand the ECAR program from a single service-learning course to an interdisciplinary minor in Migration and Resettlement, integrating service-learning with ECAR and coursework from Anthropology, Media Studies, Psychology, English, and other departments to explore questions related to migration,

displacement, and transnational movement through a broad perspective. Guildford College currently runs two successful minor programs linked to ECAR and are available to offer curriculum ideas.

Partners at TU and in the Community

Potential partnering offices at TU are:

- Department of Anthropology
 - Hosting ECAR coursework through ANTH4983 *Internship/Service Learning*
- Office of Civic Engagement/TrueBlue Neighbors
 - Hosting ECAR coursework through *Public Service Internships*
- Center for Global Engagement
 - Partner in programming for refugees, including TU-Afghan Cultural Exchange Program
- Office for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
 - Partner in programming for refugees, including TU-Afghan Cultural Exchange Program
- Institute of Trauma, Adversity, and Injustice (TITAN)
 - Develop workshops and training for students on trauma-informed approaches to working with refugees
- Student Association
 - A student association student group could be formed to help facilitate the ECAR activities and engage more students across campus
- Campus Housing and Facilities Management
 - Provide housing to a refugee family (or families) and conduct maintenance on the apartment(s).

Potential community partners include:

- B'nai Emunah HIAS Refugee Resettlement Agency
 - Students would work directly with B'nai Emunah director of refugee resettlement and case managers to support refugees on campus, as well as teach Cultural Orientation classes through B'nai Emunah.
- YWCA
 - The YWCA provides ongoing refugee support after the 90 days with the client's main refugee resettlement agency. YWCA support includes employment support, ESL classes, and connecting clients to community and government resources.
 - TU is currently partnering with the YWCA to offer ESL classes on campus for Afghan newcomers, and we could expand this partnership to include more classes, further development of youth programs, and educational programming for refugees.

Resources

For a thriving ECAR chapter on campus and to be successful in resettling refugees on campus, several resources are needed including a graduate assistant, furniture, reimbursements for transportation, supplies, and initial food for the family. By providing families with these resources, we allow them to save their welcome money to be used in it's entirely to help set up their new lives in Tulsa.

Every Campus A Refuge has grants to help cover the expenses associated with housing a refugee family or families, and TU would be eligible to apply for up to \$10,000 annually. It would also be possible to explore private donations to help support continued refugee work at the University of Tulsa, as well as grants through Welcome.US and other agencies.

The estimated following resources are needed (per year):

Resource	Details	Cost (per year)
Graduate Assistant	12-month position. Oversee ECAR TU students, help coordinate with refugee resettlement agency, work with case manager to offer support services to refugee family.	\$20,115 (+ tuition)
Work Study Students (2)	Two 9-month positions, funded through federal work-study program. Help develop curriculum and organize logistics for TU-Afghan Cultural Exchange Program.	\$0
Housing	One vacant apartment on campus which could be designated as the ECAR house. Associated costs are general maintenance and upkeep.	TBD
Utility Payments ⁴	\$150 per month (based on current Afghan utility rates).	\$1,800
Furniture	Acquired through donations to refugee resettlement organization or through TU donations.	\$0
Transportation	Mileage reimbursement for students to drive refugees to appointments.	\$500
Supplies ⁴	Consumable housing items such as cleaning supplies, toilet paper, etc. for initial housing set up.	\$300
Food ⁴	Initial grocery shop to provide family with food on arrival.	\$500
Total		\$23,215

⁴ Note that these rates are per family and may increase if TU houses additional families.

Appendix A: Current ECAR Chapters

- Guilford College – Greensboro, NC
- Agnes Scott College – Decatur, GA
- Lafayette College – Easton, PA
- Notre Dame De Namur University – Belmont, CA
- Old Dominion University – Norfolk, VA
- Russell Sage College – Albany/Troy, NY
- Siena College – Loudonville, NY
- Wake Forest University – Winston Salem, NC

Appendix B: ECAR License Agreement

LICENSE AGREEMENT

Parties:

1. Every Campus A Refuge, a non-profit corporation organized under the laws of the State of North Carolina with its principal office at [REDACTED] (“ECAR”).

2. _____ [name] _____, a _____ [entity type] _____ organized under the laws of the State of _____ [state] _____ with its principal office at _____ [address] _____ (“Licensee”).

Recitals:

1. ECAR owns the registered service marks EVERY CAMPUS A REFUGE and ECAR (together, the “Licensed Marks”), U.S. Trademark Reg. Nos. 5474799 and 5474800, respectively, for use in providing educational and charitable services to foreign refugees and their families, among other services.
2. Licensee wishes to participate in the ECAR program by providing housing and resettlement services to refugee families in accordance with the standards and guidelines developed by ECAR, and wishes to license from ECAR the right to use the Licensed Marks on and in connection with such services (“the Licensed Services”).

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises set out in this License Agreement, the Parties agree as follows:

1. **License.** Licensee is hereby granted a royalty-free, non-exclusive and non-transferable right during the term of this License Agreement to use the Licensed Marks on and in connection with the Licensed Services, in the following formats only:

Every Campus a Refuge at [Licensee’s name]

and/or

ECAR at [Licensee’s name]

Licensee will obtain the prior written permission of ECAR before using the Licensed Marks or any confusingly similar term in connection with any internet URL or domain name, social media account name, page name, or user name. Licensee acknowledges that ECAR may itself at any time use the Licensed Marks and may license their use to any third parties. As between ECAR and Licensee, any and all expenses incurred in connection with the fulfillment of Licensee’s obligations will be Licensee’s sole responsibility.

2. **Licensed Services.** Licensee will use its reasonable good faith efforts to provide Licensed Services to refugees and their families during the term of this License Agreement, and will obtain all necessary licenses, permits, and governmental permissions. In providing Licensed Services, Licensee will work

directly with one of the nine domestic resettlement agencies authorized by the Reception and Placement Program of the U.S. Department of State, and will ensure that all Licensed Services are rendered in full compliance with all agency regulations, procedures, and requirements.

- 3. Quality Control.** Licensee recognizes that the Licensed Marks have substantial public recognition and goodwill, and are valuable assets of ECAR. Licensee therefore agrees to perform the Licensed Services in a manner that is consistent with and upholds the values of ECAR as stated on ECAR's web site, <https://everycampusarefuge.net>, and as may be communicated by ECAR in writing from time to time during the term of this License Agreement. ECAR or its representatives shall have the right, at reasonable times and on reasonable notice, to visit and inspect all facilities where Licensed Services are provided by Licensee, to verify compliance with this License Agreement. Should ECAR determine in its sole judgment that any Licensed Services fail to comply with any of the requirements of this Section 2, Licensee will take commercially reasonable steps to correct the same promptly on receipt of Notice from ECAR of such noncompliance.
- 4. Advertising And Promotion.** All of Licensee's advertising, marketing, and promotional or informational materials displaying the Licensed Marks in any format or media ("Licensed Communications") will be truthful, accurate, and not misleading, and will include a statement in substantially the following form:

"EVERY CAMPUS A REFUGE and ECAR are service marks owned by Every Campus A Refuge, a North Carolina non-profit corporation, and are used under license."
- 5. Fundraising By Licensee.** Should Licensee engage in any fundraising activities, solicitations, or events that use or display the Licensed Marks or that are otherwise undertaken in connection with the Licensed Services ("Fundraising"), Licensee will clearly and conspicuously disclose that such Fundraising is on behalf of Licensee only, and not on behalf of ECAR or any other ECAR licensee. All net proceeds of Fundraising shall be used by Licensee to support delivery of the Licensed Services, and not for any other purpose. Fundraising that constitutes Licensed Communications shall also comply with the requirements of Paragraph 4, above.
- 6. Ownership.** Nothing in this License Agreement shall transfer to or create in Licensee any ownership interest in the Licensed Marks, which shall continue to be owned solely by ECAR throughout the Term and thereafter, and all use of the Licensed Marks by Licensee and all goodwill generated by the same shall inure to the benefit of ECAR as owner.
- 7. Records.** Licensee shall prepare and maintain, in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles consistently applied, complete and accurate books of account and records concerning Licensee's operations and performance under this License Agreement, including but not limited to any Fundraising and any expenditures of funds in rendering the Licensed Services. ECAR upon reasonable advance Notice may examine such records to the extent reasonably required to verify compliance by Licensee with its obligations under this License Agreement.
- 8. Indemnity.** Licensee indemnifies and agrees to defend and hold harmless ECAR, its officers, owners, employees, directors, agents, and all those taking through or under it, with respect to any formal or informal claim asserted by any third party that arises out of actual or alleged conduct by Licensee in breach of any warranty or other obligation of Licensee under this License Agreement. If any claim is asserted against ECAR for which it is indemnified under this License Agreement, it shall give prompt written Notice thereof to Licensee and shall reasonably cooperate in the defense and settlement

thereof. Promptly upon receipt of such Notice, Licensee shall be entitled and obliged to employ counsel to represent ECAR, to control the defense of and settle or compromise such claim or suit, and to keep ECAR fully informed with respect thereto. No such claim shall be settled without ECAR's express approval in writing.

- 9. Term, Renewal And Termination.** The initial term of this License Agreement will begin on the latest date of execution by either Party, will expire by its terms one (1) year thereafter, and will thereafter be automatically renewed for successive one (1) year terms unless either Party gives Notice to the other of non-renewal no later than thirty (30) days prior to the end of the then-current term. This License Agreement may be terminated by either Party at any time upon material breach by the other Party, effective immediately upon Notice to the other Party.
- 10. Effect Of Termination.** Upon any termination or expiration of this License Agreement, regardless of reason, all rights granted to Licensee hereunder shall immediately revert to ECAR, and Licensee shall immediately and permanently cease any use or display of the Licensed Marks. Nothing in this Paragraph 10 shall impair Licensee's ability and obligation, if any, to continue to provide services to refugee families after expiration or termination of this License Agreement, including any families being served as of the date of expiration or termination, so long as such services are thereafter rendered without use or display of the Licensed Marks.
- 11. No Waiver.** This License Agreement may not be modified except in a writing signed by the Parties. Any waiver or failure to require strict performance of any provision of this License Agreement by any Party shall not waive, affect, or diminish any right of that Party thereafter to demand strict compliance with the same.
- 12. Relationship.** The Parties are and intend to be independent contractors. Under no circumstances shall personnel of either Party engaged in work to be done under this License Agreement be considered to be employees of the other. Nothing contained herein shall be construed to place the Parties in a relationship of partners, joint venturers, principal and agent, employer and employee, or any other special or fiduciary relationship. Neither Party shall have the authority to, nor shall it purport to, conclude contracts or otherwise act for or bind the other Party in any manner, as agent or otherwise.
- 13. Assignment.** Licensee may not assign or transfer this License Agreement or any rights or obligations under it without the prior written consent of ECAR. This License Agreement shall be binding on each Party, its successors and any permitted assigns.
- 14. Entire Agreement.** This License Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the Parties with respect to the subject matter hereof and supersedes all prior and contemporaneous agreements, understandings, negotiations and discussions, whether oral or written, on the same subject. Neither Party is relying on any promises or representations except those set out in this License Agreement.
- 15. Execution.** This License Agreement may be signed in counterparts, and when identical copies have been executed and delivered by each Party, such execution shall be deemed to have the same effect as if all Parties had signed the same original. Transmission of images of signature pages by facsimile or email attachment shall be deemed to have the same effect as delivery of an original signature.

EVERY CAMPUS A REFUGE ("ECAR")

_____ ("Licensee")

By _____

By _____

Title: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

Date: _____

Memorandum of Understanding
Between
Every Campus A Refuge at [Your Institution]
And
[Your Partner Resettlement Agency]

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) establishes a partnership between Every Campus A Refuge at [Your Institution] and [Your Partner Resettlement Agency]. Together, [Your Institution] and [Agency] enter into this Memorandum of Understanding to mutually promote an effective partnership in serving recently arrived refugees on [Your Institution]'s campus.

The organizations agree to the following tasks for this MOU:

[Your Institution] will:

- Provide appropriate and safe, furnished housing on [Your Institution]'s campus.
- Ensure continued maintenance of the house and its utilities/amenities throughout the family's stay.
- Prepare the house according to [Agency]'s home supply list.
- Provide a culturally appropriate hot meal upon arrival.
- Provide utilities, including electricity, water, and Wi-Fi (available on campus if not the ECAR at (Your Institution)-designated house).
- Inform guests of campus resources & provide necessary access as requested/needed (e.g. cafeteria, library, gym, departmental facilities, clubs and organizations etc.).
- Appropriately train & background check volunteers to aid in carrying out tasks.
- Fill out and submit case notes for all tasks completed by Program Coordinator & volunteers.
- Aid in resettling family off-campus, providing three housing options that fit the guests' preferences as closely as possible.
- Help the family move to their off-campus housing.
- Protect privacy and confidentiality of family's location and information, ensuring that it will only be shared with volunteers and College personnel on a need-to-know basis.
- Not receive any funds (R&P or otherwise) from [Agency] for carrying out these tasks.
- Provide [Agency] with cash match/in-kind documentation (volunteer time, rent, utilities, and other expenses incurred by your institution on behalf of the family).

[Resettlement Agency] will:

- Orient the campus partner to the partnership and its nature -- what to expect, benefits, etc.
- Provide as much notice as possible to [your institution] before the family arrives.
- Identify and connect [Agency] point persons (case managers and then other [Agency]

personnel) with ECAR at [Your Institution] staff throughout the guests' stay.

- Provide necessary case information in preparation for new arrivals (including but not limited to case size, composition, ages, country of origin, language, arrival date and time).
- Provide children's car seats, phones, mattresses, box springs, and bed frames for hosted guests.
- [Agency] Case Manager will complete home safety evaluation and home supply checklist prior to clients' arrival.
- Communicate regularly with ECAR at [Your Institution] Program Coordinator to coordinate services, assess clients' well-being, and provide case updates as needed (such as client appointments, job opportunities and job placements, schedules, etc.) throughout the guests' stay.
- Give funds (R&P or otherwise) directly to, or on behalf of, clients.
- Invite the ECAR at [Your Institution] representative to participate in family-specific service planning.

Both ECAR at [Your Institution] and [Agency] will:

- Be present for airport arrival & provide transportation back to ECAR at [Your Institution] house
- Provide tour of home upon arrival, including information on safe use of utilities
- Work on arrival goals set by the guests
- Check in regularly with guests during their stay on campus.
- [Agency] and ECAR at [Your Institution] will check in with each other first and agree on responses to situations that might arise, presenting a united front, whether related to employment situations, family requests or needs, or any other circumstance involving guests.

The term of this MOU is for a period of five years from the effective date of this agreement and may be extended upon written mutual agreement. It shall be reviewed annually to ensure that it is fulfilling its purpose and to make any necessary revisions. This document may be amended at any time upon agreement of both parties. The signature below establishes that the organizations agree to fulfill their tasks for this partnership to the best of their abilities.

Every Campus A Refuge at [Your Institution]:

Representative Name	Title	Date
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[Partner Refugee Resettlement Agency]:

Representative Name	Title	Date
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