

Senate Committee on Judiciary

Self-Sufficiency Programs

Refugee Program – Legal Services

Amra Biberić, SSP Refugee Program Manager and State Refugee
Coordinator

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Overview

Highly Successful

- In FFY 24, the Refugee Program **provided legal services to 1,893 people**
- More than **60% of participants submitted applications** to US Citizenship and Immigration Services or immigration court
- **99% of adjudicated cases were approved**

Currently Receiving Legal Assistance

- **Cuban & Haitian** Entrants
- **Ukrainian** Humanitarian Parolees
- **Afghans** Evacuated through Operation Allies Welcome (OAW)

Contracted Providers

- Catholic Charities
- Catholic Community Services of Lane County
- Center for Nonprofit Legal Services, Inc
- Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization
- Lutheran Community Services
- Salem for Refugees
- SOAR (Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon)

Gaps and Ongoing Needs

- **Legal assistance is essential for employment, stability, and long-term integration.**
- There are no dedicated ongoing funding for legal services. All have been one-time investments or carve outs.
- Eligibility and allowable services are determined by the Office of Refugee Resettlement.
- Refugees and other immigration statuses don't have access to any of these services.
- There is a large gap between need and those served. Funding not sufficient to serve all eligible Ukrainians, Cubans and Haitians.

Thank you.

