

Refugee Technical Assistance Grantee

October 30, 2023

Dear Colleague Letter 24-02

Dear Colleague:

ORR is pleased to announce that the International Rescue Committee (IRC) has been selected to serve as the grant recipient for the Refugee Technical Assistance Program (RTAP) for the project period September 30, 2023 - September 29, 2028. During this new five-year project cycle, ORR seeks to build on the existing expertise in the field and continue providing a national one-stop source for refugee-related training, technical assistance (TA), information, resources, and research to assist refugee service providers so that they can effectively help refugees maximize their potential in the United States and become members of American society. The IRC will continue to operate the RTAP grant under the name Switchboard.

The goals of the program are to (1) promote knowledge management and information-sharing of emerging, innovative, and best practices in refugee service provision; (2) strengthen refugee service providers' capacity to provide evidence-and strengths-based services, address barriers to self-sufficiency and integration, and advance equity in service provision; (3) help service providers measure the quality and effectiveness of their programs and services; and (4) develop communication strategies to facilitate coordination of services and to reflect the impact of ORR's Refugee Program.

Switchboard will conduct annual needs assessments to solicit input from states, providers, and ORR staff to determine areas of focus for training and TA to refugee service providers, which may include refugee self-sufficiency through employment, case management, trauma-informed refugee health and mental health, , naturalization and citizenship, digital literacy, advancing equity, community consultation and engagement, coordination with private sponsors of refugees, and program evaluation.

ORR expects RTAP to continue helping you in the work you do on behalf of refugees and encourages you to contact Switchboard directly with specific training and TA needs. To access Switchboard's existing training and TA resources, see <https://switchboardta.org>. To make requests for individual training and TA, please use the TA request form here: <https://switchboardta.org/technical-assistance>.

For additional information about RTAP, please contact ORR's RTAP Program Manager, Jason Gillespie, at: jason.gillespie@acf.hhs.gov.

Sincerely,

Ken Tota
Director, Refugee Program
Office of Refugee Resettlement