## Behavioral Health Support for Afghans Under the Afghanistan Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2022

Post-Resettlement Behavioral Health Support Services Program Overview:

In August 2021, thousands of Afghans fled their homeland and watched in horror as the Taliban seized control of the capital. The unprecedented emergency evacuation during the fall of Kabul by U.S. forces, led to tens of thousands of traumatized Afghans to be evacuated into the United States and eventually housed in Safe Havens for processing. The successful implementation of Operation Allies Welcome allowed for our Afghan allies in Safe Havens to be processed, receive the appropriate medical and behavioral health services, and subsequently resettle across the United States.

The behavioral health and psychosocial needs of resettled Afghans, particularly now as they begin to integrate into American culture—working, socially adjusting, and attending school alongside Americans, have not diminished. In fact, we anticipate an increase in need for behavioral health services as disorders related to stress, acculturation, trauma, loss, and grief begin to surface.

As a follow up to Operation Allies Welcome, with funding from the Office of Refugee Resettlement, under the Afghan Appropriations Act, USCRI's Refugee Health Services has developed a dynamic and multi-tiered behavioral health support services program aimed to mitigate resettlement challenges by expanding access to culturally and linguistically tailored, trauma-informed behavioral health services for resettled Afghan arrivals across the nation. The program is led by qualified professionals from the U.S. Afghan diaspora; in partnership with The Afghan Medical Professionals Association of America (AMPAA) and Rambo House.



If you or anyone you know is experiencing emotional distress, please call 800.615.6514 or email us at <a href="mailto:afghanmh@uscrimail.org">afghanmh@uscrimail.org</a>. In case of an emergency, please call 911.

USCRI's Refugee Health Services was established in 2017 to support and develop health and wellness initiatives for refugees.