



ADMINISTRATION FOR  
**CHILDREN & FAMILIES**

Administration for  
Children & Families

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Washington, D.C. 20447

[www.acf.hhs.gov](http://www.acf.hhs.gov)

**Call for Nominations and Media Submissions**

**2012 ORR National Consultation**

Dear Friends,

Our vision for the annual National Consultation is one of inclusion, a forum in which refugee stakeholders can share ideas, promising practices, and strategies to make the US Refugee Resettlement Program one that other nations seek to emulate – not only for its size and scope, but for its evolving responsiveness to the needs of those it serves.

The theme for the 2012 ORR National Consultation, *Transforming Hope into a Brighter Future*, illustrates the key role that ORR and its partners play in supporting the transition of refugees from their past as uncertain visitors in countries of asylum, to their present and future as residents and citizens of the United States of America. ORR believes that expanded refugee participation at the Consultation reinforces the opportunity to belong to a country and its citizenry, and is one of many venues to voice their needs, aspirations and plans. We invite refugees to submit media pieces showcasing an important element(s) to conduct Cultural Orientation in the form of one (1) five to eight minute video clip from their perspective. It should focus on what they feel is the most important aspects of an introduction to their new community.

We call upon you to help us make this year's "Refugee Voices". We invite refugees to submit essays and pictures discussing/featuring their experiences pre and post resettlement at pivotal ages of their childhood.

These pieces will be featured throughout the ORR Consultation. We invite refugee community leaders, refugee business owners, refugee professionals, refugee public



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officials, and all others who are leading by example, to participate in panel, plenary and workshop discussions throughout the Consultation. Therefore, we call upon you all to nominate those refugees who are willing and able to join us in September and add their voices and perspectives to the mix. A travel stipend from ORR will be made available to selected recipients.

Community based organizations, and MAAs are asked to submit nominations of refugees to participate via State Refugee Coordinators, State Refugee Health Coordinators and National VOLAGs. State Refugee Coordinators, State Refugee Health Coordinators and National VOLAGs will then forward a list of up to three (3) nominations to ORR by July 13th and ORR will review the nominations upon receipt.

Detailed information will be posted on the ORR website (<http://transition.acf.hhs.gov/programs/orr/orr-2012-national-consultation>) on this subject. Whether joining the workforce, running successful businesses, forming ethnic community – based organization, or creating community gardens, refugees play a vibrant, visible and vital role in the United States. We look forward to seeing you, our partners, in September.

Thank you for your cooperation in this important endeavor.

Sincerely,

Eskinder Negash

Director

Office of Refugee Resettlement