



FACT SHEET

AGENCY: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Refugee Resettlement

SUBJECT: ORR Repatriation Program

What is the United States Repatriation Program?

Mission Statement

The United States (U.S.) Repatriation Program is committed to helping eligible U.S. citizens and their dependents repatriated from overseas by providing them with temporary assistance upon their arrival to the United States.

General Background

The U.S. Repatriation Program (Program) was established in 1935 under Section 1113 of the Social Security Act (Assistance for U.S. Citizens Returned from Foreign Countries), to provide temporary assistance to U.S. citizens and their dependents who have been identified by the Department of State (DOS) as having returned, or been brought from a foreign country, to the U.S. because of destitution, illness, war, threat of war, or a similar crisis, and are without available resources.

Services Provided

Temporary assistance, which is defined as cash payment, medical care (including counseling), temporary shelter, transportation, and other goods and services necessary for the health or welfare of individuals, is given to eligible individuals in the form of a loan and must be repaid to the U.S. Government. Temporary assistance, which is not an entitlement, is available to eligible individuals for up to 90 days. To determine whether a repatriate is eligible for repatriation assistance, it must be established that necessary services or assistance are unavailable to the requesting individuals via any alternative resources.

During Emergency or Group Repatriations

In the event of a massive evacuation from overseas, HHS/ACF/ORR is the lead Federal agency responsible for the coordination and provision of temporary services within the continental U.S. to all non-combatant evacuees returned from a foreign country.