

HIAS “Welcome Campaign Congregations” Mission Statement

We, Jewish congregations and communities from around the country, are signing onto HIAS’s Welcome Campaign (<https://www.hias.org/hias-welcome-campaign>) as an affirmative statement in support of welcoming refugees to the United States.

With over 65 million people displaced from their homes worldwide, we see the plight of contemporary refugees as simultaneously an alarming global crisis and an issue that resonates very deeply with Jewish history and values. Throughout history, the Jewish people have been forced to flee persecution and seek safety in other lands. Throughout history, we have been refugees. Today, inspired by the biblical injunction to “welcome the stranger,” our communities call upon the government of the United States to rise to the leadership that this crisis warrants.

Individually, we, the congregations on this list, are taking action in a variety of ways including: educating others about refugees, advocating with elected officials, holding events and programs, raising money to support refugees, building partnerships, and helping refugees in our local communities.

Together, we, the congregations on this list, comprise a powerful Jewish voice in support of refugees worldwide. Once, we helped refugees because they were Jewish. Today we help refugees because we are Jewish.