



JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES  
OF WASHTENAW COUNTY

# IMMIGRANT & REFUGEE SERVICES: YOUTH AND INTENSIVE CASES

Created and presented by

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# WHO AM I?

Cynthia Ketcherside, a licensed counselor in the state of Michigan and specialized in working with youth.

Facilitated and co-created JFS' Refugee Summer Youth group for the past three years

Trained in applied suicide intervention and recognized as a certified clinical trauma professional for adult, adolescents and children.

Preferred communities and Youth Empowerment Services Program Manager

JFS staff/intern for over 5 years

JFS works with HIAS and the U.S. Department of State to provide resettlement and post-resettlement services for the newly arriving refugees and other groups of immigrants. JFS is the only R&P agency in Washtenaw County.

# ELIGIBLE IMMIGRATION STATUSES

- **Refugee**
  - Someone who has left their country because of a *well-founded* fear of persecution, due to race, religion, nationality, political opinion, or membership of a particular group
- **Asylee**
  - An individual who has left their country because of a *well-founded* fear of persecution, due to race, religion, nationality, political opinion, or membership of a specific social group and has been granted asylum to stay in the US by an immigration judge
- **Certified Victims of Trafficking**
  - Individuals who receive 'T' visas are protected by the Violence Protection Act of 2000. These individuals are victims of human trafficking and are eligible to receive the same assistance as refugees
- **SIV**
  - Special immigrant visa, someone who worked for the US government overseas and their family.
- **Cuban Haitian Entrant**
  - certain nationals of Cuba or Haiti who have permission to reside in the U.S. based on humanitarian considerations or under special laws that apply to them.
- **Secondary Migrants**
  - refugees moving from the U.S. state where they were initially resettled to another state

# YOUTH EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMS

## Enrollment requirements:

- Eligible Immigration Status
- In the US for less than 5 years
- Lives within Washtenaw county

Majority of programs – ages 14-24  
years old

Limited programs – 0-13 years old

## Support Staff:

- Two full time caseworkers, multiple interns, work studies and volunteers

# THE YOUTH SCOOP

Newsletter for youth

Released monthly from August to May

Created during pandemic to keep families informed

JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES  
OF WASHTENAW COUNTY

MARCH 2021

## THE YOUTH SCOOP

Issue #9: Activities, upcoming events, and news from JFS



PHOTO: PHIL THE GROUNDHOG FROM BARRY REEGER | AP (SEE PAGE 4)

MONTH

E 1 -  
GRATULATIONS!

E 2 - LEADERSHIP  
OPPORTUNITIES FOR  
!

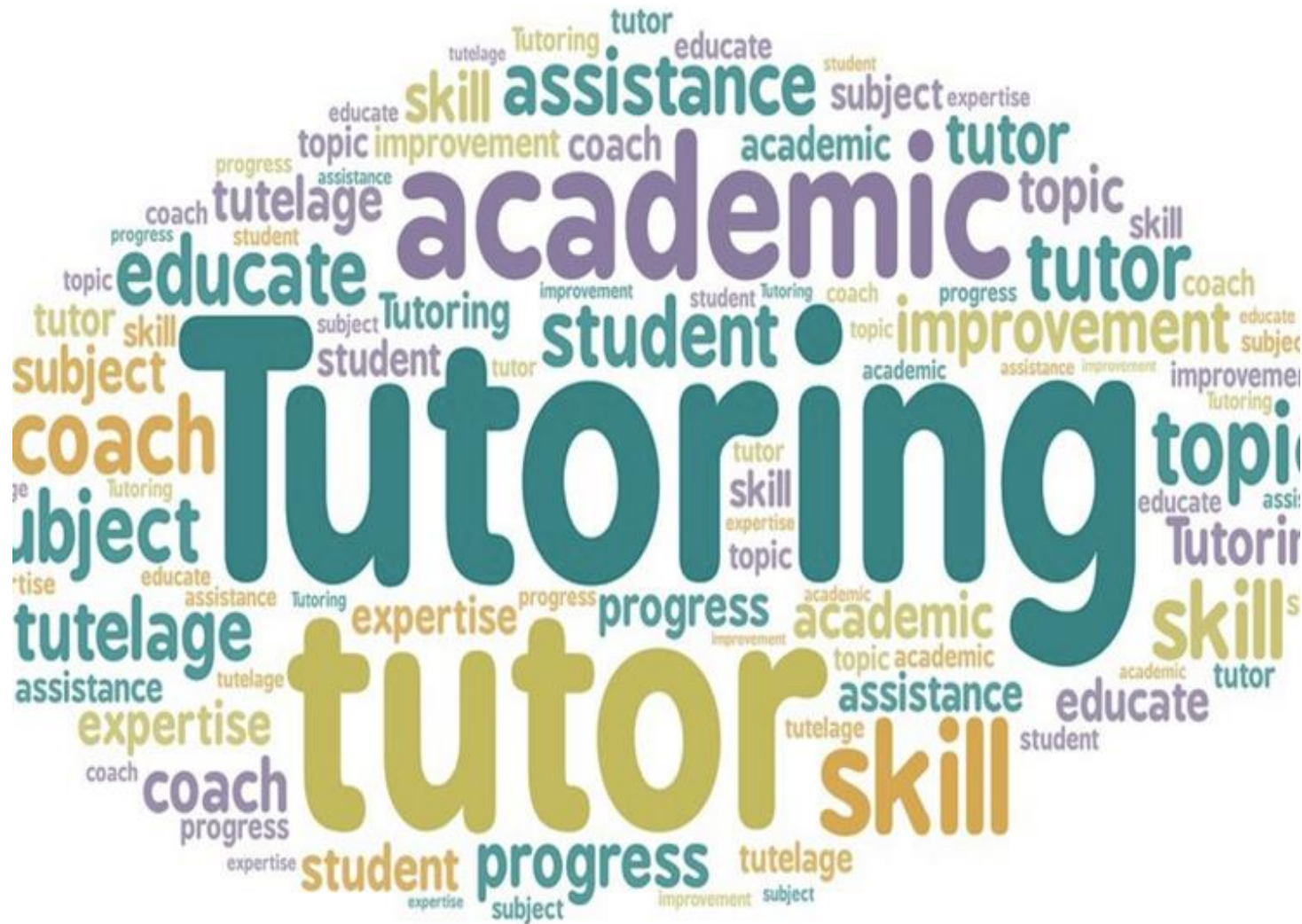
E 3 - STAY  
CONNECTED WITH THESE  
GROUPS

E 4 - WINTER BLUES  
GROUNDHOG DAY  
INFORMATION

*Congratulations*  
TO  
**EBB**

For being accepted into the 5 following universities with scholarships for wrestling:

- Alma College
- Ohio Wesleyan University
- Concordia University of Minnesota
- Doane University
- & Hannibal-LaGrange University



# JFSUPPORT

Monday through Thursday after school

Hosted by UM students

Available to all ages

August – May

Created during pandemic to provide additional support



# YOUTH MENTORING PROGRAM



Partnered with volunteer mentor



Educational support and guidance



Improved knowledge civic engagement, health literacy, financial literacy, social support and cultural awareness



Meetings twice a  
month

Training to improve  
leadership and  
communication  
skills

Opportunity to  
present  
programming to  
stakeholders

Become an  
advocate for  
refugees and  
immigrant youth

# IMMIGRANT YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL



**EDUCATIONAL  
SUPPORT &  
LIASION**



Partnership with school

Translation and interpretation contracts

Trainings offered to improve knowledge on working with refugees

Improve parental involvement

# YOUTH GROUPS



Summer  
Groups

Youth  
Groups

Psychosocial  
Support  
Groups

OTHER YOUTH ELIGIBLE  
PROGRAMMING AT JFS

Thrive  
Counseling

Refugee  
Employment  
programs

Refugee  
Social  
Services

PREFERRED  
COMMUNITIES'  
PROGRAM

Enrollment requirements:

- Eligible immigration status
- In the US for less than 5 years
- Lives in Washtenaw county
- Requires intensive case management

No age limitations

One full time caseworker, **Gladys Waweru** and multiple interns

# PREFERRED COMMUNITIES



Intensive case management in three of the following domains:

- Medical, mental health, transportation, language, social adjustment, immigration, benefit linkage, financial management and family wellness

Provide additional cultural orientation on key topics related to domains

Provide support for up to 3 years

Resource and community connection

Group programming

1

Become a  
volunteer

2

Present to our  
youth on your  
programming

3

Attend our  
refugee quarterly  
consultations to  
stay up to date

4

Receive our JFS  
newsletter

**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**



**QUESTIONS?**