

CWS/RSC Nairobi

URM Cultural Orientation



Program Administration



- Administered by CWS/RSC Nairobi
- Trainers experienced in intercultural communication and education, with a collective proficiency in English, Somali and Kiswahili



Region of Service



CWS/RSC Nairobi is responsible for the processing of refugees in 45 different countries.



CWS/RSC CO Objectives



- To inform participants of the processes and systems that will impact on their resettlement to the United States;
- To assist participants in developing realistic expectations of the US;
- To equip participants with the skills and attitudes necessary to enable them to have a positive acculturation experience



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URM Training Structure



- A minimum of three hours; one hour per day
- Separate from standard cultural orientation
- Experiential and learner-based



Training Preparation



- Development of lesson plans
- Packing of appropriate materials



Group Discussion



- What do you know?
- What do you fear?
- What do you expect?

Common Fears



- Flight to the U.S.
- Separation from family and friends
- Unfamiliar living situations
- Not being able to communicate
- Racial /ethnic discrimination
- Loss of identity
- Lack of friends



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Common Expectations



- To enjoy peace
- To receive basic services
- To have better living conditions
- To get a quality education
- To have access to church and healthcare
- To have a bedroom of their own
- To get nice clothes
- To live with an African foster family



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Common Questions

"Can we drop out of school and look for a job if school is too hard?"

"Will we have an escort when we travel to the U.S.?"

"Will we have to repay our flight to the U.S.?"

"Can we get a new family if the first one doesn't like us?"

"Are we going to start our education from the level we dropped out, or are we going to start from the beginning?"

"Will we be allowed to visit each other?"

"Will my foster family be white?"

"Do I have to live with my foster family 'forever'?"

Training Content



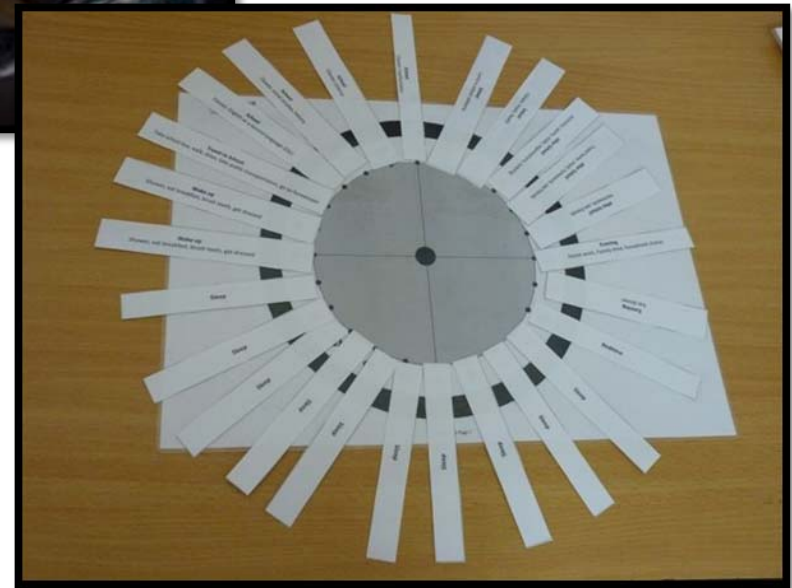
- **The Unaccompanied Refugee Minors Program**
 - The Basics
- **Travel and Settling In**
 - The Basics
 - Packing
 - Sequences of Travel
- **Family Life**
 - A Day in a Refugee Minor's Life: The Basics
 - Changing Roles
- **Education**
 - The Basics
 - Inside a Backpack
- **Cultural Adjustment**
 - The Basics
 - Dealing with Culture Shock
 - Appliances and Electronics
- **Social Interactions**
 - The Basics
- **Rights and Laws**
 - The Basics



Training Methods



- Activities
- Discussions
- Case studies
- Photos/videos
- Working models, where available



URM CO Graduation



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