Organizations Serving Refugee Farmers In NYS

Click on the image above to see a google map identifying the organizations listed in this Directory with contact information.

Refugee Welcome Corp

Contact: Tim Doherty  
Address: 488 Elk Street  
         Albany, NY 12206  
Phone: (518) 708-7176  
Email: timothydoherty@hotmail.com  
Website: N/A

How do you serve refugee farmers? Housing and resettlement in general. At the moment we have an urban community garden. But we have looked into buying or leasing land for raising goats and sheep. What services do you offer to refugee farmers? Broad services (resettlement support, housing, youth programs, etc.) and ESL classes.

Ethnicity of top five groups served: N/A  
Primary language spoken by each of the refugee groups listed above? N/A  
Languages spoken by staff/volunteers? N/A  
About how many refugee farmers do you serve annually? Fewer than 5.  
How long have you been serving refugees in agriculture? 2-5 years. 
What is your primary source of funding for the refugee farmers support services you provide? Private Foundation. 
Top three groups collaborate with to serve refugee farmers in NY? N/A

This survey was funded by the USDA 2501 Outreach and Assistance for Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers and Veteran Farmers and Ranchers Program.
Goatwell Farms

Contact: Steven Harland  
Address: 3961 County Rd. 4  
Canandaigua, NY 14424  
Phone: (585) 396-0742  
Email: goatwellfarmer@gmail.com  
Website: N/A

How do you serve refugee farmers? For the past 6 years I sell “My People” live animals at the farm that they process here. Predominately chickens, goats and pigs. I am very grateful for their patronage.

What services do you offer to refugee farmers? Fresh, local meat sales.

Ethnicity of top five groups served: Nepali and Burmese.

Primary language spoken by each of the refugee groups listed above? N/A

Language(s) spoken by staff or volunteers? A few important words in their language and English.

About how many refugee farmers do you serve annually? 200+

How long have you been serving refugees in agriculture? 5-10 years

What is your primary source of funding for the refugee farmers support services you provide? Cash

Top three groups collaborate with to serve refugee farmers in NY? Mennonite, Amish, and local farmers.

Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) Oneida County

Contact: Bonnie Collins or Alex Somoray  
Address: 121 Second Street  
Oriskany, NY 13424  
Phone: (315) 736-3394 Bonnie  
(509) 987-3087 Alex  
Email: bsc33@cornell.edu Bonnie  
als453@cornell.edu Alex  
Website: http://cceoneida.com/

How do you serve refugee farmers? At the moment my team and I are in the development stage of our project. We have recognized and need in our city - Utica NY and a group of passionate driven refugees - the Somali Bantu who are organized and ready to develop and commercial farm project for their people. We have a team of CCE staff, Rust2Green urban studio staff and Mami Interpreters working directly with the Somali-Bantu to procure land and begin the cross educational programming and business endeavors. We are new but have goals and consistent commitment to implement this project.

What services do you offer to refugee farmers? Business planning assistance, farm tours, farming mentors, farming workshops, interpreter support, land access at incubator farm, land access guidance, marketing assistance, and production assistance.

Ethnicity of top five groups served: N/A

This survey was funded by the USDA 2501 Outreach and Assistance for Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers and Veteran Farmers and Ranchers Program.
Primary language spoken by each of the refugee groups listed above? N/A
Language(s) spoken by staff or volunteers? N/A
About how many refugee farmers do you serve annually? 5-20
How long have you been serving refugees in agriculture? 1-2 years.
What is your primary source of funding for the refugee farmers support services you provide? No funding at this time.
Top three groups collaborate with to serve refugee farmers in NY? Multicultural Association of Medical Interpreters, Oneida County Public Market, and Hamilton College.

Brady Farm
Contact: Jessi Lyons
Address: 150 Ford Avenue
          Syracuse, NY 13207
Phone: (315) 420-4521
Email: jlyonsbfc@gmail.com
Website: www.bradyfarm.org
How do you serve refugee farmers? We mentor refugee farmers in an incubator farm program. Specifically, we offer assistance with market planning and training.
What services do you offer to refugee farmers? Farm tours, farmer mentors, farming workshops, and marketing assistance.
Ethnicity of top five groups served: Somali, Bhutanese, Nepali, Burmese, and Congolese.
Primary language spoken by each of the refugee groups listed above? N/A
Language(s) spoken by staff or volunteers? English and Spanish.
About how many refugee farmers do you serve annually? 5-20
How long have you been serving refugees in agriculture? 1-2 years
What is your primary source of funding for the refugee farmers support services you provide? Refugee Agriculture Partnership Program (RAPP)
Top three groups collaborate with to serve refugee farmers in NY? Refugee Immigrant Self-Empowerment Inc., Cornell Cooperative Extension of Onondaga County, and Northside Learning Center.

CCE- Wyoming County
Contact: Joan Sinclair Petzen
Address: 36 Center Street, Suite B
          Warsaw, NY 14569
Phone: (595) 786-2251
Email: jsp10@cornell.edu
Website: http://wyoming.cce.cornell.edu/
How do you serve refugee farmers? Started working with potential workers for dairy farms training them in milking skills. Evolved to working with refugee community members who have
moved to the Wyoming County Community on small scale livestock and vegetable production, particularly Bhutanese native crops.

**What services do you offer to refugee farmers?** Business planning assistance, farm tours, farming workshops, production assistance, and on-farm consultation and specialty crop production using season extension.

**Ethnicity of top five groups served:** Bhutanese

**Primary language(s) spoken by each of the refugee groups named above?** Nepali

**Language(s) spoken by staff or volunteers?** English, Nepali, and Spanish.

**About how many refugee farmers do you serve annually?** 5-20.

**How long have you been serving refugees in agriculture?** 5-10 years.

**What is your primary source of funding for the refugee farmers support services you provide?** Genesee Valley Regional Market Authority and Community Services Block Grant.

**Top three groups collaborate with to serve refugee farmers in NY?** Wyoming County Community Action, Catholic Charities of Rochester, and Alfred State College.

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**Herrmann Farm with Trinity Lutheran Church**

**Contact:** Otto H. Herrmann, Jr.

**Address:** 10454 Whittaker Road  
Holland Patent, NY 13354

**Phone:** (315) 865-5925  
**Email:** dherrmann2854@yahoo.com

**Website:** N/A

**How do you serve refugee farmers?** Members of the congregation, under the direction of Vicar Peter Saie, plant sweet potato, greens, and other vegetables of interest—especially to Liberian refugees. Last year, the youth worked in the garden and sold the produce to parishioners. The proceeds went to youth ministry of the church. This year adults will be part of the garden as well.

**What services do you offer to refugee farmers?** Summer garden use.

**Ethnicity of top five groups served:** Liberian.

**Primary language spoken by each of the refugee groups listed above?** n/a

**Language(s) spoken by staff or volunteers?** n/a

**About how many refugee farmers do you serve annually?** Fewer than 5.

**How long have you been serving refugees in agriculture?** 1-2 years.

**What is your primary source of funding for the refugee farmers support services you provide?** Private donations.

**Top three groups collaborate with to serve refugee farmers in NY?** Trinity Lutheran Church, Utica, NY.

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**GreeneMeadow/Eesa**

**Contact:** Charlie Greene P.E.

**Address:** 4102 Murray Road

This survey was funded by the USDA 2501 Outreach and Assistance for Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers and Veteran Farmers and Ranchers Program.
Moravia, NY 13118  
Phone: (315) 246-5727  
Email: cgreene@greenemeadow.com  
Website: N/A  

**How do you serve refugee farmers?** Offering soil science, farm animal, forestry, medicinal plant, and organic land care education and opportunities at my biodynamic-organic farm and in nearby watersheds.

**What services do you offer to refugee farmers?** Farmer mentors, land access at incubator farm, and livestock processing assistance.

**Ethnicity of top five groups served:** Somali, Somali-Bantu, and Burmese.

**Primary language(s) spoken by each of the refugee groups named above?** English.

**Language(s) spoken by staff or volunteers?** English.

**About how many refugee farmers do you serve annually?** Fewer than 5.

**How long have you been serving refugees in agriculture?** 1-2 years.

**What is your primary source of funding for the refugee farmers support services you provide?** Pro-bono.

**Top three groups collaborate with to serve refugee farmers in NY?** New American Women’s Empowerment and North Side Learning Center.

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**Tompkins Learning Partners**

**Contact:** Helen Ranck  
**Address:** 124 W. Buffalo St.  
Ithaca, NY 14850  
**Phone:** (607) 277-6442  
**Email:** esl@tlpartners.org  
**Website:** www.tlpartners.org  

**How do you serve refugee farmers?** We provide one-to-one and small group English as a Second Language instruction to adults living in Tompkins County. We also offer tutoring for English Language Learners who are studying to pass the test for U.S. Citizenship and who are working on other specific learning goals such as passing the TASC test (Test Assessing Secondary Completion, which replaces the GED in NY State), vocational tests like the food safety test, etc. Tutors are volunteers who have been trained to Tompkins Learning Partners staff.

**What services do you offer to refugee farmers?** ESL tutoring (one-to-one and small groups).

**Ethnicity of top five groups served:** Karen, Burmese, Iraqi, Ukrainian, and others.

**Primary language(s) spoken by each of the refugee groups named above?** Karen, Burmese, Arabic, Ukrainian, Russian, and others.

**Language(s) spoken by staff or volunteers?** English, Spanish, and French.

**About how many refugee farmers do you serve annually?** 5-20.

**What is your primary source of funding for the refugee farmers support services you provide?** NYS Department of Adult Education and local funders.
Refugee and Immigrant Self-Empowerment

**Contact:** Brandy Colebrook  
**Address:** 302 Burt Street  
Syracuse, NY 13202  
**Phone:** (315) 447-4343  
**Email:** bcolebrook@syracuserise.org  
**Website:** [www.syracuserise.org](http://www.syracuserise.org)

**How do you serve refugee farmers?** We provide ESL, agriculture classes, community gardens, and farmland for refugees to farm and garden on.

**What services do you offer to refugee farmers?** Broad services (resettlement support, housing, youth programs, etc.), business planning assistance, ESL classes, farm tours, farmer mentors, farming workshops, interpreter support, land access at incubator farm, land access guidance, marketing assistance, and production assistance.

**Ethnicity of top five groups served:** Bhutanese, Somali, and Congolese.

**Primary language(s) spoken by each of the refugee groups named above?** Nepali, Somali, Kirundi, and Swahili.

**Language(s) spoken by staff or volunteers?** French, Swahili, Japanese, and Italian.

**About how many refugee farmers do you serve annually?** 20-75.

**How long have you been serving refugees in agriculture?** 1-2 years.

**What is your primary source of funding for the refugee farmers support services you provide?** RAPP (Refugee Agriculture Partnership Program)

**Top three groups collaborate with to serve refugee farmers in NY?** CCE- Onondaga County, Salt City Harvest Farm, and Brady Farm.

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Cornell Farmworker Program

**Contact:** Mary Jo Dudley  
**Address:** Cornell University  
275 Warren Hall  
Ithaca, NY 14853  
**Phone:** (607) 254-5194  
**Email:** farmworkers@cornell.edu  
**Website:** [www.farmworkers.cornell.edu](http://www.farmworkers.cornell.edu)

**How do you serve refugee farmers?** We serve all farmworkers (regardless of their immigration status) through on farm workshops and specialized trainings on topics of interest to farmworkers. Workshops include topics such as: How to navigate in new communities, know your immigration rights, Chemical Safety on Dairy Farms, Driving in NYS, how to detect and prevent household pests (bedbugs and cockroaches). We also provide on-farm English tutoring.

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This survey was funded by the USDA 2501 Outreach and Assistance for Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers and Veteran Farmers and Ranchers Program.
for interested farmworkers. As part of our “Creating Positive Workplaces” efforts, we developed SOPS and other materials to support improved communication between farmworkers and their employers/managers.

**What services do you offer to refugee farmers?** Broad services (resettlement support, housing, youth programs, etc.) and ESL classes.

**Ethnicity of top five groups served:** Haitian, Guatemalan, Mexican, Salvadorian, and Honduran.

**Primary language(s) spoken by each of the refugee groups named above?** Haitian Creole and Spanish.

**Language(s) spoken by staff or volunteers?** Spanish and Haitian Creole.

**About how many refugee farmers do you serve annually?** 20-75

**How long have you been serving refugees in agriculture?** More than 10 years.

**What is your primary source of funding for the refugee farmers support services you provide?** Private foundation.

**Top three groups collaborate with to serve refugee farmers in NY?** Migrant Health, Legal Services, and Faith based organizations.

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**CCE- Erie**

**Contact:** Megan Burley  
**Address:** 21 South Grove Street  
East Aurora, NY 14052  
**Phone:** (716) 652-5400 x138  
**Email:** msb347@cornell.edu  
**Website:** erie.cce.cornell.edu

**How do you serve refugee farmers?** I am currently working with and have been working with (5 years) the Journey’s End Refugee Services on their Green Shoots for New Americans (funded by the Refugee Agriculture Partnership Program Office of Refugee Resettlement developed by the ROOT (Refugee Onsite Occupational Training) program. During this project, 65 refugees were hired on farms during a 3 year time frame. Work with Somali-Bantu refugees on a rural community farm in East Aurora, NY. Helped develop business plan and future goals for the project.

**What services do you offer to refugee farmers?** Agricultural job referral (finding jobs on other farms) and transportation, business planning assistance, ESL classes, farm tours, farmer mentors, farming workshops, land access guidance, marketing assistance, and production assistance.

**Ethnicity of top five groups served:** Napoli, Somali-Bantu, Burmese, Congo, and Arabic.

**Primary language(s) spoken by each of the refugee groups named above?** Napoli, Burmese, French, Arabic, and Swahili.

**Language(s) spoken by staff or volunteers?** English.

**About how many refugee farmers do you serve annually?** 20-75.

**How long have you been serving refugees in agriculture?** 2-5 years.

**What is your primary source of funding for the refugee farmers support services you provide?** RAPP (Refugee Agriculture Partnership Program) and Private Foundation.

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This survey was funded by the USDA 2501 Outreach and Assistance for Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers and Veteran Farmers and Ranchers Program.
Top three groups collaborate with to serve refugee farmers in NY? Journey’s End Refugee Services, Community Action, and other urban farms.

Groundswell Center for Local Food & Farming

Contact: Adriana Pickett-Becerra
Address: 225 South Fulton Street Ithaca, NY 14850
Phone: (607) 319-5095
Email: adriana@groundswellcenter.org Website: http://www.groundswellcenter.org

How do you serve refugee farmers? N/A

What services do you offer to refugee farmers? Agricultural job referral (finding jobs on other farms) and transportation, business planning assistance, farm tours, farmer mentors, farming workshops, interpreter support, land access @ Incubator Farm, loans, marketing assistance, and production assistance.

Ethnicity of top five groups served: N/A

Primary language(s) spoken by each of the refugee groups named above? Karen and Burmese.

Language(s) spoken by staff or volunteers? Spanish.

About how many refugee farmers do you serve annually? 20-75

How long have you been serving refugees in agriculture? 5-10 years

What is your primary source of funding for the refugee farmers support services you provide? USDA BFRDP (Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program), USDA 2501 (Outreach and Assistance for Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers and Veteran Farmers and Ranchers Program, and Private Foundation.

Top three groups collaborate with to serve refugee farmers in NY? Cornell Small Farms, BOCES, Syracuse Refugee Agricultural Partnership Program.

Groundswell Center for Local Food and Farming supports beginning farmers to develop agricultural skills and grow profitable, equitable and ecologically sound farm businesses. We provide support for underrepresented producers including people of color, refugees, women and individuals and limited resources.