



## Board of County Commissioners

January 7, 2020

Secretary Michael R. Pompeo  
U.S. Department of State  
2201 C Street NW  
Washington, D.C. 20520

***Submitted electronically to [RefResettlement-PRM@state.gov](mailto:RefResettlement-PRM@state.gov)***

Dear Secretary Pompeo:

This letter is in reference to Executive Order 13888, “*On Enhancing State and Local Involvement in Resettlement.*” We write to affirm that Boulder County consents to continued refugee resettlement in our community; we will continue to take part in the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program (USRAP).

Refugees are people that have been forced to flee their home countries to escape violence, persecution, or war. For them, resettlement in another country is the last resort when they find they cannot return to their home country to rebuild their lives there. The United States has a long history of welcoming refugees, with extremely careful selection for lawful admission of the most vulnerable refugees. In addition to United Nations vetting, the United States completes extensive refugee screening through multiple in-person interviews, security database clearances, and background checks. After acceptance, state and local governments, local non-profit organizations, and volunteers provide refugees with housing, language, job training, and other resources to help them integrate into their new communities and become economically self-sufficient.

Refugees are resilient, skilled, hard workers that contribute greatly to our communities, as documented in multiple studies that show refugees are economic contributors and job creators. In addition to bringing skills and economic contributions, refugees contribute to the rich fabric of diversity in our communities.

It is a bedrock principal of the United States to serve as a refuge for those fleeing tyranny, violence, and political persecution. We should continue to stand as a beacon of hope and freedom for persons around the world. In that spirit, as representatives of Boulder County and as Coloradans, we are proud to do our part by continuing to accept the resettlement of refugees.

**Deb Gardner** County Commissioner

**Elise Jones** County Commissioner

**Matt Jones** County Commissioner

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For these reasons and more, as the Board of County Commissioners, we continue to welcome refugees and consent to refugee resettlement in Boulder County, Colorado, as per the terms of the Executive Order.

Sincerely,



Elise Jones, Chair  
County Commissioner



Deb Gardner  
County Commissioner



Matt Jones  
County Commissioner

cc:

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Carol T. O'Connell  
Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration  
U.S. Department of State