

SUDANESE REFUGEE MINISTRY

St. Paul's has been instrumental in launching and sustaining the Hope of Sudan ministry to refugees for many years.

MADIT:

Our MADIT (great mother) ministry for the wives of Lost Boys of Sudan includes ongoing interaction with the young women as well as a formal program that includes professional support (doctors, social workers, yoga professionals, trauma healing). The Paul Newman Foundation has provided funding for this ministry the last few years. Topics of formal discussion include: budgeting, child rearing and discipline, healthy foods, cooking, shopping, mental health, family spiritual growth, a woman's role in America, etc. Help is always needed and appreciated, both short-term and long-term.

SCHOLARSHIPS & EDUCATION:

The Hope of Sudan provided another 10 scholarships and other educational support this past year. A new program has been launched in collaboration with BANAA, a Clinton global initiative program that has obtained full 4-year scholarships into major US universities for Sudan students. Both the University of Rochester and George Washington University have their first Sudanese students.

Starting in 2013 with the creation of South Sudan, the Hope of Sudan has been moving its graduates from Kenya, where they had been refugees, to South Sudan in the hope of facilitating sustainability and family stability.

Hope for Sudan is included in the Diocesan Discernment process with the Sisters of Saint Joseph regarding the establishment of a faith based elementary school in Rochester—working to involve the refugee community as part of that process, including the establishment of scholarships and wrap-around programs for families that would make a difference in the Maplewood area of the city.



TRAUMA:

Through education programs involving Paul Boyle, an African expert in Holistic Trauma Healing, Hope of Sudan has made great progress not only in Rochester but across the country. Holistic Trauma Healing programs have been instituted in 8 cities and have exposed priests in 120 cities to trauma healing. The program has been instrumental in helping the Rochester Committee on Refugee Resettlement (RCORR) to bring these concepts to all refugees – not only the Sudanese. Rochester General Hospital has been a key driver of this effort; two successive International Conferences on Refugee Mental health issues have been hosted in Rochester.

PATHWAYS TO WELLNESS PROGRAM:

The RCORR, under the leadership of RGH, received a 3 year grant from the Langloth Foundation for \$500,000 to test the effectiveness of peer counseling in the refugee communities around mental health. Paul Boyle, our trauma expert, has been instrumental in building the “help the helpers” elements of this program. Multiple leaders from the Burmese, Somali, Sudanese and other refugee groups have been trained as counselors, and eight of them have been retained part time under the grant. Those who wish to volunteer can play a role as well and will be given training.

To learn more or to get involved, contact Jerry and Ann Marie DeLuccio, Coordinators, at jjdeluccio@rochester.rr.com.