

HIAS National Refugee Shabbat

February 28 to March 1, 2025

Join Jewish Family Service for HIAS National Refugee Shabbat, a time to stand in solidarity with the global Jewish movement to protect and welcome refugees. This is an opportunity for congregations, organizations, and individuals to dedicate a Shabbat experience to refugees and to reflect, take action, and celebrate the work we've already accomplished together.

Our Jewish values, passed down from generation to generation, guide us to welcome the stranger. For 133 years, JFS has stood as a beacon of hope, with the help of our community, supporting refugees and immigrants seeking to rebuild their lives in safety and dignity.

Refugees, immigrants, and asylum seekers in our country currently face severe crisis and instability. It is more important than ever that we reaffirm and strengthen our support for individuals and families who have fled their countries due to war, persecution, and danger.

More than 122 million people have been forcibly displaced.

Around the world, people seeking asylum are being turned away at borders.

In the U.S., recent harmful executive orders and directives have significantly impacted refugees and immigrants, and those awaiting relocation, leaving them in a state of limbo and without support.



JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE



Discussion Questions:

Have you ever felt like a stranger? Think about a time when you experienced that feeling. What was it like? How did you navigate it? Who, if anyone, welcomed you?

Many Jewish families have a history of fleeing persecution.

Do you know your family's story of migration? How has that shaped your identity and values?

Judaism teaches not only to welcome, but to care for immigrants: "You shall not mistreat a stranger, and you shall not oppress him, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt." **How is your family or congregation living out this value today?**

Join us by observing
Refugee Shabbat
[blog.jfsseattle.org/
why-our-stories-matter](http://blog.jfsseattle.org/why-our-stories-matter)

