

## What is RLAP?

The Resettlement Legal Aid Project, RLAP, helps qualified refugees present themselves to the UNHCR, IOM, and national immigration agencies for permanent relocation outside of Egypt.

We are a completely independent organization from the UNHCR, IOM, and national immigration agencies.

We do not make immigration or resettlement decisions; we assist refugees with immigration processes and resettlement options.

## Who are RLAP's clients?

RLAP assists all qualified refugees without regard to religion, race, nationality, gender, or immigration status.

Since 2008, RLAP has advised over 800 clients on a variety of legal matters related to life as a refugee in Egypt.

## What does RLAP do?

Our staff and interns conduct interviews and analyze whether a particular client satisfies the legal criteria for resettlement. If a client qualifies, we prepare testimony for submission to the UNHCR, IOM, or national immigration agencies as necessary.

If a refugee's claim for resettlement is rejected, we assist him or her in appealing this decision.

Sometimes, clients have urgent needs but do not qualify for resettlement. In these cases, we refer them to our own psycho-social caseworkers or other service providers in Cairo.

## How do I get an appointment at RLAP?

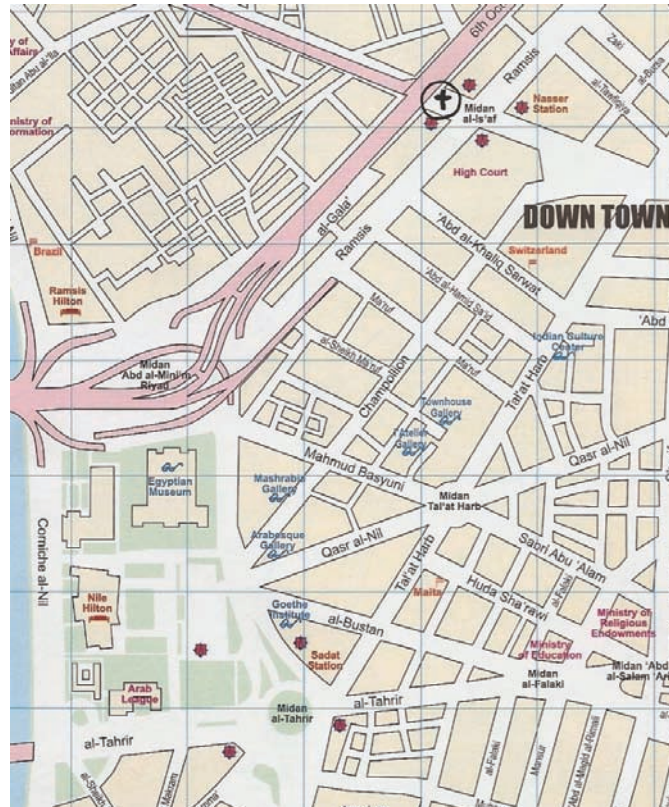
Please call our office at the number on the front of this brochure to inquire about an appointment. You may also pick up an Appointment Request Form from our office.

## How do I get to RLAP?

The RLAP office is located on the grounds of St. Andrew's Church and St. Andrew's Refugee Services in Downtown Cairo.

By **METRO**: From Nasser Station, exit the metro onto 26th July Street (the Galaa Street side). The entrance to St. Andrew's is on your immediate left as you walk along 26th July Street toward the flyover. If you reach the Italian Club, you have gone too far.

By **TAXI**: Tell the driver "il-Issa'af" or "Midan il-Issa'af." This is a well-known intersection (26th July Street and Ramses Street), and it is also a name of a pharmacy near the RLAP office.



## THE RESETTLEMENT LEGAL AID PROJECT at Saint Andrew's Refugee Services, Cairo

38 July 26th Street  
Cairo, Egypt

+20 22 773 6347 (from abroad)  
02 2773 6347 (within Egypt)

*Office and Telephone Hours*  
Sunday to Thursday, 10AM-4PM

refugeeserv@gmail.com  
www.rlap.net

### **Can I volunteer at RLAP?**

Yes. If you can translate or interpret to and from English in any of the languages that our clients speak (Arabic, Amharic, Tigrinya, Oromo, and others), we could use your services. Limited compensation is available for translators and translators.

RLAP also accepts Legal Interns. Legal Interns work closely with our Legal Director, a licensed American attorney, to advise our clients and prepare their submissions to other organizations. For more information on a legal internship at RLAP, please visit our website.

### **What is resettlement?**

Resettlement is available to the most vulnerable refugees who, despite having obtained UNHCR refugee recognition, remain at risk or have particular needs that cannot be met in Egypt.

Each year, the UNHCR refers some refugees living in Egypt for resettlement, most often to the United States.

If the UNHCR decides that a refugee qualifies for resettlement, it refers that refugee to a national immigration agency for resettlement screening.

In 2008, UNHCR resettled refugees from all over the world to 26 different countries.

Resettlement does not always occur through the UNHCR. Some countries, such as the U.S., have national resettlement programs for specific refugee populations.

### **Who qualifies for resettlement?**

Resettlement is not available to every refugee. Resettlement is only for those refugees who are at risk in Egypt for one of the reasons that the UNHCR designates.

The UNHCR will only consider resettlement in cases where local integration and returning safely to the home country are impossible.

To qualify for a resettlement referral, refugees must have a UNHCR Blue Card, have had a successful Refugee Status Determination (RSD) interview, or have *prima facie* refugee status.

The UNHCR requires a refugee to have at least one of the following specific compelling reasons to leave Egypt:

- Legal and Physical Protection Needs
- Medical Needs (life-threatening condition or severe disability; requires treatment unavailable in Egypt; high prognosis of success if treated elsewhere; not able to overcome disability in Egypt; condition worsened in Egypt)
- Women at Risk
- Survivors of Violence and Torture (with severe effects of that torture in Egypt)
- Unaccompanied Minors
- Family Reunification
- Elderly Refugees

The categories above are broad headings only, and each includes additional requirements. RLAP assists refugees in applying these criteria to their particular situations and assessing whether or not they have a claim for resettlement.

### **Does anyone else qualify for resettlement?**

Yes; some countries have enacted laws to resettle refugees outside of the UNHCR criteria.

Certain Iraqi refugees may qualify for resettlement to the U.S. through the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program:

- Iraqis who work/worked on a full-time basis as interpreters/translators for the U.S. Government (USG) or Multi-National Forces (MNF-I) in Iraq
- Iraqis who are/were employed by the USG in Iraq
- Iraqis who are/were employees of an organization or entity closely associated with the U.S. Mission in Iraq that has received USG funding through an official and documented contract, award, grant or cooperative agreement
- Iraqis who are/were employed in Iraq by a U.S.-based media organization or non-governmental organization
- Spouses, sons, daughters, parents and siblings of individuals described in the four categories above, or of an individual eligible for a Special Immigrant Visa as a result of his/her employment by or on behalf of the USG in Iraq, including if the individual is no longer alive, provided that the relationship is verified
- Iraqis who are the spouses, sons, daughters, parents, brothers or sisters of a citizen of the United States, or who are the spouses or unmarried sons or daughters of a Permanent Resident Alien of the United States, as established by their being or becoming beneficiaries of approved family-based I-130 Immigrant Visa Petitions.

This means that Iraqi refugees who do not have the pressing needs required for resettlement through the UNHCR, but who fit the criteria above, may be able to resettle to the U.S.