



Reunite Refugee Families Digital Toolkit

As the administration works to rapidly rebuild the refugee resettlement program, it is critical that it prioritizes expediting the reunification of refugee families who have been separated for years due to anti-refugee policies, travel restrictions, and administrative processing delays. Refugee families are often separated and unable to travel together when they're being resettled. Bureaucratic delays and processing backlogs have prolonged family separation for thousands of refugee families, many of whom have been separated for years, often living in precarious conditions as they wait to reunify.

Mon. Oct. 11: (All Day) Stories of Separation

Tue. Oct. 12: (All Day) Why are there reunification delays? (1:00-3:00 pm) Twitter Storm

Important Links:

- Action Item: Letter to congress <https://bit.ly/ReuniteRefugeeFamilies>
- [***Story from IRAP***](#)

Resources:

- [IRAP Follow-to-Join 2-pager](#)
- [RCUSA Six Processing "Pain Points" Impeding Increased U.S. Refugee Admissions](#)
- [AAJC Family Immigration 5 pages](#)
- [IRAP Follow-to-Join Report](#)
- USA HELLO: [Family Reunification information page](#)

Hashtags:

#ReuniteRefugeeFamilies

#ReuniteFamiliesNow

#FamiliesNeedEachOther

#EndTheDelays

Monday

Story of Separation

Tweets

Announcement tweets: [Graphics TW](#)

- We're joining @VoiceforRefuge and in saying #ReuniteRefugeeFamilies now! Too many families are separated from each other due to bureaucratic delays that we can change. Tell congress and @POTUS that #FamiliesNeedEachOther! >>>
<https://bit.ly/ReuniteRefugeeFamilies>
- The journey of refugee families to find safety should not involve separation from each other. And it definitely should not involve YEARS of separation from each other. Yet, that's exactly what's happening and it needs to end. #EndTheDelays #ReuniteRefugeeFamilies
- Join us today and tomorrow as we lift up the voices of refugees who are waiting to be reunited with their families! Retweet if you agree that we need to #ReuniteRefugeeFamilies!

Story of Separation: [Graphics TW](#)

- Today we'll be sharing the story of Louis Pasteur, who has graciously shared his story with @VoiceforRefuge and given us permission to share it with you. Follow @VoiceforRefuge to read more about Louis' story throughout the day. #ReuniteFamiliesNow
- "My daughter would be 4 years and 6 months old now. She was born when I was already here...We need to see our kids and there are kids here who need to see their parents." - Louis Pasteur, a refugee separated from his family for 5 years. #ReuniteRefugeeFamilies
- Children 🙏 need 🙏 their 🙏 parents. 🙏 Refugee families separated by continents and paperwork need #ReunificationNow
- Family separation hurts everyone. #EndTheDelays #ReuniteRefugeeFamilies
- Spouses need each other. "It is hard for married people to be separated. It's hard to know how long you will wait." - Louis Pasteur. Follow @VoiceforRefuge to read more about Louis story and take action to tell @POTUS to #ReuniteRefugeeFamilies now <https://bit.ly/ReuniteRefugeeFamilies>
- Because of policy decisions over the past 4 years and now a large backlog, family separation is:
 - Long
 - Confusing
 - Leaving families without recourse
 - Resulting in decades of separationWe need to #ReuniteRefugeeFamilies! 🙌🙌🙌 sign now
<https://bit.ly/ReuniteRefugeeFamilies>
- "Her friend always asks her 'where is your dad?' Children at school say 'Where is your dad?' 'Why is he gone?' 'Do you have a dad?'" - Louis Pasteur, refugee separated from his family for 5 years now #ReuniteRefugeeFamilies
- Children don't understand why their family is separated, only that it is. Family separation is...
 - ✗ harmful
 - ✗ cruel

✗confusing

✗damaging

This is not how refugee families should be treated. This is not how any family should be treated. #ReuniteRefugeeFamilies

- “If I had known this, if someone had told me...it would have been better to stay until we could come together.” - Louis Pasteur, refugee separated from his family for 5 years now #ReuniteRefugeeFamilies
- Spouses need each other. No family should be separated for years, especially when they were told it would only be a few months. We need humanitarian parole for separated refugee families now! #ReuniteRefugeeFamilies

Facebook/Instagram Posts

Announcement: [Graphics FB & IG](#)

- We're joining @Voice for Refuge in saying #ReuniteRefugeeFamilies now! Too many families are separated from each other due to bureaucratic delays that we can fix.
 - 👉 Children need their parents
 - 👉 Spouses need each other
 - 👉 Families need to be together

Join us and take action to show your support for #ReuniteFamiliesNow >>>

<https://bit.ly/ReuniteRefugeeFamilies>

Story of Separation: [Graphics FB & IG](#)

- Refugee families separated during the resettlement process are sometimes separated for years, even decades. In the last 4 years the processing of Follow-to-Join visas, which are the primary way refugee families are reunited, have slowed and backed up. Today we'll be sharing the story of Louis Pasteur, who has kindly shared his story with @Voice for Refuge and given us permission to share it with you. Follow @Voice for Refuge to read more about Louis' story throughout the day. #EndTheDelays #ReuniteFamiliesNow
- “I have been in the U.S. for 5 years. I came from Congo...last time I saw my wife was also 5 years ago...my daughter would be 4 years and 6 months old now. She was born when I was already here”

Louis Pasteur's story is too common. Families separated by bureaucracy and backlogs have waited years to see each other. In the case of Louis, who left the Democratic Republic of Congo for a refugee camp in Malawi before finally making it to North Carolina as a refugee, it has been 5 years since he's seen his family. His wife and daughter are still in Malawi waiting to be accepted to join him in the United States. His wife submitted her case in November of 2016, his daughter has been waiting to receive a DNA test since 2019.

This is unacceptable. We need to #ReuniteFamiliesNow and #EndtheDelays. Take action now >>> <https://bit.ly/ReuniteRefugeeFamilies>

- “Her friend always asks her ‘where is your dad?’ Children at school say ‘Where is your dad?’ ‘Why is he gone?’ ‘Do you have a dad?’” - Louis Pasteur, a refugee separated from his family for 5 years now.

Children don’t understand why their family is separated, only that it is. Family separation is...

✗ harmful

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This is not how refugee families should be treated. This is not how any family should be treated. #ReuniteRefugeeFamilies

Take action now >>> <https://bit.ly/ReuniteRefugeeFamilies>

Tuesday

Twitterstorm & Take Action

Tweets

Why are there separations and delays in reunification: [Graphics TW](#)

- In 2016 the average I-730 visa processing time for separated refugee families was 6 months. Due to bureaucratic delays introduced under the Trump administration, the processing time is now almost 1 year and 6 months 😡 We need to #ReuniteRefugeeFamilies NOW!!
- Some families separated for years are just waiting for paperwork approval. Why? Because their paperwork was intentionally delayed under Trump!! 😡 Now Biden has the opportunity to reunite refugee families, but instead, the Trump era delays are continuing. #ReuniteRefugeeFamilies
- When a separated family applies for a Follow-to-Join visa, they are told that it will be processed and they should be reunited with their loved ones in appx. 6 months. The backlog for these visas is actually 1.5 years. 🙌 This 🙌 is 🙌 unacceptable. 🙌 We need to #ReuniteRefugeeFamilies
- The delay in the P3 and Follow-to-Join visa processes has resulted in hundreds of families living completely apart from each other for years without any recourse. Their only option is to wait for us to act. We need to act now! #FamiliesNeedEachOther #ReuniteRefugeeFamilies
- When refugee families flee from danger, a path to safety isn't always offered to the entire family and they are forced to make the difficult choice to separate for a time. Some of these families have waited years to reunite. We need to #EndTheDelays and #ReuniteFamiliesNow!

Twitterstorm (1:00-3:00) : [Graphics TW](#)

- Children need their parents. Families separated by backlogs in our refugee resettlement program need to be #ReunitedNow. Take action to tell @POTUS to #ReuniteRefugeeFamilies. >>> <https://bit.ly/ReuniteRefugeeFamilies>
- Families need each other. Families separated by backlogs in our refugee resettlement program need to be #ReunitedNow. Take action to tell @POTUS to #ReuniteRefugeeFamilies. >>> <https://bit.ly/ReuniteRefugeeFamilies>
- Spouses need each other. Families separated by backlogs in our refugee resettlement program need to be #ReunitedNow. Take action to tell @POTUS to #ReuniteRefugeeFamilies. >>> <https://bit.ly/ReuniteRefugeeFamilies>
- Imagine being separated from your spouse for more than 5 years. That is what countless refugee families are living through because of the backlog of Follow-to-Join visas. @POTUS we need to #ReuniteRefugeeFamilies NOW!
- @POTUS families are waiting to see each other and we're the only thing standing in the way. #ReuniteRefugeeFamilies! Take action >>> <https://bit.ly/ReuniteRefugeeFamilies>
- @POTUS Refugee families have been separated long enough! Your administration must consider humanitarian parole for all Follow-To-Join Refugee cases that have waited more than two years. Children, parents, and spouses are depending on you to act. #ReuniteRefugeeFamilies
- Tell @POTUS that we need to #ReuniteRefugeeFamilies NOW! Take action →→→ <https://bit.ly/ReuniteRefugeeFamilies>

- Families need to be together! Backlogs and excuses need to be resolved now! 🙌 Tell congress to take action and take steps to reduce barriers to refugee family reunification! ➡️➡️➡️ <https://bit.ly/ReuniteRefugeeFamilies>
- Spouses need each other. But family separation due to refugee visa backlogs mean spouses are spending years waiting to hold each other again. This is wrong. We need to #ReuniteRefugeeFamilies now! Tell congress to do something: ➡️➡️➡️ <https://bit.ly/ReuniteRefugeeFamilies>
- Children need their parents! In the past four years refugee visa processing has become more and more backlogged, leaving families separated longer. We need to do something about this now! Tell congress to #ReuniteRefugeeFamilies now! ➡️➡️➡️ <https://bit.ly/ReuniteRefugeeFamilies>
- Delays in P3 and I-730 visas has resulted in refugee families being separated for years!! This 🙌 is 🙌 unacceptable 🙌 We need to #ReuniteFamiliesNOW! <https://bit.ly/ReuniteRefugeeFamilies>
- Join us in saying that we need to #ReuniteRefugeeFamilies! Take action ➡️➡️➡️ <https://bit.ly/ReuniteRefugeeFamilies>
- Families need each other @POTUS! We can't stand by as your administration maintains Trump era backlogs. We need to #ReuniteRefugeeFamilies NOW! <https://bit.ly/ReuniteRefugeeFamilies>
- Yesterday we joined @VoiceforRefuge in sharing stories and the urgency of reuniting refugee families who have faced years of backlogs under the Trump administration. @POTUS promised to make refugee family reunification a priority. Now it's time to keep that promise. <https://bit.ly/ReuniteRefugeeFamilies>
- When refugees flee from danger seeking to find safety somewhere else, paperwork and backlogs should not create an added trauma of years of family separation. Refugee families have been through enough and they need us to act. Sign the letter to congress >> <https://bit.ly/ReuniteRefugeeFamilies>
- We cannot stand by as Trump era backlogs keep families separated from one another on their journey to safety. We need to #ReuniteRefugeeFamilies now and #EndTheDelays! @POTUS must take action to prioritize family reunification as he promised.
- Yesterday we shared the story of Louis Pastuer, a refugee who has been separated from his family for 5 years. Louis' story is not an isolated incident, and it's still not resolved. This is why we need national action to #EndTheDelays and #ReuniteRefugeeFamilies now.
- Families are waiting for us to act @POTUS. Children, parents, and spouses have been waiting a long time to finally be reunited, but instead of helping, you're maintaining Trump era policies that hurt families. 🙌 This 🙌 is 🙌 unacceptable. 🙌 You need to #ReuniteRefugeeFamilies now!

Facebook/Instagram Posts

Why are there separations and delays in reunification: [Graphics FB & IG](#)

- A refugee family's journey to safety may sometimes come with the cost of temporary separation. But families forced to separate are now waiting to be reunited with their loved ones and have faced insurmountable hurdles due to Trump era policies that slowed down processing and increased barriers. Families who thought they would only be separated for a few months have now been separated for years.

This is unacceptable.

No family seeking safety should have the added trauma of being separated from one another for years because of slowed down paperwork. We must end the delays and fight the backlogs in Follow-to-join visa programs to ensure that we #ReuniteRefugeeFamilies now!

Take action >>> <https://bit.ly/ReuniteRefugeeFamilies>

- When refugee families flee from danger, a path to safety isn't always offered to the entire family at once. Sometimes spouses, adult children, both parents, or even all but one family member have to stay behind due to a difficult choice to separate. Some of these families have waited years to reunite due to delays, backlogs, bureaucratic slowdowns, and Trump-era policies that kept families apart. It is time to #EndtheDelays and #ReuniteFamiliesNow. No more waiting. No more separation. No more families living years without each other.

Send a letter to congress to stand with us and say #ReuniteRefugeeFamilies! 👉👉👉
<https://bit.ly/ReuniteRefugeeFamilies>

Take Action: [Graphics FB & IG](#)

- In 2016 the average I-730 visa processing time for separated refugee families was 6 months. Due to bureaucratic delays introduced under the Trump administration, the processing time is now almost 1 year and 6 months.

Some families separated for years are just waiting for paperwork approval. Why? Because their paperwork was intentionally delayed under Trump!! 😡 Now Biden has the opportunity to reunite refugee families, but instead, the Trump era delays are continuing.

The delay in the P3 and Follow-to-Join visa processes has resulted in hundreds of families living completely apart from each other for years without any recourse. Their only option is to wait for us to act. We need to act now! #FamiliesNeedEachOther #ReuniteRefugeeFamilies

Take action now to tell congress to #ReuniteRefugeeFamilies >>>
<https://bit.ly/ReuniteRefugeeFamilies>

- Delays, backlogs, and excuses are keeping refugee families apart. Today, we are calling on President Biden to #EndTheDelays and keep his promise to prioritize refugee family reunification.

Children need their parents. Parents need their children. Spouses need one another. Families need each other. They have been separated for years and they're just waiting on us to act.

Take action now to tell congress to #ReuniteRefugeeFamilies >>>
<https://bit.ly/ReuniteRefugeeFamilies>

- Yesterday we shared the story of Louis Pastuer, a refugee from Congo who has been separated from his family for 5 years. You heard about his daughter being born after he had already received refugee status and moved to the U.S. We told you about the questions she gets at school about not having her dad and about the strain this has placed on Louis and his wife.

Louis' story is not an isolated incident. Since 2016 the Trump administration had been intentionally delaying the processing of Follow-to-Join visas like the ones Louis' wife and daughter have applied for. Then-candidate Biden promised to prioritize refugee family reunification once elected, and while the Biden Administration has shown signs of improvement, many of the Trump era policies are still in effect.

We need to #ReuniteRefugeeFamilies now and ensure that families like Louis' have the chance to finally see each other again.

We joined @Voice for Refuge in sending a letter to congress calling for immediate change. Join us in elevating this issue by sending a letter to your representative now. >>> <https://bit.ly/ReuniteRefugeeFamilies>