Refugee Health Program Goals

- Health screenings and mental health assessments serve as an entry point into the U.S. health system, preventing unnecessary emergency room visits.
- Prevent transmission of communicable diseases to the public.
- Ensure follow-up for conditions affecting personal well-being or impeding a refugee’s ability to effectively resettle and function in the U.S. society (economic self-sufficiency and/or unnecessary admin/clinical costs).

The DOH Refugee Health Program is funded through a federal Office of Refugee Resettlement grant and a General Services Agreement with the NM Human Services Department. There are no state general funds supporting this program.

Refugee Health Primary Functions

- Domestic health screenings are provided to all newly-arrived refugees within 90 days of arrival in NM. Services include:
  - Screening for TB, sexually transmitted infections, HIV, hepatitis B and C, Sickle Cell, Malaria, and chronic conditions
  - Vaccinations
  - Referrals for medical, dental, and vision care
- Mental health services are offered to all newly-arrived refugees. Services may include screening, assessment, case management, and referrals for mental health treatment services.
- Refugee health and mental health education and training
  For refugees: Stress management and self care education, which includes coping with physical, social, psychological and spiritual changes associated with relocation.
  For Providers: Skills to assess and treat social and health/mental health problems that can exist among people displaced by extreme hardship, war and human rights abuses.
- Interpreter and translation services (86% of clients required interpretation during domestic health screening)

Fiscal Year 2016 Refugee Health and Mental Health Services

468 refugees received domestic health screening
- 64% of those who received domestic health screening were screened for mental health issues
- 15% of refugees screened for mental health issues were referred for follow-up or treatment services