

**Q: What is the difference between border problems and refugee resettlement work conducted by CCFW?**

A: The problems at the border are different from the refugee resettlement work conducted by Catholic Charities Fort Worth (CCFW). At CCFW, through our Texas Office for Refugees (TXOR) department, we assist eligible clients who have been legally admitted into the United States. This includes refugees who are legally admitted after undergoing a rigorous, multi-stage vetting process conducted by multiple federal agencies.

**Q: Does CCFW determine or grant the legal status of its clients?**

A: No, CCFW does not determine or grant anyone's legal status. This responsibility lies with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, a government agency. CCFW does not support, promote, or facilitate illegal border crossings. Our commitment is to operate within U.S. law, assisting those who have been legally admitted into the country.

**Q: What happened in 2016 regarding Texas' involvement in federal funding for refugee resettlement?**

A: In 2016, the State of Texas, through the Health and Human Services Commission, withdrew from its role in overseeing and managing federal pass-through funds meant to support eligible clients legally admitted to the United States; however, the State of Texas did not prohibit the resettlement of refugees within its borders, which created a vacuum in services.

**Q: How did CCFW respond to Texas' withdrawal?**

A: In response to the State of Texas' withdrawal in 2016, CCFW was asked by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) to step in and take over the oversight and administration of these federal funds. As a result, CCFW began operating the North Texas Office for Refugees (NTOR), one of four regional replacement designees, in 2017. In 2022, NTOR transitioned to the Texas Office for Refugees (TXOR), a department within CCFW that administers federal funds statewide.

**Q: What are TXOR's responsibilities?**

A: TXOR manages funds designated by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR). TXOR acts as a pass-through entity for more than 28 community-based organizations, including refugee resettlement agencies, across Texas. Our responsibilities include ensuring compliance with government regulations, monitoring program effectiveness and transparency, and reimbursing expenditures that meet legal federal compliance standards.

**Q: How does CCFW handle non-compliance with government regulations?**

A: When agencies fail to meet compliance standards, CCFW, through TXOR, implements corrective action plans and accountability measures to ensure that partners remain in compliance with government regulations. For example, TXOR conducts both programmatic and financial monitoring to identify deficiencies in program execution or financial management. When deficiencies are found, corrective actions are taken, as seen in the case of Refugee Services of Texas (RST). Ultimately, RST's deficiencies were too great, and they had to shut their doors.

**Q: Is TXOR subject to any external evaluations?**

A: Yes, TXOR, through CCFW, is subject to an annual audit conducted by an independent third-party firm.

**Q: What is CCFW's broader mission and services?**

A: At CCFW, we relentlessly end poverty through holistic, evidence-based solutions. As an outreach of the Catholic Church, Catholic Charities Fort Worth operates as a nonpartisan agency guided by the principles of compassion, justice, and service, as taught by Christ and reflected in Catholic Social Teaching. CCFW serves because of our Catholic faith, and fulfilling this mission is an essential practice of our religious liberty.

TXOR is just one of many programs provided by CCFW. Our organization offers a wide range of services including job training, financial planning, educational support, and long-term case management. These programs aim to lift individuals and families out of poverty and help them reach their God-given potential for self-sufficiency.

CCFW has been in service for more than 114 years, and we have been serving refugees since the Vietnam War in the 1970s. Over the years, CCFW has helped thousands of families not only adjust to their new lives in America but also thrive as citizens. Many have gone on to make significant contributions in fields such as healthcare, education, and business.