

National Agency	USCCB	Affiliate Code	MIUSCC05
Office State	Michigan	Office City	Kalamazoo
Office Name	Bethany Christian Services – Kalamazoo		
Office Address	6687 Seeco Drive, Kalamazoo, MI 49009		
<b>JOINT SITE</b>		<b>SUB-OFFICE</b>	
If joint site, with which agency or agencies?	N/A	Sub-office	Kalamazoo, MI
		Administering affiliate	Grand Rapids, MI

<b>CASELOAD STATISTICS (number of individuals)</b>	FY 2015 Actual Arrivals					N/A
	FY 2016 Acknowledged Capacity					19
	FY 2016 Anticipated Arrivals					18
	<b>AF</b>	<b>EA</b>	<b>ECA</b>	<b>LAC</b>	<b>NE/SA</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>PROPOSED FY 2017 ARRIVALS</b>	3	3	0	0	6	12
<b>RECENT/PROPOSED CASELOAD</b>						
Nationalities served FY 2015 – FY 2016	<b>Congolese, Eritrean, Kenyan, Russian, Sudanese</b>					
Proposed nationalities FY 2017	<b>Afghan, Bhutanese, Burundian, Congolese, Eritrean, Ethiopian, Liberian, Burmese, Pakistani, Rwandan, Sierra Leonean, Somali, Sudanese, Syrian, Togolese</b>					
Languages available on staff to support the proposed caseload	<i>Arabic, Ewe, French, German, Korean, Punjabi, Spanish, and Urdu</i>					
Languages available from within the community of resettlement to support the proposed caseload	<i>Barawaw, Bemba, Falam, Hakha, Karen, Kirundi, Kinyarwanda, Mai Mai, Malay, Napali, Nyanja, Sgaw Karen, Somali, Swahili, Thlan, and Tlang</i>					
Other language resources used	<i>Voices for Health, Liaison Linguistics, Associated Language Consultants, PARA's interpretation services. Frequency: Weekly General circumstances of use: Court, therapist, behavior specialist, case managers, medical appointments. Usually in-person appointments unless unavailable, then phone interpreters are utilized.</i>					

<b>GRIEVANCE AND PROTECTION FROM SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE (PSEA) POLICY</b>	
Indicate whether you have a grievance policy.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Indicate whether you have incorporated the IASC's six core principles for PSEA in your organization's code of conduct for all staff and volunteers.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

1. **Site Rationale:** In the Greater Kalamazoo area, there are approximately 258,000 people. Many communities include individuals from: Haiti, Bosnia, Albania, Eritrea, Democratic Republic of Congo, Iraq, Afghanistan, Syria, Kenya, Egypt, among many more. There are five institutions of higher education, with two more institutions nearby that Bethany frequently works with for their older youth and interns. One of these institutions has a special program for youth who have been in foster care, providing them scholarships,

programs and support to get them in and through college. Another institution is tied second nationally in Campus Ethnic Diversity among national universities and with 14 percent of the student body composed of international students, Andrews is once again tied for 9th in Most International Students.

To prepare youth for independent living, Bethany offers each youth a volunteer or paid tutor, weekly group after-school tutoring, a mentor match program and life skills education. Youth are provided a 10-week Newcomers Orientation upon arrival to the program. Youth who have demonstrated leadership ability among their peers are encouraged to participate in the Youth Leadership Council. Financial assistance is available to clients pursuing a college degree until the age of 23 through the Education and Training Voucher Program (ETV).

2. **Health Care Access and Refugees with Special Needs:** At the present time, Bethany is able to accommodate the needs of any refugee referred to the program, given the availability of a trained and willing foster home or appropriate therapeutic residential placement. With an extensive network of hospitals in the nearby area and within a 45-minute radius of Kalamazoo, medical needs are able to be addressed with exceptional treatment. Ongoing training for staff and foster parents covers a range of topics including trauma history and trauma-informed care and the needs of LGBTQ youth. Foster parents have been open to placements with varying needs, including blindness, special medical needs, physical disabilities, and emotional impairments. Mental health needs can be met and addressed within the agency, including a bilingual therapist trained in TF-CBT, a bilingual behavioral specialist, and agency psychiatrist.
3. **Foster Care:** Foster families are recruited through local churches, mosques, informational meetings and events in the community, radio, television, print advertisements, billboards, car and yard signs, and word of mouth. Once recruited, families attend two hours of orientation on Refugee Foster Care, 21 hours of PRIDE (*Parent Resource for Information Development Education*), and 6 hours of Trauma-Informed Parenting. Simultaneous with training, a home study and background checks are conducted per state licensing requirements, and appropriate families are recommended to the state for licensure. Licensed homes must complete an additional eight hours of training annually, including at least two hours of culturally specific training. Bethany offers cultural and mental health trainings monthly, has an extensive Refugee Foster Care Library with resources for the foster families, and supports foster families through the following efforts: monthly support groups in English/Spanish, weekly to monthly visits by the case manager depending on need, as-needed quarterly visits from licensing specialists, crisis support from the Training and Development Coordinator, a Foster Parent Mentoring Program, and monthly Foster Parent appreciation events. Foster parents are supported through family team meetings, a behavioral specialist, and a foster care rate based on the youth's needs. Foster parents identify respite care at licensure and are encouraged to use their respite caregivers as regularly scheduled support.
4. **Placement Options:** Bethany has many placement options for refugee youth which include foster homes (basic and therapeutic), ILP staff-supported independent housing, and supervised independent living homes, as well as residential treatment in the community.

On 5/1/16, the Independent Living Plus (ILP) program will open in Kalamazoo specializing in Muslim male youth. This home will have a total capacity for 10 male youth in this program that provides staff-supported independent housing for youth in transition from a foster home or residential to independent living, as well as intensive independent living services. The goal for these youth will be to live independently within one year of being in the ILP program. This home is strongly supported by the Kalamazoo Islamic Center providing culturally appropriate services for the youth.

5. **Physical Presence:** A youth must be present in Kalamazoo County at least 30 days before they turn 18 years old for the court process to establish local court wardship.
6. **Minors Close to 18 Years of Age:** Bethany in Kalamazoo is able to accept minors as close as 30 days from their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday to establish court wardship.
7. **Major/Minor Cases:** Bethany has the capacity to provide services to Major/Minor cases due to its relationship with Bethany Refugee Adult and Family (Church World Service affiliate) and the Samaritas (Lutheran Social Services of Michigan) adult resettlement program. The adult and URM programs have consistently coordinated services for this population with positive outcomes.