

“Reimagining Refugee Resettlement for a New Administration”

Washington, DC — On January 20th, a new president will be inaugurated providing opportunities to both address and correct the harms Trump levied against refugee resettlement, and to reimagine and build a more robust, inclusive, and equitable resettlement program.

Refugee Council USA (RCUSA) and Center for Migration Studies New York (CMSNY) conducted a series of national listening sessions bringing together resettled refugees, resettlement workers, and community and government partners to think about just this future. The result was a [first-of-its-kind report](#) detailing what was working, internal and external challenges facing the program, and how the program could be rebuilt.



Danielle Grigsby is currently the Director of Policy and Practice, after serving as the Interim Director and Associate Director for more than 3 years. Prior to joining RCUSA, Danielle worked as a Project Supervisor at the Resettlement Support Center-Africa in Kenya, facilitating resettlement of refugees to the USA. Danielle also worked on Internally-Displaced Persons issues in Nigeria for the US Department of State, on coalition advocacy work for refugees across the Asia-Pacific based out of Bangkok, Thailand, as a refugee resettlement Case Manager for the International Rescue Committee, and for UNHCR-implementing partners providing protective services to Afghan and sub-Saharan African refugees in Moscow, Russia. Danielle also served as a Peace Corps volunteer in sub-Saharan Africa before obtaining a Masters of Social Work from Boston College and completing graduate studies in Forced Migration at Oxford University, UK; she has dual-Bachelor's degrees in Political Science and History

from Weber State University.



Adam Hunter is Executive Director of Refugee Council USA (RCUSA), an organization working to protect and welcome refugees, asylum seekers, and other forcibly displaced populations. With an engaged coalition of diverse members, he guides policy advocacy and promotes dialogue and cross-sector collaboration to advance excellence in resettlement and integration programs.

Adam has more than 15 years' experience on migration, national security, and international affairs issues through positions in government, foundations, think tanks, and fellowships. Before RCUSA he was a Consultant advising philanthropic and non-profit leaders on policy and strategy. He was also Director of a Pew Charitable Trusts' research project exploring immigration federalism. In government, Adam served as Acting Chief of Staff at U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), a component of the Department of Homeland Security, and held prior agency leadership and program management roles. Earlier in his career, he worked with policymakers in Europe and at Washington think tanks, including the German Marshall Fund of the United States.



Donald M. Kerwin, Jr. has directed the Center for Migration Studies of New York (CMS) since September 2011. He previously worked for the Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. (CLINIC) between 1992 and 2008, serving as its Executive Director (ED) for 15 years and its interim ED for six months in late 2012 and early 2013. Upon his arrival at CLINIC in 1992, Mr. Kerwin coordinated CLINIC's political asylum project for Haitians. CLINIC, a subsidiary of the US Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), is a public interest legal corporation that supports a national network of several hundred charitable legal programs for immigrants. Between 2008 and 2011, Mr. Kerwin served as Vice-President for Programs at the Migration Policy Institute (MPI), where he wrote on immigration, labor standards, and refugee policy issues. He has also served as an associate fellow at the Woodstock Theological Center where he co-directed Woodstock's Theology of Migration Project; a non-resident senior fellow at MPI; a member of the American Bar Association's Commission on Immigration; a member of the Council on Foreign Relations' Immigration

Task Force; a board member for Jesuit Refugee Services-USA, the Capital Area Immigrant Rights Coalition, and the Border Network for Human Rights; an advisor to the USCCB Committee on Migration; and a member of numerous advisory groups. Mr. Kerwin writes and speaks extensively on immigration policy, refugee protection, access to justice, national security, and other issues.



Drocella Mugorewera serves as Executive Director of Bridge Refugee Services, the only refugee resettlement agency in East Tennessee since 1982. Mugorewera came to the United States in 2009 as a refugee herself and was resettled by Bridge Refugee Services. Drocella is a Board member of the Refugee Congress, the only national advocacy organization led by refugees and for refugees. Drocella is passionate about dignity for all and socio-economic and environmental justice. Drocella previously served as a Parliamentarian and Secretary of Lands, Environment, Forestry, Water, and Mines in the Government of Rwanda. A graduate of the 2017 class at the Consortium for Social Enterprise Effectiveness -Haslam College of Business, she has been recognized by the Knoxville Mercury as one of 10 women making a difference in Knoxville TN. She completed 2018 Leadership Knoxville class. She currently serves on the Racial Equity Trough Community core committee in her hometown. Mugorewera is also an active member of the Knoxville Association of Women Executives (KAWE). Drocella is one of 2020 Community Shares' Champion of Change

award recipients. Mugorewera was honored as one of the 34th Annual YWCA Tribute to Women finalists. Drocella is one the 2019 Peacemaker award recipients from the Oak Ridge Environmental Peace Alliance. In November 2018, Mugorewera received the Champions for Change award from Church World Service. Drocella is storyteller, she likes reading, traveling and visiting places, networking, and empowering/helping people. Drocella speaks five languages.