URGENT: TAKE ACTION!

Stop Cuts to the Office of Refugee Resettlement!

**Why You Need to Take Action**

The Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) has announced that they plan to reprogram $94 million from refugee services to meet the needs of unaccompanied children. Since the number of unaccompanied children arriving in Fiscal Year 2014 (FY14) has exceed projections, there a funding shortfall in ORR’s budget.  On Friday, June 20th, ORR notified Congress that it must reduce refugee services in order to meet $94 million shortfall.

**Congress has 15 days to step-in and stop this reprograming, which means we have to ACT NOW.**

**WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP?**

Members of Congress listen to their constituents.  You must contact them and tell them that ORR funding must be increased to meet the needs of and all vulnerable populations in ORR's care. ORR needs an additional $200 million for FY14 and a total of $2.897 billion for FY15.   Congress is currently deciding ORR's FY15 budget, so action is needed urgently! Here is how:

**1. CALL your Representative and both your Senators.**

* You can call the Capitol Switchboard at (202) 224-3121 or find their direct office lines on their websites at [www.house.gov](http://www.house.gov/) and [www.senate.gov](http://www.senate.gov/). A sample script:

*“I'm your constituent from [city, state] and I care about refugees. I urge you to increase 2014 funding for the Office of Refugee Resettlement by $200 million to meet the needs of unaccompanied immigrant children.  I also urge you to increase the 2015 budget $2.897 billion for ORR.   The office has a shortfall and will have to cut services for refugees if Congress does not increase its funding. The U.S. must show leadership in helping these children while also maintaining its commitment to refugee resettlement.”*

**2. EMAIL the Chairs of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees by completing these letters and emailing them in:**

* *“HOUSE.Approps.6.14ORR Letter”* and email to:
	+ dem.approps@mail.house.gov
	+ lisa.molyneux@mail.house.gov
* “*Senate.Approps.6.14.Letter*” and email to:
	+ *charles.kieffer@appr.senate.gov*
	+ *adrienne\_hallett@approps.senate.gov*

**3. TWEET at the Chairs of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees**

* Official Twitter Feed of the House Appropriations Committee, DEMS: [@AppropsDems](https://twitter.com/AppropsDems)
	+ Senior Democrat on House Appropriations Committee, Nita Lowry: [@NitaLowey](https://twitter.com/NitaLowey)
* Official Twitter Feed for the House Appropriations Committee, GOP: [@HouseAppropsGOP](https://twitter.com/HouseAppropsGOP)
	+ Chairman [@RepHalRogers](https://twitter.com/RepHalRogers)
* Senate Committee on Appropriations: [@SenateApprops](https://twitter.com/SenateApprops)
	+ Chairwoman: [@SenatorBarb](https://twitter.com/SenatorBarb)