



Kentucky Refugee Ministries
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Kentucky Refugee Ministries to Host Visiting
Members of Parliament from Norway**

Kentucky Refugee Ministries will host fourteen members of the Kingdom of Norway's Parliament, who will visit Louisville on Wednesday, February 28, as part of a mission to study the United States federal refugee resettlement program. The delegation's visit is being coordinated by Episcopal Migration Ministries, one of 10 national voluntary agencies participating in the U.S. Department of State's Refugee Reception and Placement program, a public-private partnership through which refugees resettled in the U.S receive basic assistance during their initial period in the country. Kentucky Refugee Ministries, a refugee resettlement agency founded in 1990 with offices in Louisville and Lexington, is the local affiliate of Episcopal Migration Ministries.

After briefings from Episcopal Migration Ministries' staff in New York and State Department refugee program administrators in Washington D.C., the Norwegian delegation will fly to Louisville, Kentucky, a city whose successful integration of more than 10,000 refugees from over 30 countries during the last decade has made it a preferred community nationally for refugee resettlement. In Louisville the delegation will meet with Kentucky Refugee Ministries' staff and clients, observe the agency's English language and cultural orientation programs, make home visits to meet with refugee families, and visit area businesses that employ refugees. Members of the delegation will also visit Catholic Charities Migration and Refugee Services, the Kentucky Office of Refugees, and meet with Omar Ayyash, Director of the Louisville Metro Office for International Affairs.

An invitation-only reception will be held at 5:30 p.m. at Bishop's Hall, Christ Church Episcopal Cathedral, 425 South Second Street, Louisville, KY 40202.

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