

REFUGEPOINT

CHILD PROTECTION



WHY IS CHILD PROTECTION IMPORTANT?

Of the world's 25.4 million refugees, over 50% are children under the age of 18. Many refugee children spend their entire childhoods in dangerous situations and are in desperate need of safety and stability. Refugee children have often lost their entire support system, making them especially vulnerable to abuse, violence, exploitation, and continued trauma.

HOW DOES REFUGEPOINT HELP?

As refugee children are considered to be among those at greatest risk, RefugePoint prioritizes children in all of its programs and collaborates closely with partners to fill critical gaps. Not only do we need to ensure refugee children are protected, we must help them to find opportunities for education in order to build a foundation for the future. At the present time, RefugePoint has the largest Child Protection team in our history, with ten Child Protection Experts working across Africa and the Middle East. RefugePoint has become widely recognized for prioritizing child protection and for expanding our base of expertise.

WHAT DO REFUGEPOINT CHILD PROTECTION EXPERTS DO?



CHILD PROTECTION ASSESSMENTS

Our Experts conduct child protection assessments for orphaned, separated, and other at-risk refugee children. These assessments are a necessary step to proceed with solutions like resettlement, and are designed to identify the services and solutions that these children need, and to make referrals to ensure that they benefit from the recommendations. It is a very intensive process, including home visits and numerous interviews with the child and other caregivers, including family members, neighbors, teachers, etc.



STABILIZING SERVICES

In Nairobi, where we have our own comprehensive refugee protection program, we focus on supporting the caretakers as the frontline of child protection. This includes the normal suite of stabilizing services (food, rent, medical) but may also include subsidizing school costs and assisting with enrollment. For the children themselves, we focus on accessing education as the best way to ensure immediate protection and, ultimately, a better future.



TRAINING PARTNERS

In addition to individual casework, our child protection staff assess gaps in child protection systems wherever they are working and help UNHCR, governments, and other partners, fill these gaps. For example, we maintain a robust capacity building program, hosting child protection trainings for hundreds of partner staff around the world each year.