



# Second Quarter Report 2025

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# Introduction: Solutions Amid Crisis

In the second quarter of 2025, RefugePoint continued efforts to expand access to both self-reliance and various third country solutions for refugees, work that has become increasingly urgent as multiple governments have cut funding and quotas for refugee resettlement and other pathways. In June, RefugePoint participated in the [Consultations on Resettlement and Complementary Pathways](#) (CRCP), the most important annual global forum for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, States, the private sector, academia, NGOs, and refugees to discuss and advance resettlement and complementary pathways.

Held in Geneva, the CRCP brought together hundreds of stakeholders to address the growing gap between rising displacement and diminishing solutions. Forecasts for 2025 suggest that only 17,000 refugees are expected to be resettled globally this year (compared to more than 116,000 in 2024), with submission numbers falling sharply and coming from fewer host countries.

At the CRCP, RefugePoint played a leading role in shaping the conversation. As part of the Equitable Resettlement Access Consortium, we continued to support a shift toward NGO-led resettlement case identification and referrals, ensuring those with the greatest need are not overlooked. RefugePoint co-led sessions highlighting refugee leadership, family reunification, and the importance of strengthening mental health, language learning and skills acquisition, and cultural orientation prior to arrival in a resettlement country. In the closing plenary, RefugePoint and the Refugee Self-Reliance Initiative (a strategic initiative of RefugePoint) emphasized that building stability in countries of asylum is not separate from third country pathways, it's foundational.

As access to resettlement narrows and humanitarian aid contracts due to shifting policies and strained systems, self-reliance for refugees is more essential than ever. Self-reliance programs, like RefugePoint's Urban Refugee Protection Program, offer refugees pathways to independence and stability by holistically addressing essential needs such as livelihood development, education, health and nutrition, and financial empowerment. Through these initiatives, refugees gain the skills and resources to build a future for themselves and their families in their host communities. Through global partnerships and direct service programs, RefugePoint remains committed to helping refugees reach a point of safety and stability wherever they are.

A RefugePoint Resettlement Expert meets with Rasha and her family, refugees from Sudan, at their home in Tsore Refugee Camp, Ethiopia. Photo: Chris Jensen







# TARISISI ACCESSORIES

## Self- Reliance

For refugees who remain indefinitely in the country to which they've fled, we help them move from vulnerability towards self-reliance.

[Read more →](#)



Direct Services

**Providing lasting solutions for refugees is at the core of our work. RefugePoint focuses on equipping urban refugees in Nairobi, Kenya to become self-reliant through our Urban Refugee Protection Program (URPP). We achieve this by providing stabilizing support services to ensure access to food, shelter, medical care, and empowerment through counseling, skill-building, and livelihood assistance.**

The URPP, alongside the broader Kenyan context, continued to grapple with significant challenges due to funding cuts and the suspension of the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program. In response, the program adopted a multifaceted approach aimed at both strengthening clients' self-reliance and mitigating the impact of reduced funding on partners, including refugee-led organizations. Clients expressed deep appreciation for RefugePoint's continued operations during this critical period, providing essential support amid ongoing challenges.

The URPP team collaborated closely with partners in Nairobi to reduce duplicative efforts and maximize the use of available resources. RefugePoint continued to provide thought leadership within several working groups, including the Livelihoods Theme Group, which was revitalized in the first quarter, largely through RefugePoint's initiative. In addition, the URPP reactivated the Health Thematic Group and hosted its inaugural meeting.

In June, large protests that disrupted the Nairobi metropolitan area and other regions affected the URPP. Looters struck businesses owned by both Kenyans and refugees and, tragically, lives were lost. Some refugees reported incidents of harassment by unruly groups targeting them due to their refugee status. The sound of gunfire triggered emotional distress for many, evoking traumatic memories of conflict in their home countries. The unrest also interrupted service delivery, with our staff unable to conduct home visits or host clients at the office on certain days. Despite these challenges, the team successfully distributed food assistance to all clients.

A newly identified client, a single father with a 4-year-old child, was found sleeping outside the Department of Refugee Services office after being evicted due to rent debt. Following an emergency assessment by the URPP, the household received same-day cash assistance. This help enabled the father to secure housing and purchase food and essential supplies.

Despite the challenging environment, the URPP remained committed to expanding educational access for refugees, successfully enrolling 84 new learners across various institutions. In June, the program launched an exercise to map community asset structures, with the aim of identifying additional community resources and strengthening referral pathways to support clients' self-reliance.

RefugePoint's Urban Stabilization Path

Clients Graduated to Self-Reliance

Q2

66

YTD

178

Community Health Outreach

Q2

2,888

YTD

6,147

Empowerment and Stabilization



Food Assistance

Q2 302  
YTD 347



Rent Support

Q2 165  
YTD 239



Medical Assistance

Q2 1,248  
YTD 1,585



Counseling

Q2 66  
YTD 137



Education Support

Q2 84  
YTD 218



Businesses Grants

Q2 52  
YTD 72





RLO Leaders engage in a Peer-to-Peer Learning session in RefugePoint's Nairobi, Kenya office. Photo: Jessica Masilbo

## Field Building & Systems Change

**In addition to the direct services RefugePoint provides to urban refugees in Nairobi, Kenya to achieve self-reliance, we work to make large-scale impact through field-building and systems change. One way we aim to achieve that is through the Refugee Self-Reliance Initiative (RSRI), a strategic initiative of RefugePoint that promotes opportunities for refugees around the world to become self-reliant and achieve a better quality of life. The RSRI, co-founded by RefugePoint and the Women's Refugee Commission, aims to reach millions of refugees each year with high-quality, holistic self-reliance programming. Through its network of more than 350 global partners, the RSRI also works to advance the knowledge, tools, standards, and legal frameworks that support self-reliance and embed effective self-reliance approaches in humanitarian and development responses to displacement.**

Strengthening refugee-led responses remained a core focus this quarter, as RefugePoint deepened its support for refugee-led organizations (RLOs) and expanded global collaboration through the RSRI. This quarter, RefugePoint's RLO Engagement Program inducted 25 RLOs into the 2025 peer-to-peer cohort, a group that will foster collaboration, shared learning, and networking among RLOs over the coming year.

Two RLOs received grants from RefugePoint to support their self-reliance initiatives. Amani Sustenance Community Organization (ASCO), based in Kabiria, is expanding access to health care and health education for both refugees and host community members. With RefugePoint's support, ASCO secured additional space, established a laboratory, and delivered community health awareness sessions. In Ruiru, the Refugee Renewed Hope Initiative is advancing education access, promoting livelihoods, and supporting peaceful coexistence between refugees and Kenyans.

To strengthen women-led RLOs, the program also supported a training for the African Refugee Women Led Network, focused on advocacy and diplomacy.

In May, the RSRI hosted a two-day Self-Reliance Index (SRI) Learning Symposium in Nairobi. The first day introduced the SRI tool to new RLOs and national organizations. Current users, policymakers, donors, and researchers convened on the second day.

In June, the RSRI held its first Refugee Leadership & RLO Engagement Technical Working Group meeting, bringing refugee leaders and RLOs together to develop technical tools and other resources on refugee self-reliance. The RSRI also convened the first Asia-Pacific Community of Practice Learning Call, which focused on the work of RSRI network members in the region.

To mark World Refugee Day, the RSRI co-hosted a virtual forum with GARLOS (the Coordinating Group of Organizations Led by Refugees and Displaced Persons in Latin America and the Caribbean) to uplift the work of RLOs in Latin America.

Also in June, RSRI Executive Director Kari Diener spoke on a panel at the Consultations on Resettlement & Complementary Pathways in Geneva about advancing refugees' self-reliance in host countries. Earlier that week, she presented updates on the Multistakeholder Pledge on Economic Inclusion and Social Protection at a quarterly preparatory meeting.





# Resettlement & Other Pathways to Safety

We help refugees who cannot remain safely where they are to permanently and legally relocate to a safe, new country through various visa channels and government programs.

[Read more →](#)



Direct Services

**In addition to equipping refugees to become self-reliant, we work to relocate refugees to safety through resettlement and other legal migration pathways, such as visa programs for family reunification, employment, and education. This quarter, RefugePoint helped 2,243 refugees access pathways to safety, including resettlement, family reunification, employment, and sponsorship from 85 locations in 26 countries worldwide.**

During the second quarter, RefugePoint’s Nairobi-based Resettlement team submitted 85 individuals for resettlement to Canada. The team also prioritized clients most affected by the halt in resettlement to the U.S., coordinating interventions such as Mental Health and Psychosocial Support, and conducting community outreach in Nairobi to address fraud and exploitation amid drastically reduced access to resettlement.

Through global deployments to UNHCR operations, RefugePoint Experts supported refugees by offering counseling on resettlement and alternative pathways, responding to case inquiries, and helping refugees maintain hope and resilience amid uncertainty. With the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program on hold, Experts focused on resettlement submissions to Australia, Canada, Finland, Ireland, and the UK. Some took on Integrity assignments in Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Niger, South Africa, and Zimbabwe, where they mapped fraud policies, drafted anti-fraud plans, and delivered training to address resettlement-related fraud.

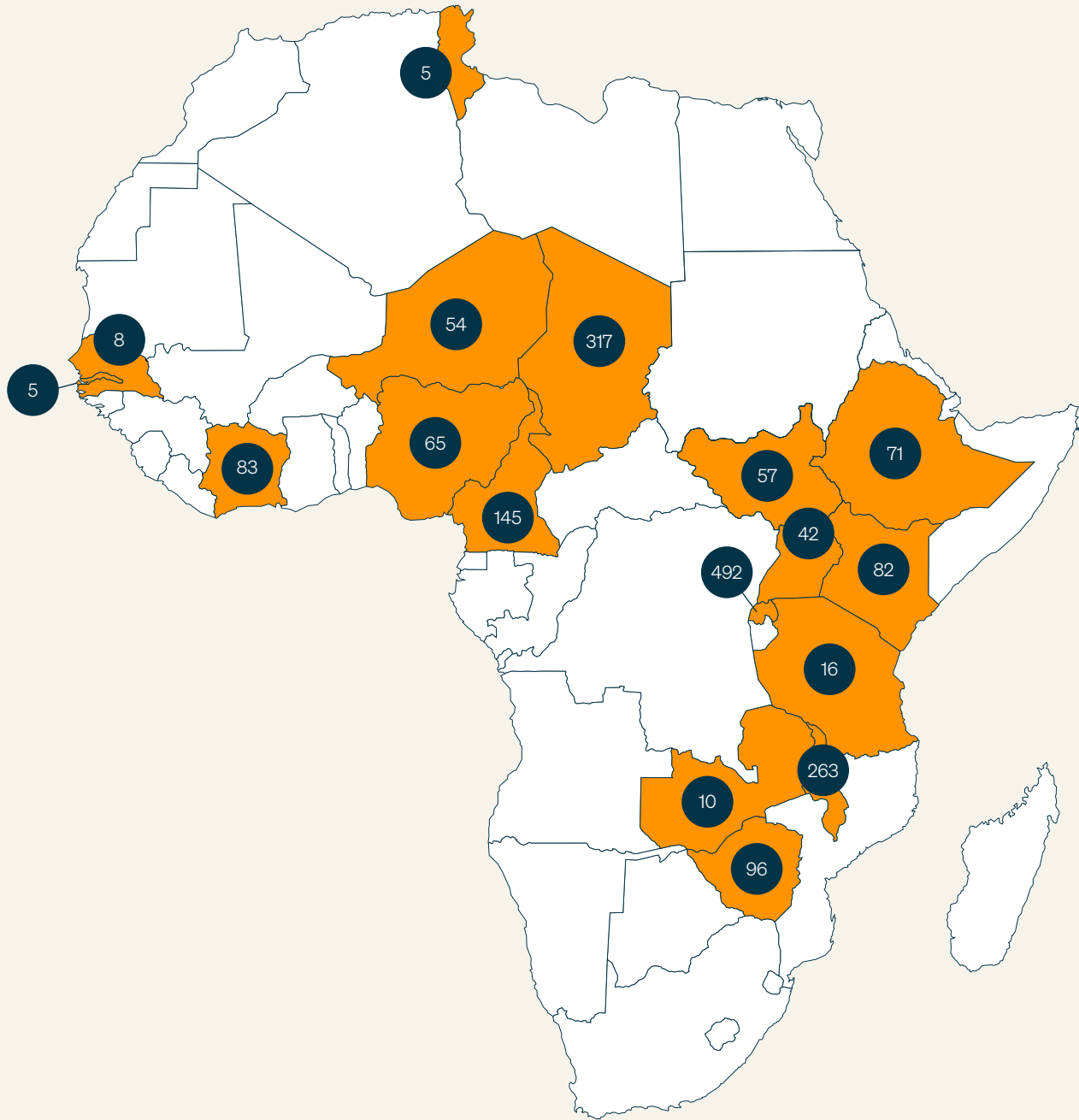
In Senegal, a RefugePoint Expert worked closely with UNHCR’s Regional Bureau for West and Central Africa and country offices to help meet urgent submission targets. In Nigeria, another Expert supported case identification, casework, reviews, and logistics, helping UNHCR meet its 65-person quota for the UK. This marked the country’s first resettlement opportunity from the UK in years.

In Kenya, RefugePoint’s Family Reunification team helped a client reunite with her husband in the U.S. and advocated for children seeking to join their families abroad. This included working with UNHCR to expedite refugee status determinations and move forward the cases of eight unaccompanied minors.

RefugePoint’s Labor Mobility Program reached a milestone by submitting 10 candidates to Belgium under the Displaced Talent for Europe initiative. These were the organization’s first labor referrals from Kenya outside of Canada’s Economic Mobility Pathways Pilot. The team also updated clients’ CVs, mapped potential partners, and researched labor mobility policy in new destination countries. Two candidates departed for jobs in Toronto. Planning also began this quarter for a November 2025 Economic Mobility Pathways Pilot recruitment event in Kenya, in partnership with Talent Beyond Boundaries and UNHCR.

Refugees assisted in accessing resettlement and other pathways in Q2

2,243



Refugees Assisted in Q2

**Countries where RefugePoint assisted refugees to access resettlement and other pathways to safety.**

\* Country not shown on map

1. Bangladesh*	3	15. Nigeria	65
2. Cameroon	145	16. Rwanda	492
3. Chad	317	17. Senegal	8
4. China*	1	18. Singapore*	3
5. Cote d'Ivoire	83	19. South Sudan	57
6. Ethiopia	71	20. Tanzania	16
7. Gambia	5	21. Thailand*	125
8. India*	140	22. Tunisia	5
9. Iran*	3	23. Türkiye*	143
10. Kenya	82	24. Uganda	42
11. Malawi	269	25. Zambia	10
12. Malaysia*	2	26. Zimbabwe	96
13. Nepal*	6		
14. Niger	54	Total:	3,092

Field Building & Systems Change

**In addition to helping refugees relocate to safety through direct services, RefugePoint hosts training, develops and shares tools to enhance capacity across our partners, and makes policy recommendations to improve global systems related to resettlement and other pathways. During the second quarter of 2025, our staff trained 778 individuals from the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), partner organizations, and local refugee communities on topics ranging from child protection to resettlement and other pathways.**

RefugePoint advocated for continued commitments to humanitarian resettlement in the second quarter. In bilateral meetings with key stakeholders, RefugePoint emphasized the vital role of NGOs in expanding access to resettlement and supporting the resettlement ecosystem. In partnership with UNHCR’s Regional Bureau for West and Central Africa, RefugePoint also established a framework to submit urgent cases to other countries following the suspension of the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program.

RefugePoint advanced refugee leadership by partnering with Talent Beyond Boundaries, with support from Australia, to recruit a second cohort of refugee advisors to the Global Task Force on Refugee Labor Mobility. At the Consultations on Resettlement and Complementary Pathways, RefugePoint funded the participation of three refugee leaders to help shape policy and practice.

Continued field building efforts promoted shared learning with peers. RefugePoint’s Labor Mobility team shared implementation insights with UNHCR counterparts in Burundi and Zambia. In Kenya, the team hosted a Geneva Graduate Institute researcher studying family reunification for unaccompanied and separated children. The Global Family Reunification Network organized Community of Practice events focused on family reunification in Australia and the EU, and helped develop case referral mechanisms with legal service providers in Australia, France, Norway, and the UK, and.

RefugePoint Experts strengthened systems through training, mentorship, and guidance for UNHCR, partners, and community-based protection networks. In Chad, an Expert coached field teams on Complementary Pathways criteria and good practices. Elsewhere, Integrity Experts advised on anti-fraud policies, and Resettlement Experts trained UNHCR staff on drafting and reviewing resettlement submissions.



Mediatix Akinyi Onyango (left), RefugePoint’s Deployment Coordinator, Kari Diener (middle), RSRI Executive Director, Alex Strang (top right), Global Family Reunification Coordinator, Martin Anderson (bottom right), Chief of Policy and Practice, and Jennifer Wilson (right), Director of Third Country Solutions, attending a session at the CRCP in Geneva. Photo: UNHCR



Speakers and attendees at the “Pre-departure prep: making the most of waiting” breakout session on the second day of the 2025 Consultations on Resettlement and Complementary Pathways. Jennifer Wilson, RefugePoint’s Director of Third Country Solutions, presenting during the session. Photo: UNHCR



# Cross-Cutting Protection Priorities

## Child Protection

**RefugePoint prioritizes refugee children in all our programs and collaborates closely with partners to fill critical gaps in refugee child protection. During the second quarter of 2025, our staff conducted and reviewed child protection assessments for 292 refugee children.**

RefugePoint Child Protection Experts deployed around the world continued strengthening child protection systems in their operations. In South Sudan, RefugePoint’s Child Protection Expert conducted a two-day training with UNHCR colleagues and partner staff. Topics included an introduction to Best Interests Principles and Case Management, Child Safeguarding, and Best Interests Procedures.

The Child Protection team, in collaboration with the Kenya Family Reunification team, developed training to enhance staff skills in effectively communicating with children. Subsequently, they co-facilitated a one-day child protection workshop with refugee-led organizations, which included effective communication with children. This initiative not only deepens staff skills but also strengthens the well-being of every child.

Children assisted in Q2

292



Individuals trained in child protection & other pathways

778



**RefugePoint Community Navigators trained as Participatory Action Researchers to conduct ethical, community-based mapping of mental health needs and resources.**

Photo: Dr. Sonasha Braxton

## Mental Health and Psychosocial Support

**Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) includes any support that people receive to protect or promote their mental health and psychosocial well-being. MHPSS encompasses physical, economic, social, mental, emotional, cultural, and spiritual determinants of health. It is a key component of wellness for staff and crucial for the self-reliance of clients.**

During the second quarter, RefugePoint’s MHPSS program advanced key community-based and organizational priorities. In recognition of May as Mental Health Month, the Community-Based MHPSS team led an interagency campaign by coordinating an inclusive, community-centered activity in Nairobi for people with special needs. The team also hosted a well-attended Community Conversation in the city and launched the first component of a two-part training for refugee researchers as part of the Community-Based MHPSS Needs and Asset Mapping initiative. This training used trauma-informed and culturally rooted methods, incorporated feedback from earlier community focus groups, and offered capacity-building and upskilling opportunities for community members.

At the systems level, our Senior Technical Advisor led a four-day trauma-informed engagement training with about 60 staff from Caritas Nigeria. The training helped staff recognize and respond to trauma, prioritize self and community care, and strengthen organizational well-being. Discussions with resettlement and Nairobi leadership identified concrete steps to further embed trauma-informed values across RefugePoint’s internal practices and program design, ensuring our organizational culture reflects the care we provide to clients.



# Family reunification upon voluntary return to Syria

In the second quarter, a RefugePoint Expert in Türkiye conducted voluntary return monitoring and interviews with 230 Syrian families, totaling 566 individuals, 273 of whom (48 percent) were children. Voluntary return is when refugees choose to go back to their home country safely and with dignity. It is considered the preferred durable solution whenever conditions allow. Unfortunately, this solution is rarely an option.

Some families had lived in Türkiye for more than a decade, and several children born there were returning to Syria for the first time. The families were eager to return home following political changes in Syria that made it possible.

Among the many stories shared by families and returnees, one stood out—a story of resilience, hope, and family unity. A 28-year-old single father arrived at the border gate with his two young children, ready to return to Syria. His goal was to reunite with his wife, who had been deported by the Turkish Migration Authority to Syria in August 2024 due to legal registration issues. On the day he and his children returned, she anxiously waited on the Syrian side to welcome them home.

For months, the father had balanced the demanding roles of caregiver and breadwinner in Türkiye, navigating the challenges of single parenthood while supporting his family. Despite the hardships, he remained steadfast in his commitment and hope for reunification.

The voluntary return process provided a clear path forward. With all necessary documentation and voluntary intent confirmed, his case was processed smoothly. His journey exemplifies the power of family unity and the human spirit's perseverance amid adversity.

As he crossed the border, he expressed joy and relief, saying he was truly excited to return home and raise his children together with his wife. His return marked not just a physical journey but the start of a new chapter for him and his family.

A RefugePoint Child Protection Expert at the Karkamış Border Gate in Kilis Province, Türkiye after the young father was able to voluntarily return to Syria.





# Finances

RefugePoint finished the first half of the year with \$6,071,197 in revenue, against \$6,464,310 in expenditures. While this reflects a small net negative revenue year-to-date, RefugePoint typically receives the majority of its revenue in Q3 and Q4 and is on track to end the year strong.

# Development

This quarter, RefugePoint welcomed donors and board members to Kenya and Uganda for special 20th Anniversary learning journeys, allowing them to experience the impact of RefugePoint’s programs firsthand.

To honor World Refugee Day, we launched ticket sales for Finding Refuge Together, our 20th Anniversary celebration of refugee resilience. The event will be held on October 14 at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston.

**Tickets are 20% off until Labor Day.**



RefugePoint donors and board members visiting Kakuma Refugee Camp to learn more about the current landscape of the refugee support system among aid cuts, and RefugePoint’s long-standing partnerships with UNHCR and peer organizations. Photo: Diana Karua

# We would like to welcome:

**Sarah Mutheu Nzioka**

MEL Manager, Field Building and Systems Change

**Robert Juma Masinde**

Senior Associate, Social Work

**Brooke Asegué**

Human Resources Director



