

LIVING IN THE UNITED STATES

LIFE SKILLS FOR BURUNDIAN REFUGEES

VOLUME 2



U.S. COMMITTEE FOR REFUGEES AND IMMIGRANTS
SUPPORTING THE SUCCESSFUL INTEGRATION OF BURUNDIAN REFUGEES

INTRODUCTION

The U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants (USCRI) provides support and resources to Burundian refugees and resettlement communities through its Supporting the Successful Integration of Burundian Refugees program. The program assists refugees and their communities in overcoming barriers to integration and self-sufficiency, and is funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Refugee Resettlement.

Through this program, USCRI works with Burundians in the United States and their service providers to produce useful orientation materials that support the adjustment and integration of Burundian refugees to their new homes and communities. USCRI released the first volume, *Living in the United States: Life Skills for Burundian Refugees, Volume 1* in 2008. The first publication addressed the following eight topics: the role of the resettlement agency, personal care, nutrition, health, adjusting to a new home, safety and emergencies, housing, and employment. The current edition, *Living in the United States: Life Skills for Burundian Refugees, Volume 2*, provides helpful information about issues the Burundian community may face after the initial resettlement period when they've become independent of the resettlement agencies that worked with them upon arrival. USCRI will release a third and final volume in 2010.

These materials are available for download in print format in both English and Kirundi on USCRI's website at www.refugees.org. They are also available in Kirundi in flash video format online. USCRI recommends that service providers using these resources also download a copy of *A Guide for Facilitators, Volume 2* to help facilitate discussions and workshops.

Please note, USCRI has adapted some of the information in Topic 5 "Parenting in the United States" from Bridging Refugee Youth & Children's Services' (BRYCS) book, *Raising Children in a New Country: An Illustrated Handbook*, available at www.brycs.org. The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) does not endorse any other topics in this series.

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Visit www.refugees.org for additional information on Burundian refugees and resources. Please contact Jessica P. Hansen, USCRI Program Officer, with questions, comments, and suggestions for future *Life Skills* topics at jhansen@uscridc.org.

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