A Sample Introduction Speech for Documentary Night Hosts

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Since President Trump took office, it's been a whole new ball game for individuals served by the United States Refugee Admissions Program (USRAP). Refugee arrivals in fiscal year 2018 have been capped at 45,000, as compared to 110,000 in 2016. The actual number of refugee arrivals is on pace to be less than 22,000 this year.

This means that the corresponding federal grants used to help refugees have decreased; forcing the ten organizations that provide on-the-ground resettlement needs to downsize. More than 20 offices across the country are preparing to shut down. Most of all, tens of thousands of displaced people who would have been on a pathway to begin new lives in America this year are instead living undocumented in the countries they fled to, returning home to war torn countries, staying in refugee camps, or entrusting their lives to human smugglers since the avenues for official resettlement have narrowed.

As a result of all this, the avenues to support refugees as a volunteer through World Relief Chicago are changing. There are not as many on-the-ground needs to be met for the crucial stages of a refugee family's first year in America (such as airport pickups, apartment set-ups, welcome packs, and Good Neighbor Teams). There are, however, two critical needs:

1) Spreading awareness to the ongoing global crisis

2) Shifting the locus of financial responsibility to support resettled refugees from the government to the people (more specifically, the family of God).

Watching a documentary together and giving financially to World Relief Chicago is a simple opportunity to address both of these critical needs. It also gives us an opportunity pray for people who have become displaced.