

## WHERE DO THE PROCEEDS GO?

100% of proceeds go directly towards programming that supports successful integration of refugees in Omaha. The federal resettlement period is a mere 90 days, with no financial safety net once that time has ended. Resettled refugees are expected to be entirely self-sufficient. Employment opportunities for newcomers are often limited due to language barriers and other extenuating circumstances. Our candle-makers earn a fair wage for their work, and thanks to Project Refuge, we are able to provide additional support to every person REC has the honor of resettling. Remaining proceeds go into a 'scholarship' fund that covers living expenses for new arrivals post 90 days. This scholarship gifts people the time needed to study English, attend cultural orientations, learn to drive, and be present as their family adjusts to a new country, climate, and community. These critical educational opportunities are provided through REC at no cost to the client thanks to community partners and caring people like you!



Refugee  
Empowerment  
Center



## INTERESTED IN SELLING PROJECT REFUGE CANDLES?

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## PROJECT REFUGE CANDLES

HAND-POURED BY RESETTLED REFUGEES



## WHO IS A REFUGEE?

A refugee is someone who has been forced to flee his or her country due to war, violence, persecution, or a well-founded fear of persecution because of their ethnicity, religion, political affiliation, or membership in a particular social group.

## REFUGEE EMPOWERMENT CENTER (REC)

REC is a refugee resettlement agency, meaning we welcome new arrivals and get them started on the path towards self-sufficiency. Our goal is to help clients maximize their potential by linking them to critical resources, increasing skills necessary for economic advancement, developing social support networks, and creating space to rekindle joy. We are witness to how their bravery, resiliency, and resourcefulness strengthens our city. We hope the bright light of your Project Refuge candle inspires you to accomplish great things in much the same way that our clients inspire us on a daily basis.

## STARTED BY WOMEN AND MADE BY WOMEN

The vision behind Project Refuge is one of female empowerment. Finding employment as a new arrival with potentially limited English proficiency is hard. It is doubly hard as a woman, since women are traditionally the main caregiver for children, less likely to have previous formal work experience, and/or limited access to formal education in their home culture. Project Refuge is a key to unlocking a resettled refugee woman's potential as a skilled American worker making viable contributions to the United States economy.

During the candle-making process, workers are increasing their employability skills via practicing English, learning marketing strategies, and getting a front row seat for America's fast-paced supply and demand economy. Each candle is hand-crafted and signed by the maker, acknowledging their individual effort and highlighting the fact that every candle is as unique as the woman who made it.

## ALL-NATURAL, LOTION CANDLES

Our hand-crafted Project Refuge candles are all natural SOY WAX lotion infused with Coconut Oil, Vitamin E, Avocado Oil, and Essential Oils.

### The Advantages of Using Wax:

- Soy wax won't detract from your home air quality as it emits less soot and burns cleaner
- Soy wax burns slower
- Soy wax is safe to rub on your skin
- 100% vegan
- Helps support soybean farmers

