

Unaccompanied Children Journey in the USA

RST Unaccompanied Children Services



Home Studies: Investigations to determine whether safe reunification between child and caregiver is possible.



Post-release Services: Education, advocacy, referrals to supportive counseling, health, and legal services for children and their families. RST provides ongoing assessment of the placement safety and stability and the child's health and well-being.



Donated Goods: Backpacks, school supplies, dictionaries, soccer balls, art supplies and other needed items are given to families.



Volunteer: Community volunteers offer their time and knowledge to support children and families.

1. Dept. of Homeland Security (DHS) Apprehension:

At the border, DHS places the child in a temporary shelter. While in the shelter, the child is fingerprinted and photographed.

3. ORR Assessment & Care:

ORR provides education, medical care, recreation, and case management. Outside agencies provide legal orientation.

5. Release:

ORR staff review sponsor applications and make release decisions: approved, denied, or referred for family reunification services. *Less than 10% receive family reunification services.

2. Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) Custody:

ORR takes over custody and relocates child to a state-licensed shelter or foster care.

4. Family Reunification Investigation:

Facility staff attempt to identify child's family and potential sponsors by collecting documents proving relationships and through interviews and background checks.





Guided by the principles of human compassion and dignity, Refugee Services of Texas welcomes refugees, immigrants, and other displaced people and supports them in integrating and thriving in their new communities.

Locations:



Clients:

- Unaccompanied Children
- Refugees
- Asylees
- Human Trafficking Survivors
- Special Immigrant Visa
- Cuban Entrants

History:

Founded in 1978, Refugee Services of Texas (RST) is a social service agency dedicated to providing services to refugees and other displaced persons fleeing persecution based on race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, and/or political opinion. RST provides services to hundreds of refugees, asylees, survivors of human trafficking and related vulnerable populations from over thirty different countries of origin each year via service centers located in Amarillo, Austin, Dallas, Fort Worth and Houston.