



Refuge Egypt
خدمة اللاجئين

2022 Annual Report



Refuge Egypt

Refuge Egypt is a humanitarian organization that seeks to serve refugees who have fled their original country of domain due to war or disaster, and who have well founded fears of return due to persecution or loss of rights. Refuge Egypt provides humanitarian assistance, spiritual guidance and encouragement to help build self-sufficiency and self-respect in preparation for repatriation, resettlement or local integration into Egyptian society.

Refuge Egypt is a ministry of the Anglican/Episcopal Diocese of Egypt with North Africa and the Horn of Africa.

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Refuge Egypt

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2022 Annual Report

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Context

Egypt is home to an estimated two to five million refugees¹. This number is comprised of 267,734 registered asylum-seekers and refugees² with the remainder being unregistered refugees or migrants from war-torn countries, all fleeing their home countries in search of a safe and secure life for their families. Although many register as asylum-seekers and later refugees, many others do not qualify and are denied. Others register with UNHCR but their cases are closed. These refugees no longer have a life in their home countries to return to and remain in Egypt with a passport or without documentation.

Refugees registered with UNHCR often reside in Egypt over a decade before being resettled in the West, and most will never be resettled. Refugees are integrated into Egyptian society but lack access to the same basic rights as their neighbors. They cluster in a handful of working-class communities across the greater Cairo area, where they rent small, poorly ventilated apartments, sometimes with multiple households living together in close quarters. Although many households come to Egypt with the expectation of receiving financial support from UNHCR, very few are granted any form of assistance due to the sheer numbers of refugees. Without legal access to work, refugees work in the informal labor market for low wages. Chronic health and nutrition issues are prevalent, and refugee children are particularly vulnerable.

Situation Update

Refugees lack the social safety nets for survival in times of crisis. That's why, when the pandemic hit in early 2020, refugees were particularly vulnerable. Many lost their jobs, at least temporarily, as employers were scared of transmission of the virus. When the country began to open up later that year, we found that the job market available to refugees had changed. The demand for employees had decreased, as employers were nervous about the economic fallout of the pandemic, increasing inflation, and spread of the virus caused by additional workers.

The war in Ukraine, steep inflation, and devaluation of the pound have created further hardship for low-income Egyptians and refugees alike. This has increased the demand on the limited services provided by non-governmental organizations, many of which are experiencing budget cuts and reduction of services.

Thanks to the generosity of our partners and donors, Refuge Egypt is proud to act as the safety net for refugees in need across greater Cairo. As we try to meet these needs, Refuge Egypt's programs are *holistic*—combating the many and varied needs of refugees together—and *responsive*. As the response to our work below shows—refugees in Egypt need all the support and encouragement we can give.

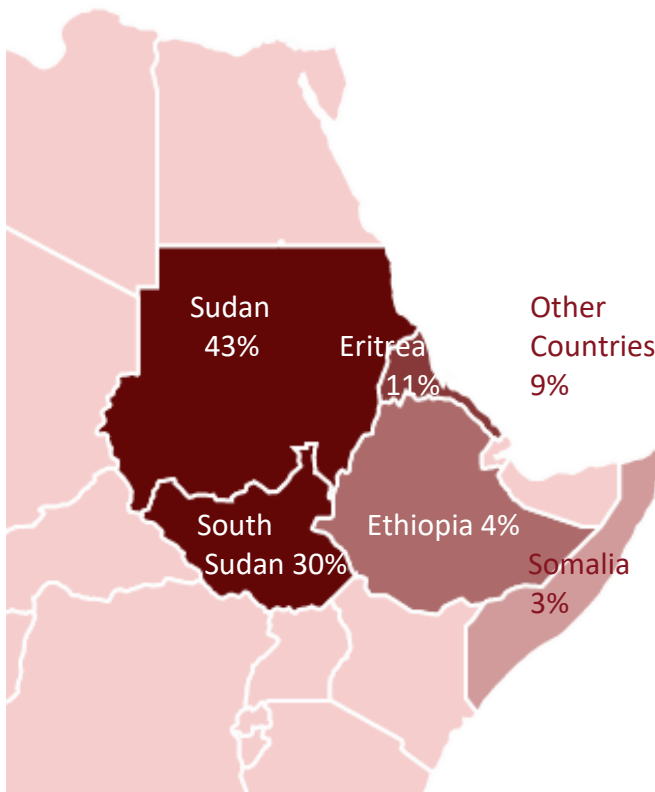
¹ Karasapan, O. (2016, 4 October). *Who are the 5 million refugees and immigrants in Egypt?* Brookings. <https://www.brookings.edu/blog/future-development/2016/10/04/who-are-the-5-million-refugees-and-immigrants-in-egypt/>

² UNHCR Egypt (2021, 31 October). *UNHCR Egypt Monthly Statistical Report*. <https://www.unhcr.org/eg/wp-content/uploads/sites/36/2021/11/Oct-Statistical-Report.pdf>



Humanitarian Assistance

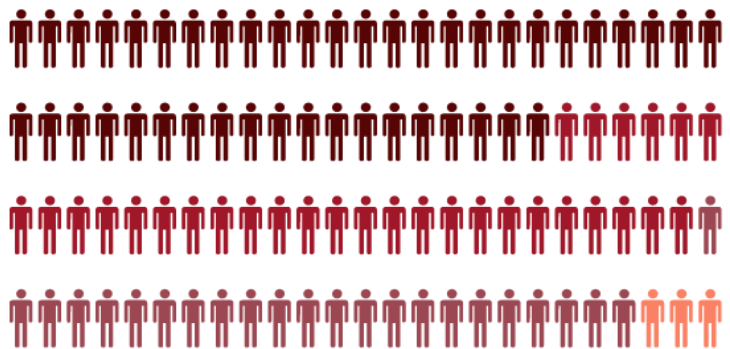
While the world’s attention has shifted to refugees fleeing the war in Ukraine, refugees from Africa and the Middle East continue to pour into Cairo seeking a safe haven. Refuge Egypt’s Humanitarian Assistance welcomes these newcomer refugees with open arms. The office provides emergency assistance to the most vulnerable households, including those facing chronic illness, disability, protection concerns, GBV survivors, and the elderly. Refugees are provided eight months of material assistance while receiving case management and working to create independence in Cairo by finding a job, receiving medical care, and enrolling their children in school.



In 2022, **1,276** new arrival households received emergency assistance.

Demographically, this year saw a decrease in the number of Sudanese receiving assistance and an increase in South Sudanese. While the largest representation was still from Sudan (**43%**), South Sudanese recipients increased to **30%**. An additional **11%** were from Eritrea, **4%** from Ethiopia, **3%** from Somali, **2%** from Yemen, **2%** from Syria, and **2%** from other countries.

The majority of our beneficiaries are families, and oftentimes the breadwinner is disabled or sick and unable to work. A number are also single-parent households or senior citizens.



■ Children (44.12%) ■ Women (29.78%) ■ Men (23.35%) ■ Senior Citizens (2.74%)

New arrivals to Cairo approach our office for screening and interview. Qualifying households receive food parcels, clothing, household items, hygiene items, and blankets for eight months while they land on their feet in their new host country. During this time, some clients also receive case management and referrals for employment opportunities and other necessary services. Cash assistance supports the case management by providing identified households with the funds needed to invest in a self-sufficient future. These cash grants paid for crucial household appliances, medical treatment, medication, or one month of childcare so the head of household can start work.

Items Distributed in 2022:



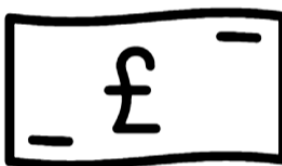
1,575

Food parcels



4,464

Articles of clothing



16,900 LE

In cash assistance



140

Blankets

Those receiving assistance are the most vulnerable refugees, with no other means of support. This program gives support and stability for these cases for the first two years in Egypt—providing a safety net while they take the first steps towards sustainability.

In their words...

A quote from Julia, from South Sudan

“When I decided to flee to Egypt, I thought I was escaping from one hell to another, but God surprised me with warmth and safety and the safety that I did not find in my country, I found here family, family not given to me by my mother, but given to me by the Lord of glory. I cry every day when I open my eyes and find that I and my children have a house, we have food, we have an identity, and we have someone who cares about us and loves us because we were never loved before.”



Education

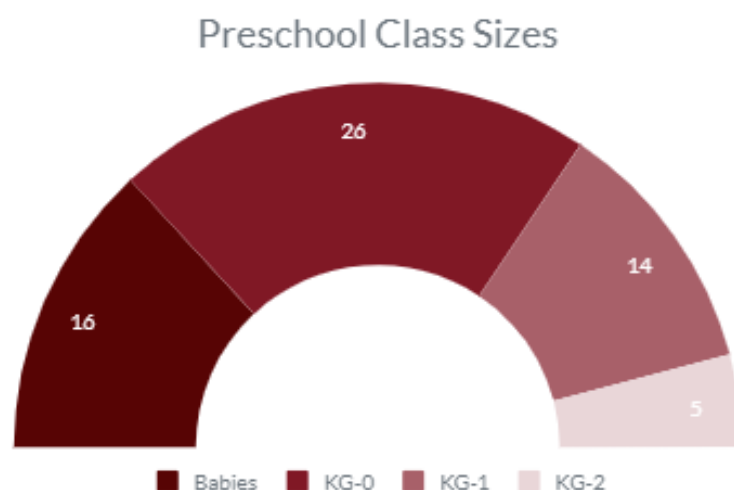
Education is the key to a successful future. Unfortunately, 48% of refugee children are out of school (UNHCR, 2023)³. This is due to a number of reasons, including lack of access, inability to pay school fees, insecurity of the region, among others. Not only does education provide the recipient with a diploma, but it also provides young people with purpose and something to work towards, and contributes to one's sense of accomplishment and dignity. Gangs, crime, and drugs are common among refugee communities, and educational opportunities keep youth off the streets and provide a means for productive activity.

From our Happy Child Preschool to the Adult Education program, Refuge Egypt provides opportunities for education to refugees of all ages, equipping them with the tools to become their best self.

Happy Child Preschool

Located in the refugee community of Maadi, Happy Child Preschool provides refugee children with a head start in their academics, establishing early literacy and numeracy before they start grade school at the age of six. The preschool also provides much needed childcare at an affordable cost, allowing mothers to work and older siblings to finish their education, rather than dropping out to take care of their younger siblings while their parents work.

Happy Child Preschool implements the Montessori Method and a gentle approach to learning. The curriculum includes math, Arabic, English and Bible. Play, arts & crafts, educational activities, puppets, singing, and outdoor recreation are also used to make learning fun and developmentally appropriate.



³ UNHCR USA (n.d.). *Education*. UNHCR. <https://www.unhcr.org/en-us/education.html>



St. Raphael Primary and Secondary School

St. Raphael Sudanese Learning Center provides a quality education to 224 Sudanese and South Sudanese children. The school teaches the Sudanese national curriculum, which allows students to sit for the national examinations and study in Egyptian universities following graduation. In addition to providing a quality education, St. Raphael provides school meals, sports days, and medical check-ups, believing in the importance of caring for the whole child, especially among young people who have experienced trauma. Teachers and staff from the same tribe as the children creates an environment where students feel a sense of belonging and safety. The school also aims to create social cohesion, in partnership with Gabriel Social Center, responding to the community's desire to combat gang activity, crime, and teen pregnancy that results when children drop out of school.



Over the past three years, St. Raphael has extended to cover secondary school, in order that students can receive their diploma and attend university or find employment. In the spring of 2022, St. Raphael graduated their first class from secondary school.

Our Student Body:



Case Study: Mohammed

Last year was the first year for the school to have Senior 3 secondary school. Mohammed is one of the students who sat for the Senior 3 examination in June. Mohammed tried for the past two years to pass the examinations at other schools he attended. He is very intelligent but he didn't have the support of his teachers at those schools to allow him to succeed on the exams. But fortunately, with the help of caring teachers at St. Raphael, he got a good result this year that will allow him to join the Faculty of Engineering at an Egyptian university. Mohammed's parents called the school, ecstatic, saying that Mohammed had tried many times to pass the exams so that his dream could come true, and they are thankful that St. Raphael helped him accomplish his dream. The teachers were also thrilled that he can now join one of the engineering schools in Egypt. Mohammed is the eldest among his brothers and sisters and now his younger brother is in Senior 3, trying to follow in his big brother's footsteps by studying hard in order to earn his secondary school certificate and study at the university. By scoring this result, Mohammed has become an inspiration for his brothers and sisters, along with the other students at the school.



St. Raphael Educational Center
Primary - Intermediate - Secondary
Nasr City - Cairo - Egypt

نتيجة امتحانات الفترة الثمانية للعام الدراسي ٢٠٢١م - ٢٠٢٢م / الصف: الثالث ابتدائي

اسم التلميذ: محمد حسين عثمان

الترتيب	معدل	التقدير	نسبة النجاح
١	٢٠	جيد	٧٧٪
٢	٢٠	جيد	٧٧٪
٣	١٥	جيد	٧٧٪
٤	١٥	جيد	٧٧٪
٥	٢٢	جيد	٧٧٪

St. Raphael Educational Center
Primary - Intermediate - Secondary
Nasr City - Cairo - Egypt

مركز القديس روفائيل التعليمي
إبتدائي - متوسط - ثانوي
مدينة نصر - القاهرة - مصر

نتيجة امتحانات الفترة الثمانية للعام الدراسي ٢٠٢١م - ٢٠٢٢م / الصف: الثالث ابتدائي

اسم التلميذة: رشا ادم موسى العلكه

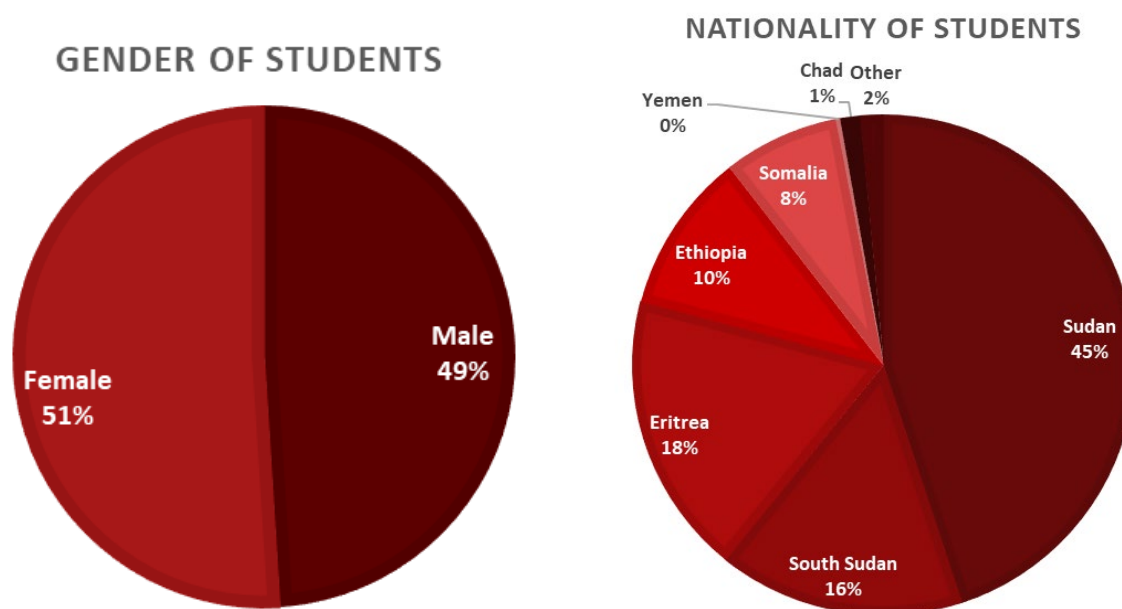
المجموع	الترتيب	معدل	التقدير	نسبة النجاح
٢٥	٢٥	٢٥	جيد	٧٧٪
٢٥	٢٥	٢٥	جيد	٧٧٪
٢٥	٢٥	٢٥	جيد	٧٧٪
٢٥	٢٥	٢٥	جيد	٧٧٪
٢٥	٢٥	٢٥	جيد	٧٧٪

Adult Education

Refuge Egypt's Adult Education Program provides refugees with the opportunity to make good use of their time waiting for resettlement in Egypt, by investing in themselves and their education. English and Arabic courses give refugees the language skills needed to survive and thrive in Cairo and upon resettlement to the West. Proficient English language skills open new doors to better employment, such as for a foreign company or as a babysitter in the home of a Western family. Approximately **23%** of our students use English in their workplace and **64%** use English in their university studies. For those resettled to Western nations, learning English while in Egypt means they can start work immediately in their new host country rather than enrolling in months of language classes.

This year, Refuge Egypt offered three terms of English language classes, averaging **230 students per term** across **8 levels** and **11 classes** per term. A total of **462 unique students** took English courses during 2022. The majority of our students are Sudanese, along with large numbers of South Sudanese and Eritrean students.

One term of Arabic classes was offered during 2022 to a total of **15 students**. Arabic literacy and Egyptian Colloquial Arabic classes give non-native speakers basic language skills for going to the market, communicating with landlords, and finding a job.



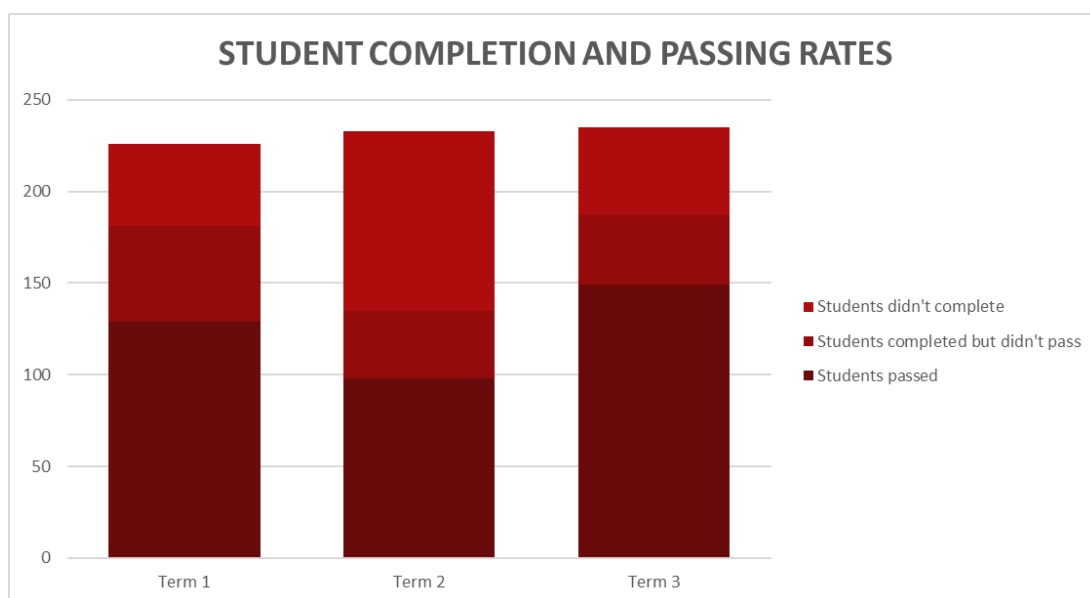
In addition to developing their skills, Adult Education classes provide a sense of community for refugees, breaking religious, gender and tribal barriers, and give students meaningful goals to work towards and a sense of empowerment.



Students study English for many reasons. In a recent survey, the most common student motivations included:

- A love of learning
- To be successful following resettlement abroad
- To study at the university
- To find a better job
- To participate in social media and the internet

This year, between 60% and 80% of students completed their course each term, and approximately 75% of students who completed the course passed to the next level.





Case Study: Zeinab

Zeinab is a female Sudanese student attending the Adult Education English Courses at Refuge Egypt in Zamalek. She's currently enrolled in Level 4. Zeinab studied Medical Laboratory Science at Khartoum University in Sudan, where the English language wasn't essential for her studies.

While living in Egypt as a refugee, a job opportunity became available in Dubai, UAE. She's doing her Pro-Metric Data Flow studies in English. "My English was very poor," said Zeinab. "I couldn't express myself nor write my C.V. But I've dramatically improved a lot since I joined this course. Now I can write and present my research, plus I'm ready and able to conduct my coming interview in the English language."

Adult Education by the Numbers:

462

Students

11

Classes per term

8

Levels

3

Terms this year



Livelihoods Project

Refugees live in Cairo for upwards of 10 or 20 years while waiting for resettlement to the West. During this time, they must create a self-sufficient life for themselves and their families. Meaningful work earning a livable wage is crucial for independence and self-reliance. Thus, the Livelihoods Project is key to realizing our vision. During 2022, **406 refugees were employed** and **552 received vocational training**.

As a UNHCR implementing partner, Refuge Egypt's Livelihoods Project serves as a Job Hub for refugees across Greater Cairo seeking employment. Refugees who visit our office are profiled in order to collect detailed information regarding their particular skills, experience, and training needs. The Office matches qualified refugees with available jobs that align with their skills and previous work experience. Those who could benefit from additional qualifications are placed in vocational training programs, either at Refuge Egypt or at partnering training centers.

Those without specialized qualifications can register for a two-week cleaning course, where they learn proper cleaning techniques and receive cultural orientation to improve communication with their Egyptian employers. After the conclusion of the two weeks, participants take a test and earn a certificate that allows them to interview with employers looking for cleaners. Refuge Egypt facilitates the interview process, signing of a contract, and mediation in the event of any conflicts that might arise throughout the employment.





Medical Services

Access to quality medical care and psychosocial support is a challenge for refugees. Preventable medical conditions, such as malnutrition, are common in refugee populations. Many simply lack the financial resources to access public health services, and refugees face a number of cultural, linguistic and bureaucratic barriers to adequate care. Refuge Egypt helps fill this gap through culturally-sensitive primary health care for refugee men, women, and children.

During 2022, Refuge Egypt operated four clinics in the greater Cairo region: Zamalek, 6th October, Arba wa Nos, and Maadi. Specialized health care is provided in the following areas:

- Antenatal care and women's health, including FGM and SGBV;
- Well Baby and Well Child Clinics for children ages 0–5;
- Malnutrition screening and treatment;
- HIV and TB testing, counselling and treatment;
- Psychosocial care, including art therapy for HIV and other stigmatized groups

Our services offer affordable, accessible care for refugees' most urgent and life-threatening issues, and provide extensive referral services, to ensure that refugees are well-served by the national clinics and services to which they are entitled.

The chart on the next page shows the total beneficiaries served in our four clinics.



Outcome	2022 Beneficiaries
Preventative and curative healthcare services for pregnant women	310 complicated pregnancies managed with full antenatal care
	213 successful deliveries of our antenatal clients
	818 supplemental food bags distributed to pregnant women
Preventative and curative healthcare services for refugee children aged 0-5	732 children aged 0-5 received preventative, curative and nutritional care at the Well Baby/Well Child Clinic
	341 malnutrition cases provided regular consultations for 7 months, supplementary food bags, and vitamin supplements
	72% malnutrition cases discharged as cured within 7 months
	522 food packages distributed to WBCC and malnutrition patients
Communicable diseases (TB and HIV/AIDS) diagnosed and treated or controlled	746 TB consultations provided
	156 TB cases diagnosed and treated
	95% of TB patients cured within 18 months
	410 refugees tested and counselled for HIV
Health Awareness Sessions to encourage good health and disease prevention	428 PLHIV received first-line ARTS treatment and nutritional supplements
	1264 individuals attended health awareness sessions
Psychosocial support for PLHIV, TB, and SGBV	106 health education seminars provided on topics including immunization, healthy pregnancy practices, nutrition, HIV/AIDS, TB, hygienic practices, COVID-19, childhood disease prevention
	289 clients screened for mental health concerns
	124 individuals received one-on-one therapy
	12 HIV support group sessions

Case Study: Takwa

Takwa is 3-year-old girl who came to our clinic after she fell from the bed on her right eyebrow. She came one week after the fall, when her parents noticed that the swelling on her eyebrow was not resolving. At first we thought it might have been a fissure or fracture that was undiagnosed, so we sent her for an X-ray which was not conclusive so the orthopedic requested a CT scan. Unfortunately, the scan showed a metastatic tumor that needed an urgent referral to an oncologist. It turned out that the trauma was a coincidence that led us to diagnose a very serious condition. She was sent to the Save the Children organization, which takes care of oncology patients and covers all their treatment.



Our Partners

This work would not be possible without the support of our international and local donors and partners. With special thanks to:

- Anglican Aid Australia
- Caritas Egypt
- Coworkers International
- Embrace the Middle East
- Handicap International
- Mennonite Central Committee
- Samaritan's Purse Canada
- St Ursula's, Berne
- UNHCR
- Worldwide Christian Churches Ministries (WCCM)

Refuge Egypt is a ministry of Episcopcare and the Anglican/Episcopal Diocese of Egypt with North Africa and the Middle East.

Refuge Egypt is a ministry of the Anglican/
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For more information on our programs and
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