



Your Non-Traditional Neighborhood Stabilization Tool: Refugees and Immigrants



Presented by

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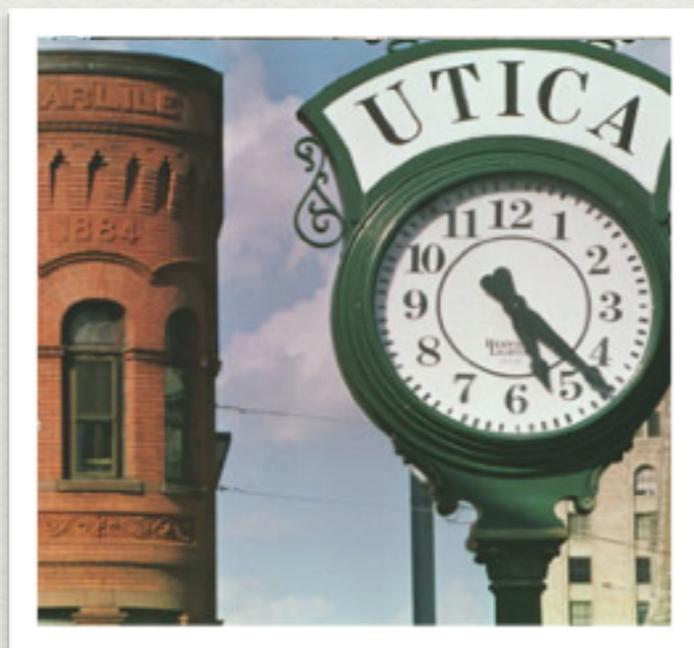
Executive Director, Compass Interpreters

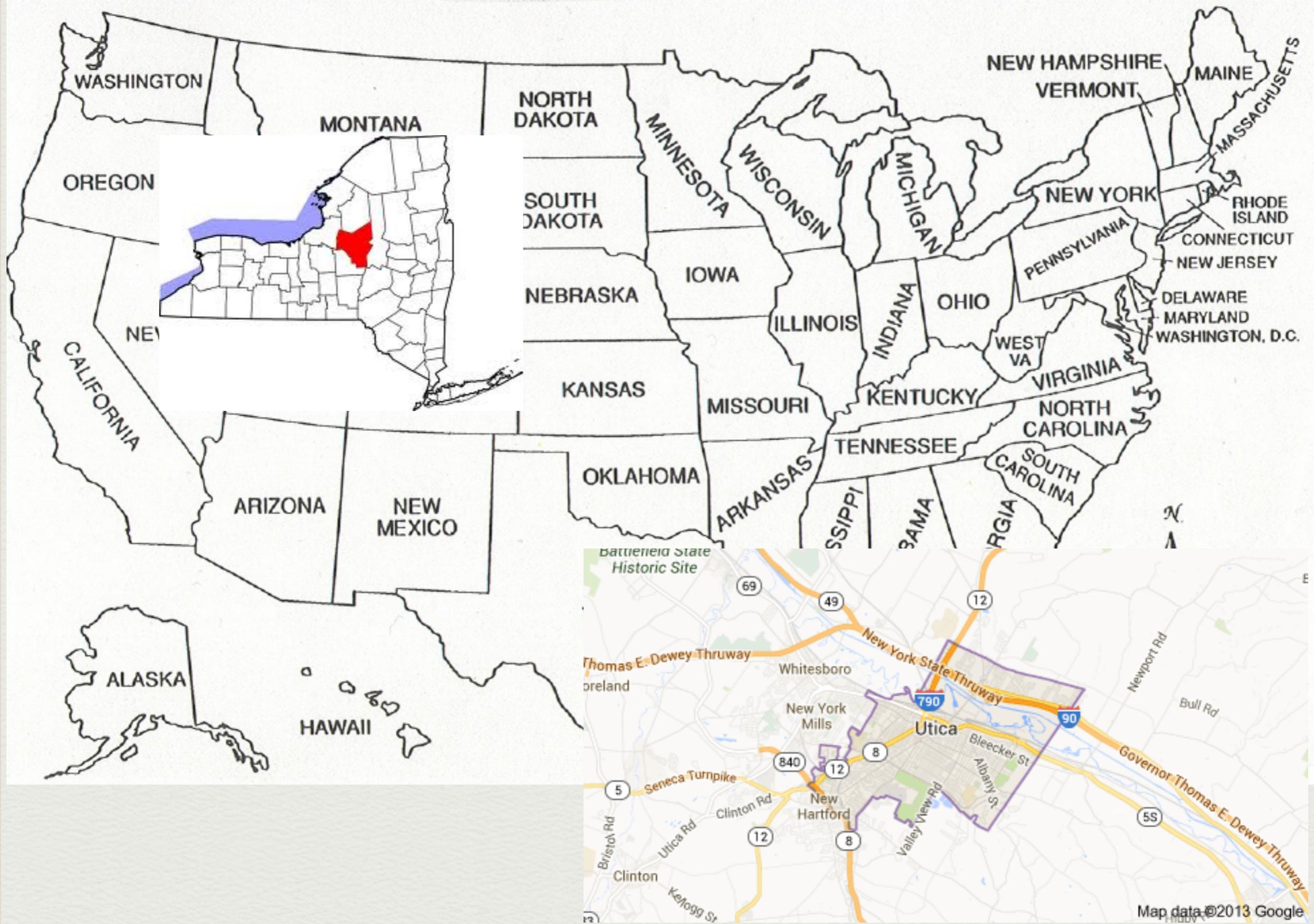
A division of the Mohawk Valley Resource Center for Refugees





Utica is a City of Migration





The foreign-born residents of Utica constitute 14.78% of the city's total population.

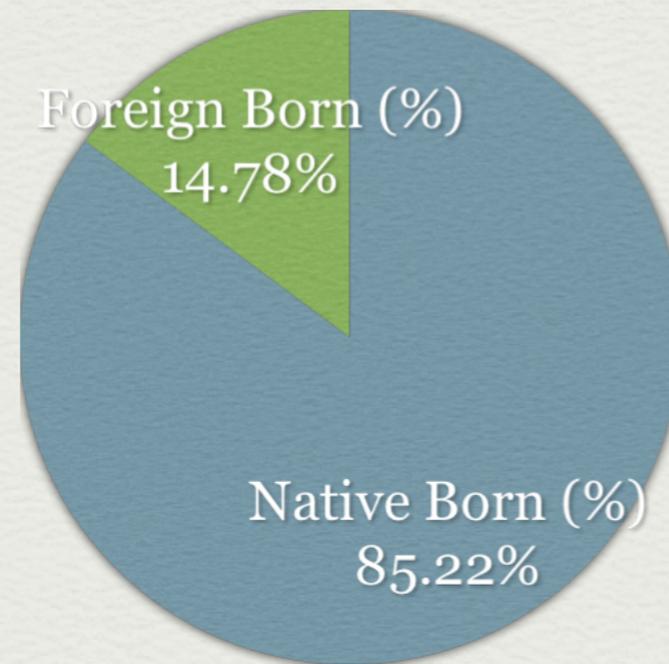
A language other than English is spoken in 23.4% of households in Utica.

Foreign Born Persons
percent, 2006-2010

New York State	21.7%
New York City	36.8%
Albany	11.6%
Utica	14.8%
Syracuse	10.3%
Rochester	8.2%
Buffalo	7.0%
Binghamton	9.7%

Language Other than English Spoken at Home
2006-2010

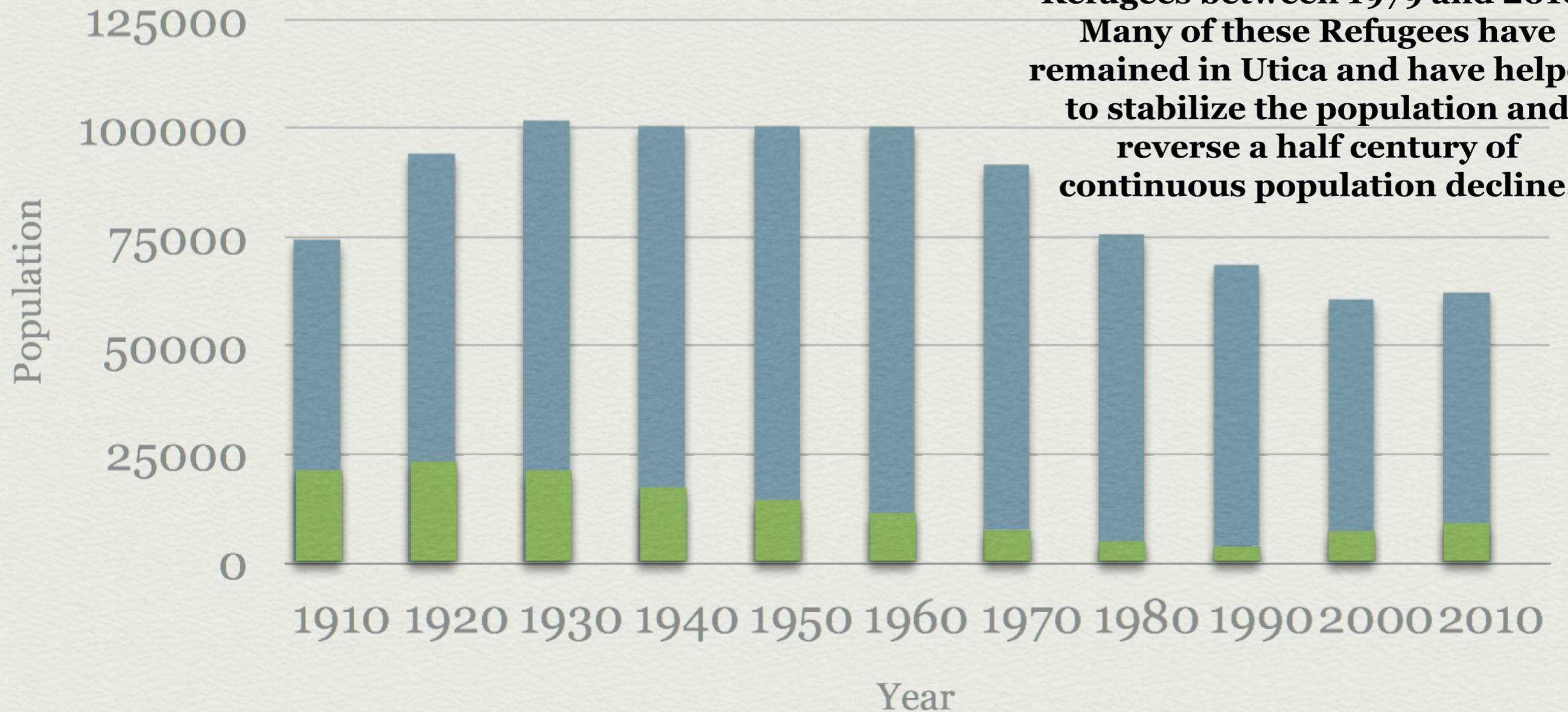
New York State	29.2%
New York City	48.3%
Albany	15.3%
Utica	23.4%
Syracuse	15.6%
Rochester	17.1%
Buffalo	13.7%
Binghamton	13.6%



Source: 2010 US Census

Source: quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states

Population Trends: Utica 1910-2010



The MVRCR resettled 13,571 Refugees between 1979 and 2010. Many of these Refugees have remained in Utica and have helped to stabilize the population and reverse a half century of continuous population decline.

The population of Utica increased from 1910 to 1930, then plateaued. Utica then experienced a sharp and continuous population decline from 100,410 in 1960 to 60,651 in 2000 due to de-industrialization.

The Mohawk Valley Resource Center for Refugees



✧ Incorporated in 1981

✧ Has resettled over 14,000 refugees to Utica.

✧ Assists refugees, immigrants and those with limited English language proficiency throughout the integration process.

✧ Provides services to assist in building community with many cultures.

✧ Critical for Universal Dissemination of Information

“...the impact of this institution cannot be overestimated... Above all it is the source of the metaphorical sign that says ‘Welcome to Utica.’”

- John Zogby,

Six Continents, One Hometown, April 2013

www.mvrccr.org



Housing

- Available
- Affordable and Suitable
- Urban Renewal Programs
- Home Ownership Centers/Programs
 - Tied to employment and training programs

Preliminary Data from Review of 2013 Properties in Utica

- Prices increase the most when the seller is the Urban Renewal Agency
 - Most Bosnians tend to buy one or two family homes – 226 out of 674 one family residences with 301 being two family residences
 - 99 out of 674 Bosnian properties were bought from the City
- Use of realtors amongst the Bosnian community is high with moderate levels in the Vietnamese and Burmese communities



- Welcoming Traditions
- Systems of Municipalities
- Access to Entrepreneurial Programs
- Business Environment



- Access to Education
(schools, training programs
and Higher Ed.)
- Connection to Faith
Communities
- Language Support
- Access for New Individuals
– universal dissemination
of information





<http://www.bosnian-ia.org>

<http://khmertempleutica.wordpress.com/category/photos/>

Community Gardens



Fire Safety –
Emergency Responders

-Leadership, partnership, and innovation is key to creating a welcoming community. -





Key Take Away's

Welcoming

Partnerships

Access



Contact Us

Trainings and Consulting
Compass Interpreters, a division of the Refugee Center

www.mvr-cr.org

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