

# ///Rapid Response



December 8, 2011

## Urgent Alert - ACT BEFORE FRIDAY TO SAVE FEDERAL FUNDING FOR REFUGEES

Please take action before **Friday, December 9**, to save federal funding for refugees! The decisions that our government makes Friday on this year's budget will affect funding for refugee resettlement for the next decade, so **now is the time to act!**

**Less than 1% of our federal budget** goes to international programs that save millions of lives each year. It's vital to remember that cuts to the State/Foreign Operations (SFOPs) account would have a **devastating effect on refugees** and other vulnerable populations, including Afghan and Iraqi Special Immigrant Visa recipients, victims of torture and trafficking, and communities across the country that welcome these populations.

The State/Foreign Operations (SFOPs) account is in danger of being cut in order to reconcile a higher budget allocation for the Department of Defense. The distribution of these cuts will be decided on Friday, December 9, so now is the critical time to take a stand for refugees. Call and write your members of Congress letting them know you do not support any proposed reduction in funding. Tell your members of Congress not to forget refugees!

**TO TAKE ACTION NOW BY CONTACTING YOUR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS by visiting the following website operated by Church World Service ....**

<https://secure2.convio.net/cws/site/Advocacy?pagename=homepage&page=SplashPage&id=297>

This message prepared by Church World Service.