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## **Get the Afghan Refugees Out and Give Them Welcome**

"Our government owes a debt of service to the Afghan people, not to mention the moral responsibility it has to help the women and children of Afghanistan who are now in imminent danger. The National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd calls on President Biden to immediately not just to welcome but to fervently work to get out those in danger," said Fran Eskin-Royer, Executive Director of the National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd (NAC).

Welcoming refugees has long been a priority for NAC, especially seeking to expand the number of refugees, regardless of faith or nationality. "Our Good Shepherd core values of individual worth, compassion, reconciliation and zeal call us to welcome and offer safe harbor," said Eskin-Royer.

"In addition, NAC has long been committed to supporting the rights and safety of women and children. In Afghanistan, we are gravely concerned with the safety of women and children, of Christians and those of other non-Muslim faiths, of local hires at the U.S. embassy and those who helped the U.S. military, and especially of women and girls who are educated or who have high profile or professional jobs," she said. "We need to get them out and give them welcome."

Women religious including the Sisters of the Good Shepherd have consistently been on the forefront accompanying and serving immigrant and refugee communities across this country. Good Shepherd Sisters remain committed to welcoming refugees who come to this country.

<u>The National Advocacy Center</u> educates and advocates on social justice issues for the transformation of society to the benefit of all people reflecting the spirituality, history and mission of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd. NAC advocates at the Federal level for people living in poverty, immigrants, survivors of human trafficking, survivors of domestic abuse, and other vulnerable populations.

The Sisters of the Good Shepherd was founded in France in 1835 and are in 70 countries on 5 continents and have had a presence in the United States for over 175 years. With a presence in 22 states and 1 U. S. Territory, the Sisters and their Lay Mission Partners have dedicated themselves to serving girls, women and families who experience poverty, exploitation, vulnerability and marginalization.