



REFUGEE CAN BE



# STUDENT CHAPTER STARTER MANUAL

2023-2024

# EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO GET STARTED

**WELCOME TO REFUGEE CAN BE!**

## **MISSION**

REFUGEE CAN BE BELIEVES EVERY REFUGEE GIRL IS A LEADER IN HER OWN RIGHT WITH HER OWN TRAIL TO BLAZE. OUR MISSION IS TO EDUCATE AND EMPOWER REFUGEE GIRLS FROM RWAMWANJA SETTLEMENT, UGANDA BY PROVIDING EDUCATIONAL, LIVELIHOOD, AND LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES TO REALIZE THEIR HIGHEST SELVES AND THEIR FULL POTENTIAL FOR GREATNESS.

REFUGEE CAN BE PROVIDES REFUGEE GIRLS THE OPPORTUNITY TO BLOSSOM INTO LEADERS THROUGH WRAP-AROUND ACADEMIC AND LEADERSHIP IMMERSION DESIGNED TO MEET A REFUGEE GIRLS' FULL SPECTRUM OF NEEDS. THROUGH SPECIALIZED SECONDARY EDUCATION, SOCIAL ENTERPRISE AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT IN A CAMPUS SETTING, WE PROVIDE PATHWAYS FOR REFUGEE GIRLS TO PURSUE THEIR DREAMS WHILE BENEFITING THE ECONOMIES OF THEIR HOST COUNTRIES AND BEYOND.

## **VISION**

**REFUGEE CAN BE** IS BOTH A DECLARATION *AND* AN ASPIRATION.

THE HEART OF OUR WORK IS TO EMPOWER REFUGEE GIRLS TO KNOW, CELEBRATE AND EXPRESS THEIR INHERENT PROMISE.

## **SCOPE**

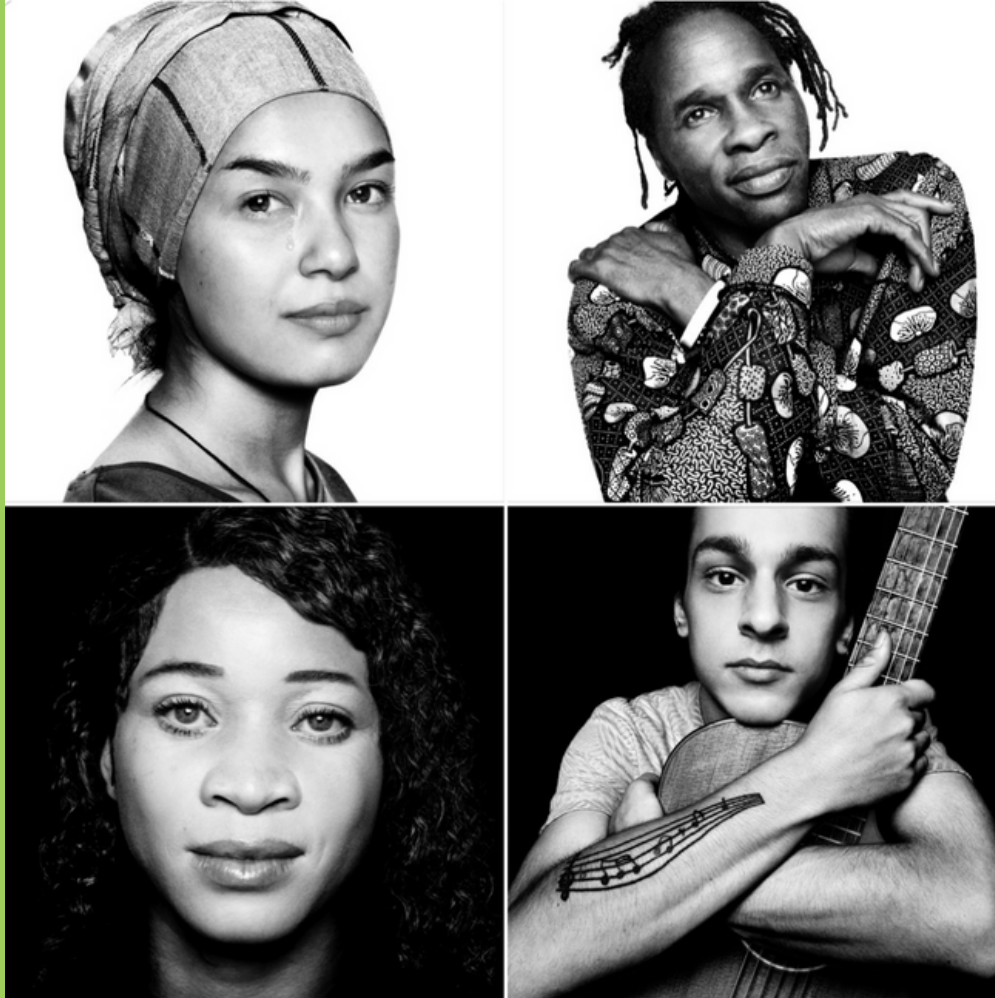
REFUGEE CAN BE WILL OPERATE A WRAP-AROUND CAMPUS IN FORT PORTAL, UGANDA WITH A SPECIAL FOCUS ON SECONDARY EDUCATION FOR ACADEMICALLY GIFTED REFUGEE GIRLS REFERRED FROM THE RWAMWANJA REFUGEE SETTLEMENT IN WESTERN UGANDA.

CURRENTLY HOST TO MORE THAN 70,000 PEOPLE, INCLUDING WOMEN, GIRLS AND CHILDREN AT RISK, AND INDIVIDUALS WITH SEVERE MEDICAL AND PSYCHOSOCIAL ISSUES, OPPORTUNITIES FOR GIRLS' EDUCATION IN RWAMWANJA ARE SCARCE. SCAFFOLDS OF SUPPORT ARE DESPERATELY NEEDED TO ELEVATE REFUGEE GIRLS TO ACHIEVE THEIR DREAMS. WE ARE COMMITTED TO LONG-TERM, WRAP-AROUND SOLUTIONS TO EQUIP REFUGEE GIRLS WITH BOTH SKILLS TO STRENGTHEN THEIR HOST COUNTRY'S ECONOMY AND BUILD FULFILLING LIVES.

REFUGEE GIRLS ARE AT THE CROSS-SECTION OF SEVERAL HIGHLY VULNERABLE RISKS: THEY ARE ADOLESCENTS FROM DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, THEY ARE SURVIVORS OF MULTIPLE TRAUMAS, THEY ARE REFUGEES, AND THEY SOMETIMES LIVING WITHOUT FAMILIES. THE RISK FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THESE POPULATIONS INTERFERES WITH A YOUNG WOMEN'S TRAJECTORY TOWARD ACHIEVING HER FULL POTENTIAL. THESE FACTORS COMBINED RESULT IN DAUNTING BARRIERS TOWARD ACHIEVING SELF-AGENCY AND HAPPINESS, WHICH IS WHAT EVERY ADOLESCENT GIRL DESERVES.

REFUGEE CAN BE DEVELOPED ITS HOLISTIC PROGRAMMATIC MODEL TO ENSURE THAT REFUGEE GIRLS HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO ACCESS THEIR HUMAN RIGHTS, OBTAIN AN EDUCATION, EXPERIENCE ECONOMIC SUCCESS AND BECOME LEADERS IN THEIR OWN COMMUNITIES.

# **6 STEPS TO STARTING A REFUGEE CAN BE STUDENT CHAPTER**



- 1. REGISTER YOUR CHAPTER**
- 2. GET CONNECTED ON SOCIAL**
- 3. ESTABLISH YOUR GROUP**
- 4. SCHEDULE YOUR FIRST MEETING**
- 5. SET LEADERSHIP ROLES**
- 6. SET SIMPLE GOALS FOR THE YEAR**



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## **1 REGISTER YOUR CHAPTER**

Click [here](#) (insert google groups link) to register your group. Your chapter number will be assigned in sequence of national registrations. Your submission will register your group into the RCB database. Once registered, you will receive 1. A Chapter Number and 2. a link to a complimentary online course to orient you to the global refugee crisis titled, “Beyond Borders: Exploring Forced Migration.” We want to make sure you are prepared to speak to the issue and as informed as possible and we ask all Chapter Leaders to complete this course.

## **2. GET CONNECTED ON SOCIAL**

Follow Refugee Can Be on Facebook, Insta, and LinkedIn and form your own online chapter page on the social outlet of your choice. Create a googlegroups email for your Chapter with the method “RCBStuChap(insert assigned chapter #)@googlegroups.org.

## **3. BUILD YOUR CHAPTER**

Reach out to your sphere of influence to find people interested in refugee issues and activism. Ask professors and teachers to announce the group, especially those who teach related courses. Ask your friends and classmates to join you, and promote the group by putting up posters, creating and sending messages to email lists, and using social media (we will send you logo and RCB graphics, which will help grab attention). One of the best ways to inspire others is to share what why you became inspired by RCB why you’re motivated to get involved.

## **4. SCHEDULE YOUR FIRST MEETING**

Pick a date, reserve a space, and start promoting! Your first meeting is your opportunity to tell as many people as possible why you care about forced migration, why you chose to be a group leader with Refugee Can Be, and to motivate them to join you in our mission to educate refugee girls. This meeting should be at a time that works for a large number of people on campus and should introduce people to Refugee Can Be, the issues we work on, and how their involvement can make a difference.

## 5. SET LEADERSHIP GOALS

Find other students who care about refugee issues, human rights, gender equity, international development, girls' education, and invite them to attend your first meeting. Then together, discuss what leadership looks like for your unique group. Collectively create a plan for sharing leadership including others from the start, with a commitment to a lens of diversity and shared leadership. Looking for leadership qualities in others will not only help you succeed this year, it will also ensure that your legacy lasts and your group and continues long after you graduate. Think of this as part of your legacy!

## 6. SET SIMPLE GOALS FOR THE YEAR

What is your vision for the refugee rights movement on your campus? In your community? Throughout the world? If you're strategic about mapping out your year, you can make that vision a reality. We encourage you to be creative.

Plan two awareness raising events in your community or on your campus and two fundraisers, **four events/activities total for the school year**. These events should align with international human rights days and be paced throughout the academic year. Dates we recommend include:

- International Day of the Girl Child, Oct. 11th
- International Human Rights Day, Dec. 10th
- 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence, (Dec. 10th to 26th)
- International Women's Day, March 8th

Plan out the school year's events then set ambitious but achievable goals for

1. Number in attendance and
2. Collective funds raised over the course of the year. How much would you like to raise and how are you going to do it?







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## ***ACTION IDEAS & INSPO***

- Class or School T-Shirts branded with RCB logo. Sell them for \$100 a piece limited editions
- Dorm Decorating Contest
- Community Serve-A-Thon
- Hug Booth
- Karaoke
- Give it Up: Ask your members to give up (arguably) modern luxuries for a week or a month: coffee, eating out, going out for drinks, an afternoon candy bar, weekend movie nights, and donate toward a raise goal instead.
- Organize 5k, 10k or half marathon as a chapter
- Winter holiday concert
- Iceskating or sledding event
- Host a day long fit-fest, Yogathon, Zumbathon
- Resale fashion show
- Gaming Tournament
- Trivia Night
- Cookbook
- SmashRoom
- Old School Chain
- Fundraising Letters
- Chapter member virtual Birthday fundraisers
- Celebrity fundraiser
- Flashmob
- Your ideas!



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**REFUGEE CAN BE CORE VALUES**

**(SWAHILI) UWEZO: POTENTIAL; ENDOWED WITH ENERGY;  
INFLUENTIAL.**

**REFUGEE CAN BE BELIEVES IN THE POTENTIAL AND  
PROMISE OF EVERY REFUGEE GIRL.**

**THANK YOU! LET US KNOW HOW WE CAN BE OF SUPPORT.**

**[WWW.REFUGEECANBE.ORG](http://WWW.REFUGEECANBE.ORG)**

**\*PHOTOS COURTESY OF PLATON AND TIFF GRAVEL PHOTOGRAPHY\***