



# Refugee Juvenile Justice Advocate

The Heartland Family Service **Refugee Juvenile Justice Advocate** acts as a **family partner** that addresses Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) in Douglas County. This program provides assistance to refugee parents and their child in order to help them understand the procedures of the juvenile justice system and complete the requirements of diversion or probation. Our advocates are effective at working with refugees from the continents of Asia and Africa, and speak the languages of the most common refugees living in Omaha: Arabic, Burmese, Dinka, Karen, Karenni, Maimai, Nepali, Nuer, Somali, and Swahili.

## How it Works

*As a family partner, the advocate will:*

- Help families understand the juvenile justice system.
- Explain to the juvenile and parents their roles and responsibilities while on probation or diversion.
- Conduct home visits to support parents' efforts to participate in all requirements of the program.
- Help the family arrange appointments, and attend meetings and court hearings, if needed.
- Assist probation and diversion in effectively communicating and working with refugee families.

**Contact:** Elizabeth Ajongo  
(402) 457-7793 or  
EAjongo@HeartlandFamilyService.org

*Funding provided by Douglas County Aid, Nebraska State Probation, and the Nebraska Crime Commission in collaboration with the Juvenile Assessment Center.*



2.17

### North Office

6720 N. 30th Street, Omaha, NE 68112  
PH: (402) 451-6244 | FX: (402) 455-1064  
info@HeartlandFamilyService.org  
HeartlandFamilyService.org

HEARTLAND  
**family Service**  
Good works.