

- Catholic Charities Maine will not publicize airport arrivals of any clients from Afghanistan.
- Catholic Charities Maine will not coordinate media interviews with new client arrivals from Afghanistan during the initial 90 day resettlement period.

These policies are in keeping with our standard protocol for welcoming refugees and maintaining client confidentiality.

Please recognize that our responsibility is to provide a safe resettlement experience. Many of the persons we resettle have experienced trauma and still have family remaining in Afghanistan whose safety may be jeopardized by a family member speaking out or appearing on camera/in print. With the Internet, media stories are no longer just local, but can have global reach and implications.

It is not our intention to limit media coverage of what we believe is an important and critical role our Agency plays in welcoming a vulnerable population and aiding in a humanitarian crisis. Our Refugee & Immigration Services staff remain available for interviews to answer any questions and share updates on this evolving story.