



Ukraine Response as a Lesson for the Next Crisis



Laura Gold, Clinical Manager
Victoria Koren, Settlement Worker



Agenda

- Who are we? What do we do?
- What happened?
- Milestones in Ukraine Response
- What's Next?
 - What defines a crisis?
 - Resource allocation
- Discussion, Q&A, Planning

Who Are We?

JIAS History

- 100 years
- Rooted in the Jewish value to "**Love the Stranger**"



JIAS Mission

To welcome, support, and integrate new immigrants

and refugees to build a **vibrant Jewish community** and a **strong, diverse Canada** that values all newcomers.



What do we do?

- LINC
- Settlement Services and Programs
- PSR (Private Sponsorship of Refugees)
- Community Engagement
- Volunteerism



Ukraine Crisis Milestones & Response

Outreach & Information dissemination abroad

Data Collection

Unexpected Partnerships/Collaboration

Custom Programs

Rapid increase in resources



Dissemination of Information



HELP COMING TO CANADA

ukraine@jiastoronto.org

+1-437-232-5981 (WhatsApp)

jiastoronto.org/ukraine-crisis-update

<https://t.me/JIASCanadaUkraineDopomoga> (Telegram)



CANADA-UKRAINE AUTHORIZATION FOR EMERGENCY TRAVEL

There is Canada-Ukraine Authorization for Emergency Travel for individuals fleeing Ukraine. All Ukrainian nationals will be permitted to apply. Those approved will be able to remain in Canada for up to 3 years. Individuals will be eligible for open work permits which will enable legal work in Canada.

SPECIAL FAMILY REUNIFICATION SPONSORSHIP STREAM

Canada is creating a sponsorship stream for immediate and extended family members of Canadian citizens and permanent residents to gain permanent residence in Canada.

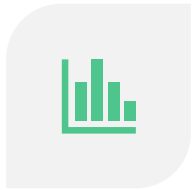
JIAS (JEWISH IMMIGRANT AID SERVICE)

JIAS is a Jewish community agency located in Toronto, Canada that is supported by the Canadian Government. JIAS provides free immigration and settlement support for anyone moving to Canada. For information from JIAS and the Canadian government visit jiastoronto.org/ukraine-crisis-update

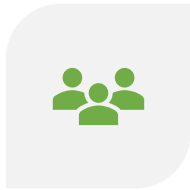
Data Collection



DATA

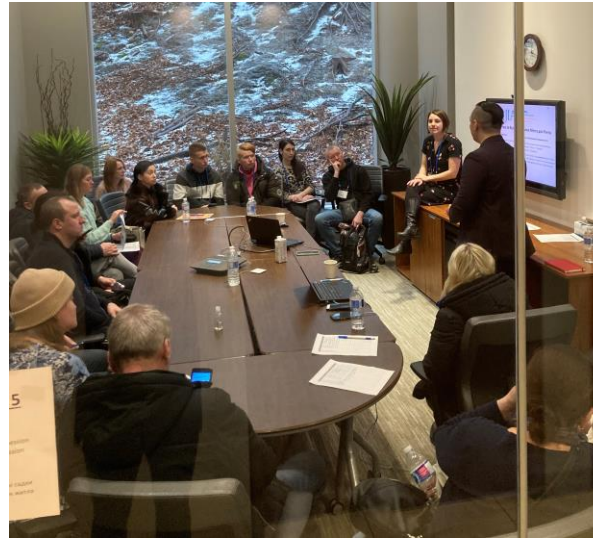


ASSUMPTIONS

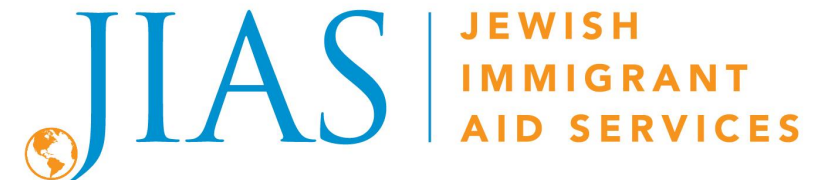


RESOURCE
ALLOCATION

Partnerships and Collaboration



Partnerships and Collaboration



Programs



jiastoronto.org/events/month/

JIAS JEWISH IMMIGRANT AID SERVICES

Donate Contact Language

About Services & Programs Helpful Information News & Events Get Involved Crisis Response

Search for events Find Events Month

< > This Month March 2023

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
27 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm Mental Wellness Program to Cope with Stress and Resettlement (Dari) 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm	28 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm Applying for Permanent Residency (PR) through Express Entry 7:30 pm - 8:00 pm Volunteer Training	1 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm English Conversation Circle - Winter '23 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm English Conversation Circle - Winter '23	2 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm Reading Club - Winter '23 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm Support Group for Jewish parents of Teens	3	4	5 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm Mini School for Yazidi Refugees

<https://jiastoronto.org/events/month/>



Valeria's Story



Growth

Significant growth of staff, volunteers, capacity



JIAS Staff in Purim costume 2019



JIAS Staff in Purim costume 2023

Crisis Response as a Concept



- ✓ Global dynamics necessarily impact settlement work/sector
- ✓ What defines a crisis?
- ✓ Identifying "crisis" vs. "operations" vs. "risk management"

Identify the situation or issue

Crisis

- Sudden, unplanned
- Quick impact
- Can lead to organizational instability

Risk Management

- Identify, assess, control threats
- Many “threats” can be predicted
- Insurance considerations

Operational

- Key activities in the organization
- Can experience expansion or extraction under different circumstances

Lessons Learned

- ✓ Agility, risk taking & funding sources
- ✓ Data as a planning tool
- ✓ Project management to revisit assumptions and direct planning
- ✓ Support systems in place





SKILLS . JOBS . CAREERS

Refugee Post Employment Coaching: An Effective Model for Refugee Long-term Integration

Presented by JVS Boston, May 8, 2023

Abby Ferland & Kelly Tessitore



JVS Boston History & Scale of Refugee Services

JVS Boston's history and founding purpose are focused on serving **refugees** and **immigrants**.



1938

JVS was founded during the Great Depression to assist Jewish **immigrants** struggling to enter the American workforce and support their families.



Post WWII

JVS assisted **refugees** from across Europe and helped defense workers re-integrate back into the civilian workforce.



1950s and 1960s

JVS provided services to Jewish **refugees** from Hungary and Cuba and began providing training and employment services to individuals with disabilities.



1970s

JVS began to build a reputation for high-quality English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) classes, by serving newly re-settled Soviet **immigrants**, and war **refugees** from Vietnam.



1980s and 1990s

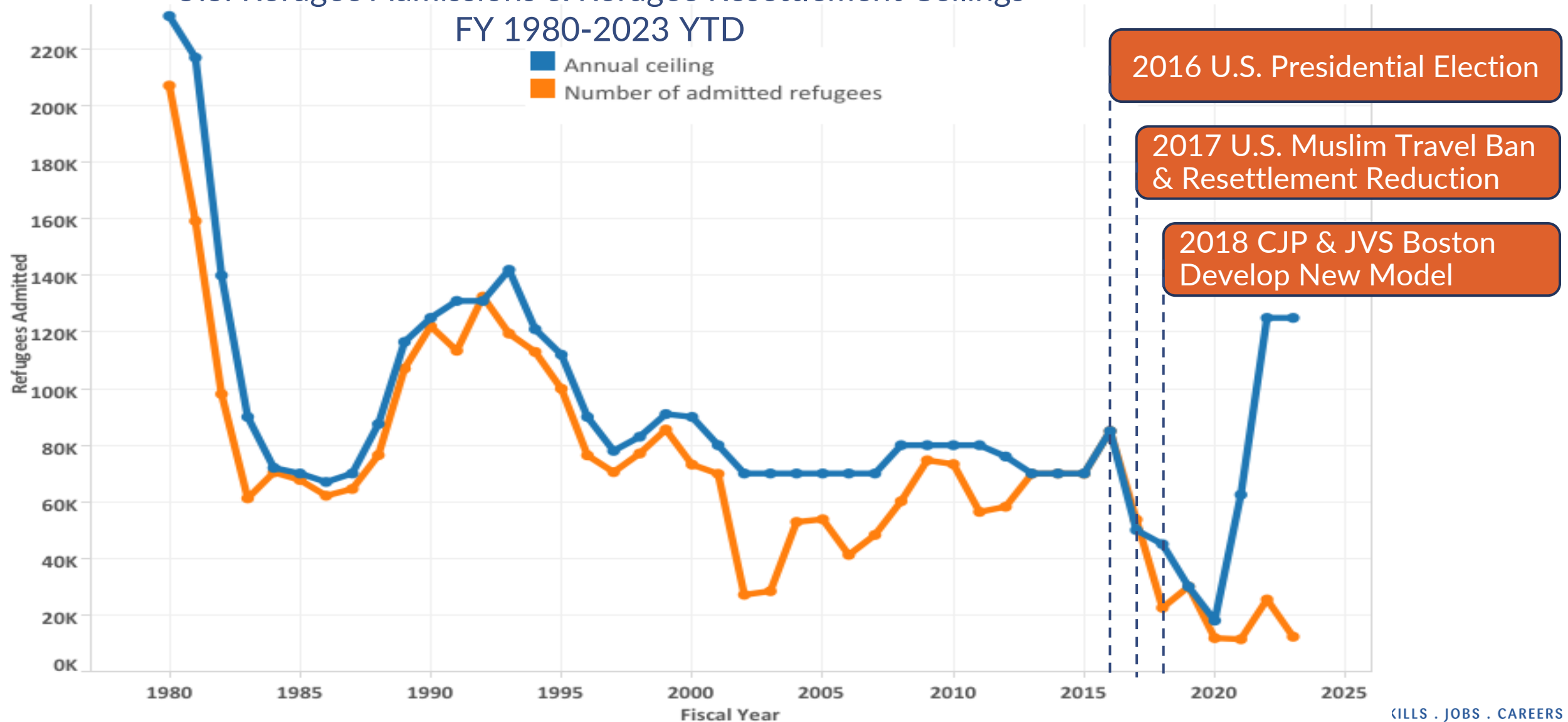
JVS expanded services to **immigrants** and **refugees** from more than 25 nations, and individuals with education, skills, and employment challenges from the broader- and Jewish communities.

Today, JVS Boston refugee services has 28 staff serving 750 **refugees** and **immigrants** with related status each year.



Boston Responds to 2017 Shift in Refugee Policy

U.S. Refugee Admissions & Refugee Resettlement Ceilings
FY 1980-2023 YTD



Features and Flaws of US Refugee Resettlement Model

1ST Year Expectations:

Rapid Employment

Financial independence

Self-sufficiency

Reality:

Placed at bottom of labor market

Jobs are not sustainable

Lack of upward mobility

Low long-term job retention

What is missing:

Longer term support

Career advancement programming

Focus on quality jobs

"While ORR-funded organizations help refugees secure **high employment rates early** on after arriving in the United States, they often take **low-wage survival jobs** that are easy to lose or that are undesirable to keep in the long-term. Once Refugees leave these jobs, it is **hard for them to find another**, better one. This is in large part because there are so few organizations offering employment services to refugees after the employment support of ORR-funded organizations comes to an end..."

Kreisberg, de Graauw, and Gleeson
"Explaining Refugee Employment Declines:
Structural Shortcomings in Federal Resettlement Support"

JVS Refugee Post-Employment Services

JVS Services

1:1 Career
Coaching

Interview
Preparation

Resume Writing

Job Development

Training Program
Referrals

Education Referrals

Barrier Removal



Education
Skills Training
Better Jobs

1021
Next-Step
Outcomes

571
Job Placements

264
Skills Training

186
Education

+64%
Avg Weekly Earnings

\$18.34
Avg Best Wage

72%
Of clients placed
worked full time

77%
Of clients placed were
offered benefits

307
Unemployed clients
placed in jobs

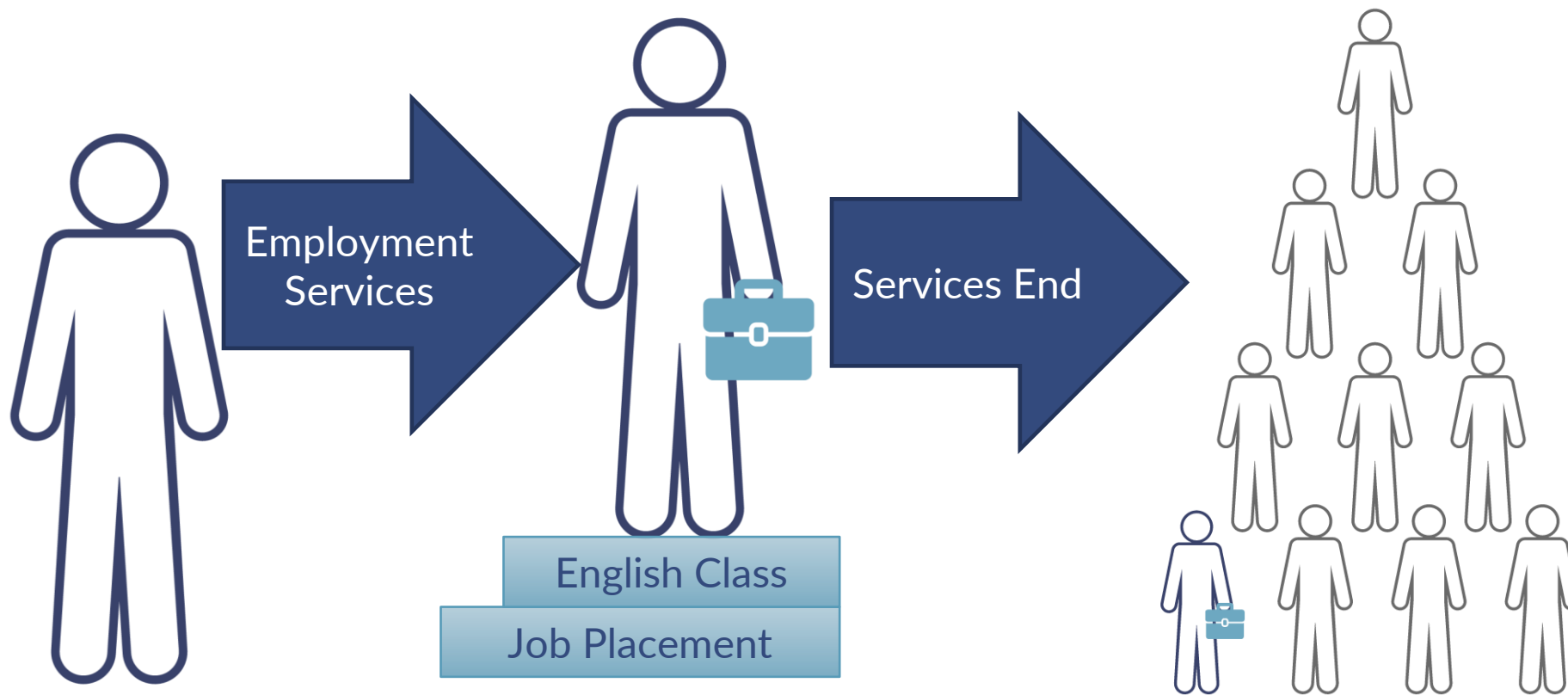
Success Story: Valeria's Journey



“I have overcome many barriers since I first came to the US, and I am grateful for the support of JVS. While the journey has not been easy, I can confidently say that I have achieved my dream of providing a better life for myself and my children.”

Expanding Post-Employment Services

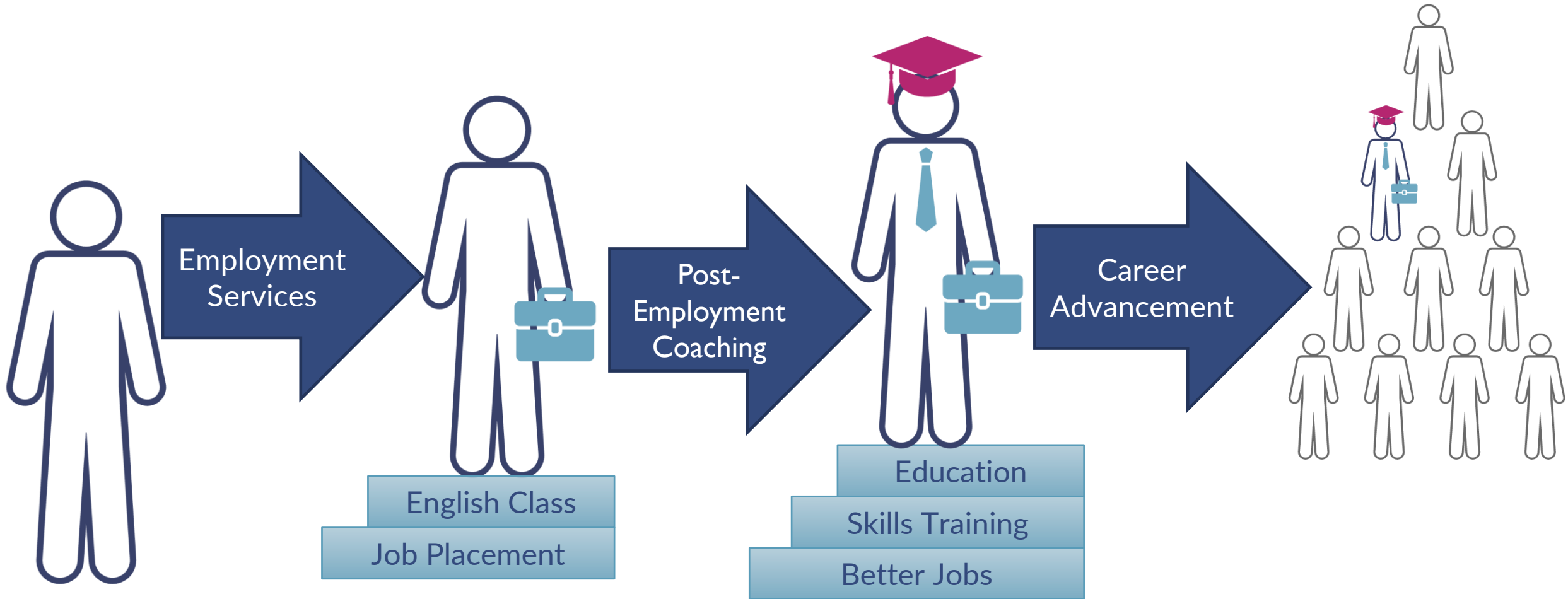
Traditional Model



Expanding Post-Employment Services

Initial JVS Program

Post-Employment Services



The Opportunity to Improve Refugee Resettlement



The Jewish community has driven the history of U.S. refugee resettlement for over a century.

Our Jewish communities continue to lead the response today.

Our systems have room for improvement.

Welcoming the Stranger

