Quick Facts About Refugees in Dallas

* Worldwide, there are over 65.3 million people displaced from their homes who fall into one of three categories:
  + 40.8 million are internally displaced- they’ve been forced to flee their homes, but not their country.
  + 21.3 million are refugees- they were forced to flee their country of origin in search of safety. To receive refugee protection, they have to prove that they could not find refuge within their homeland and that the authorities in their country either could not or would not protect them. Over half of refugees are under the age of 18.
  + 3.2 million are asylum-seekers- they are seeking international protection and their claim for refugee status has not yet been determined.
* Less than 1% of those displaced people are resettled into countries like the U.S. The most preferable solution is for the family to return to their country if and when it is safe to do so. The second is to become a resident in the country where they’ve sought refuge. In 2015, 107,000 people were resettled globally
  + Of those, 66,500 were resettled in the U.S (60% of the global total).
  + Texas received 11% of that total (7,479).
  + The Dallas-Fort Worth area receives more refugees than any other city in the U.S. (approximately 2,700 in 2015). Reasons include low cost of living, stronger overall economy, and our public transit system.
* In 2016, the US welcomed nearly 85,000 refugees. Roughly 72% of those refugees were women and children.
* The war in Syria produced 4.9 million registered refugees by the end of 2015, more than from any other country.
* Refugees in the US arrive via the heavily vetted U.S. Refugee Admissions Program (USRAP).
* US refugees are thoroughly vetted by a slew of US government agencies, including the State Dept, Dept of Homeland Security, FBI, Dept of Defense, and Dept of Health and Human Services in a process lasting 18-24 months.
* No traveler to the United States is subject to more rigorous security screening than the refugees the U.S. Government considers for admission.
* Since the inception of the USRAP in 1980, NONE of the over 3 million refugees welcomed in the U.S. have carried out terrorist attacks against us.

Sources:   
U.S. Department of State, Refugee Admissions Program: <https://www.state.gov/j/prm/ra/admissions/index.htm>

International Association for Refugees: <http://iafr.org/downloads/Refugee%20Realities%20FAQ%20v201606%20US%20Letter.pdf>

UNHCR, The UN Refugees Agency: <http://www.unhcr.org/en-us/figures-at-a-glance.html>