

“Building Bridges: A Literacy and Educational Program for Refugee Families in Wichita, Kansas.”

Project Abstract:

It is estimated that more than half of school-age refugee children are out of school. Once in school, not enough students have the necessary literacy skills to be successful in the upper-primary grades due to the lack of classroom support and the children’s lack of background knowledge. The goal of our project is to teach adults English and to support children's language and literacy skills in both their home language and in English. In addition, this project aims to provide initial evidence applying the use of existing evidence-based language-literacy strategies we know to be effective in traditional U.S. education settings to refugee families from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) or other African countries. Currently, limited research is available regarding supporting family literacy skills in the refugee population in the United States. This project will provide emerging evidence for educational professionals and policy makers. (135 words)

<https://www.wichita.edu/research/cetarl/index.php>