

ORAM “Adopt-A-Refugee” Speaking Tour Planned for Fall

ORAM – Organization for Refuge, Asylum & Migration has unveiled a signature program in response to the urgent need expressed by the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) community and its supporters to alleviate the plight of LGBT refugees trapped in transit countries after fleeing persecution.

The “Adopt-A-Refugee” program invites communities, congregations and other institutions to partner with ORAM in “adopting” one or more at-risk refugees. Institutions would commit to raise \$5,000 through individual contributions from members over the course of a year. Funds raised will provide free legal representation to these LGBTs as well as advocacy and public education on their behalf.

ORAM will provide regular updates to the institution’s leadership regarding their adopted refugees’ condition and progress, as well as on the general conditions affecting LGBTs in the adoptee’s countries of origin and transit. Membership will be updated on how their adoptee is faring during the entire process.

ORAM plans to launch the program by sending representatives to institutions in major North American cities for speaking engagements. Community centers and congregations are among the venues ORAM will include on the tour.

The presentations will include discussion of the silent plight of LGBT refugees. Thousands escape their countries each year. They flee imminent execution by their governments or harassment from hostile societies or their own families which would kill them in the name of honor.

The LGBTs arrive in “transit” countries with few personal possessions and fewer resources to fend for their survival during their long quest for freedom. Many languish there, falling into destitution and desperate poverty. Sadly, most never make it to freedom.

To find out how your community group can adopt its own refugee and provide assistance to someone in need during the long trek to safety, click [here](#).