

PURPOSE

We believe that collecting, documenting, and publishing the individual stories of young Manitobans from war-affected and refugee backgrounds will provide invaluable insights as to the variety of needs and experiences of learners from such backgrounds in Manitoba's schools. While there is some helpful and valuable research and information available in educational literature and from other jurisdictions, the specific information and insights gained from interviewing Manitoban students about their experiences in Manitoba will be invaluable. A list of [resources](#) is provided in the appendices section of this document. Some of these resources feature the stories or profiles of youth and adults from refugee and war-affected backgrounds.

Although the principal objectives of this document are multifaceted, they can be summarized as follows:

- To help make refugee and war-affected learners more visible by providing a venue for their voices to be heard through the sharing of their stories, life and school experiences, needs, challenges, successes, and aspirations
- To introduce educators and the general community to some of the young new Canadians from refugee and war-affected backgrounds who have immigrated to Manitoba and have entered our schools
- To obtain insights about resiliency and what works and what doesn't in terms of educational supports and programming from these learners who experienced a range of school supports from EAL classrooms and teacher support, to newcomer support centres as well as after-school and summer school programming

- To strengthen programming and school supports by providing educators and schools with a set of learner case studies for professional learning and school planning purposes



© E.Hockstein/UNHCR. December 20, 2008. The three camps at Dadaab, which were designed for 90,000 people, now have a population of about 350,000 Somali civilians, making it one of the world's largest and most congested refugee sites. Children play in Ifo camp as the sun goes down. <<https://www.flickr.com/photos/unhcr/3287252875/>>. Used with permission. All rights reserved.