REPORT TO SUPPORTERS
APRIL 2011
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We want to share with you a report on all that IRAP has accomplished with your help. The US drawdown of troops in Iraq may give the impression that the Iraqi refugee crisis has come to an end. But the estimated two million Iraqis who remain displaced by the war and its aftermath do not yet have the option of going home.

The war in Iraq and the subsequent sectarian violence forced thousands of Iraqis to flee for their lives. Unable to return home, they are refugees in several Mideast nations, often living in poverty and despair. Many of these people assisted the US in its efforts in Iraq. Now, as the US draws down military forces, thousands of Iraqis who worked with us are being laid off and may find themselves at risk. Unrest in the Middle East is exacerbating an already tenuous situation, as many Iraqis find themselves forced to flee their countries of first asylum. And that unrest is simultaneously creating hundreds of thousands of new refugees.

While the US owes a special obligation to Iraqis who have been displaced since 2003, IRAP’s model works to benefit any refugee in the world seeking resettlement in the US. Because US law is based on a system of precedents, any time IRAP wins an individual case on behalf of an Iraqi refugee, that case can be used to assist anyone in a similar situation from Nepal, Somalia or Colombia. IRAP has already expanded its focus to work on refugee cases from Afghanistan, Sudan and Burundi. It is our hope that beginning with Iraqis, a system of rights can be built into US refugee processing procedures that will benefit the hundreds of thousands of stateless people around the world who seek refuge here.

The Iraqi Refugee Assistance Project began as an entirely volunteer effort with no overhead. We operated on grants and in-kind donations. This is the first year IRAP has had an operating budget ($76,000). Yet we’ve had some amazing accomplishments and we want to provide a summary of them along with a glimpse of some of the people we’ve helped.

The United States has a long and positive history of welcoming refugees from turmoil and strife around the world. We cannot afford to risk creating a new stateless mass of refugees in the Middle East. We need to prove we will protect our friends in the Middle East rather than contribute to further destabilization of the region. The current unrest throughout the Arab world makes it doubly important that we live up to these long held values.

The Iraqi Refugee Assistance Project has made important strides in improving the processing of refugees that will serve the nation well going forward. With your help, we can do even more.

Thank you.

Becca Heller
Executive Director,
Iraqi Refugee Assistance Project
IRAP is a program of The Urban Justice Center.
WHAT IRAP DOES... AND WHY

WE WORK IN THREE MAJOR AREAS TO HELP IRAQI REFUGEES:

- We provide legal representation to refugee families and individuals seeking resettlement.
- We work with government agencies to improve the refugee resettlement process.
- We provide non-financial support to refugees resettled in America.
The war in Iraq and subsequent sectarian violence forced millions of Iraqis to flee for their lives. These families, women, men and children need help and hope for a new future.

Many are mixed Sunni Shiite families, members of persecuted minorities or survivors of sexual slavery and domestic violence. Others assisted US soldiers, media and aid organizations.

Some are in dire need of medical attention.

Unable to return home, they are stranded in several Mideast nations, often living in poverty and despair.

Resettlement is difficult and slow, leaving too many in mortal danger and vulnerable to recruitment by violent extremists.
“Many of the interpreters I worked with in Afghanistan couldn’t tell anyone outside of their immediate families about their work with US forces for fear of retribution from Taliban or other insurgent groups. These brave men risked their lives to make my work possible, and I am eternally grateful to them.

So when I got an e-mail from one of them asking for my help to get his US visa application reviewed, I scoured the Internet for groups that would provide the legal support he needed to get his affairs in order to navigate the bureaucratic review process.

Iraqi Refugee Assistance Project (IRAP) has offered that help for my interpreter, as well as any other hard-working Afghans who were having similar application issues. As a result of their efforts, they are helping to make the dreams of a man I formed tight bonds with in combat, a reality.”

–Captain Evan R. Johnson
United States Marine Corps Reserve
PROVIDING LEGAL ADVOCACY FOR IRAQI REFUGEES

IRAP organizes law students and volunteer attorneys to provide legal representation for Iraqis seeking refuge. We help Iraqi families navigate the rules and processes of resettlement in the West, where they will be safe from danger and persecution.

- IRAP law students and volunteer attorneys have taken on more than 200 Iraqi refugee cases.
- More than 400 Iraqis have been successfully resettled in the United States, Australia, Canada, Ireland, Sweden and Germany as a result of IRAP’s work.

CREATING A REVOLUTION IN US REFUGEE LAW

Under US law, anyone, citizen or not, who has a claim being adjudicated by a US government agency has the right to be represented by counsel at no expense to the government, and to certain procedural protections to guarantee that the decision is fair, and the decision-making process transparent.

But refugees are not allowed to have a lawyer or advocate present at their interviews, despite frequent allegations of mistakes or mistreatment of applicants. The decision to admit or deny a refugee’s application to the US is totally discretionary, and made by an official with little legal background or oversight. Refugees receive almost no information about why they are denied, and there is no formal appeals process.

IRAP seeks to revolutionize the US Refugee Admissions Program by establishing these basic protections in the refugee context through a combination of individual legal representation, administrative advocacy and public impact litigation. In doing so, IRAP is literally creating a new area of law, with enforceable human rights that would benefit hundreds of thousands of applicants to the US Refugee Admissions Program from around the world.

The procedures for resettlement are hard to access, difficult to navigate and too slow for the most vulnerable.

- Refugees left without hope of a better future can become susceptible to poverty, disease, despair and recruitment by violent extremists.
- Extending a hand to refugees gives Iraqi and other Middle Eastern people a more favorable view of the US.
A GROUNDBREAKING PSYCHIATRIC-LEGAL PROGRAM FOR REFUGEES

Many refugees suffer from the effects of trauma and mental illness, particularly Post Traumatic Stress Disorder in reaction to the violence and persecution that caused them to flee. Yet, refugee processing involves at least four two-hour long interviews, during which applicants are interrogated to prove these incidents happened. If they fail to remember a fact, confuse a date, or appear inconsistent, they face likely rejection.

To address trauma and mental illness related credibility problems for its clients, IRAP has launched a groundbreaking pilot program, partnering with a forensic psychiatrist to provide expert witness testimony in refugee proceedings. In January of 2011, Dr. Maya Prabhu of Yale Medical School accompanied IRAP to the Middle East, and conducted forensic evaluations of nine IRAP clients.

This is the first time anyone has attempted to introduce psychiatric evidence into US refugee resettlement proceedings, or used expert witnesses to support overseas refugees suffering from PTSD or mental illness. IRAP is currently applying for funding to expand the pilot and make these services more widely available.

WORKING TO MAKE THE REFUGEE PROCESS MORE TRANSPARENT AND EFFICIENT

- At the request of the National Security Council and the White House, and on behalf of NGO and legal communities, IRAP drafted recommendations on necessary reforms to the Special Immigrant Visa process for Iraqi interpreters. We've also been invited to speak at two briefings on this issue at the White House.

- IRAP is working to secure expedited processing for vulnerable groups of Iraqis, including LGBT Iraqis, women who are victims of sexual slavery, children with medical emergencies and religious minorities at imminent risk of death or torture. We've successfully set precedents for expedited processing in several critical cases.

- We obtained more than 5,000 pages of declassified documents about refugee processing through Freedom of Information Act litigation.

- IRAP is working to create a transparent, accountable appeals process, leveraging individual case advocacy to push for systemic reforms. Successes so far include numerous precedential cases, getting alterations to rejection letters to include the actual reason for rejection, and helping to establish a right to counsel in the appeals and Special Immigrant Visa processes.
PROVIDING NON-FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO IRAQIS RESETTLED IN AMERICA

Iraqi Americans have been making positive contributions in US for decades. Now newly resettled Iraqi families and individuals need help adapting to life in the US.

- The majority of IRAP's clients have a college education, and many have advanced technical training as well.
- Parents seek jobs matching their training to take care of their families and be productive.
- They enroll their children in school and college to prepare for adulthood as Iraqi Americans.

IRAP works to prepare their clients for arrival in the U.S., by ensuring they have adequate information about their rights and benefits, securing free, high quality medical treatment for clients with urgent health issues, and matching clients from sexual and religious minority groups with supportive U.S. communities.

Community groups, nonprofits and local government agencies also assist resettled families and individuals locally. IRAP law students also work with local community groups and non profits whose job it is to support resettled families in their area.

CREATING ONLINE HOTLINE AND WIKI FOR RESETTLED IRAQI REFUGEES

In November of 2010, IRAP launched the Refugee Roadmap, an online hotline and Wiki for Iraqi refugees who have been resettled to the US. The website can be found at http://refugeeroadmap.org/.

Refugee Roadmap accepts online inquiries from Iraqi refugees with questions about life in the US, then refers the questions to a network of over 70 volunteer researchers and experts. Answers are organized into a library and posted online, and comments and responses are organized and posted along with FAQ's. Refugee Roadmap is the creation of Naseer Nouri, an Iraqi refugee, and two of his American friends, Alexandra Moller and Theresa Gheen.
Mohammed’s Story

Mohammed was 12 years old and had less than a year to live when he his father first made contact with an IRAP summer intern in Jordan. He suffered from a rare form of spina bifida that had already paralyzed him from the waist down. If left untreated, it would kill him within months as his spine compressed, ultimately crushing his lungs.

Doctors told Mohammed that the only way to save his life was a series of complicated surgeries that were not available in Jordan.

Students from IRAP’s chapter at NYU were determined to help Mohammed. They contacted hospitals and foundations around the United States, and eventually were able to arrange for Mohammed to have surgery free of charge at Boston Children’s Help, with the support of the Ray Tye Medical Aid Foundation and the House of Peace. They prepared and filed an emergency application to the US Department of State for Mohammed to be granted temporary entry on humanitarian grounds. Although these types of applications are rarely granted, Mohammed’s was approved.

Mohammed and his mother came to the United States in late August of 2010, and remained in Boston while Mohammed had a series of successful surgeries. The family is now reunited and Mohammed is out of danger.
HOW IRAP DOES WHAT IT DOES

LOGISTICS:

- IRAP works with 19 of the **TOP U.S. LAW FIRMS**

- IRAP has 270 participating **LAW STUDENTS AND SUPERVISING ATTORNEYS**

- IRAP has **CHAPTERS AT NINE LAW SCHOOLS**:
  Yale, NYU, Columbia, U.C. Berkeley, U.C. Irvine, U. Penn, Duke, Stanford and the University of Jordan with three more chapters awaiting final university approval

- IRAP receives case **REFERRALS FROM 22 ORGANIZATIONS** in the Middle East, including the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

RESULTS:
IRAP has taken **OVER 200 CASES** from Iraq, Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, Egypt, Sudan, Afghanistan, the United Arab Emirates, Turkey and Thailand.

IRAP has **SUCCESSFULLY RESETTLED** more than **400 PEOPLE** in the United States, Australia, Canada, Ireland, Sweden and Germany.

IRAP has leveraged a total budget of **$76,000** to deliver **$2,400,000** in pro bono legal services.
ESTABLISHING JORDAN’S FIRST CLINICAL LEGAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

Since 2009, IRAP students and professors have been traveling to Jordan to conduct trainings for University of Jordan Law School students and professors on clinical legal education, refugee advocacy and human rights law. This work has now culminated in the first clinical legal education program in the Kingdom of Jordan, which will graduate its first class of students in June, 2011.

Ninety students applied for only 12 slots in the program, slated to enter its fourth semester in the fall, when the students will be able to start receiving academic credit for their work. University of Jordan law students assist IRAP by conducting intake screening interviews, doing follow up work and document collection with clients, and advocating on IRAP clients’ behalf with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

BUILDING AN INTERNATIONAL NETWORK

Global law firms, law schools, NGO’s, and Iraqi community leaders identify and advocate for families in urgent need of resettlement. We receive case referrals from a wide variety of groups, including:

- The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
- Save the Children
- The Center for Victims of Torture
- Human Rights First
- Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society
- Heartland Alliance
- Legal aid organizations in Jordan, Egypt and Lebanon
- Dozens of U.S. service-members and veterans
- Over 50 Iraqi activists and religious leaders
Ban’s Story

In October, 2010, dozens of Christians were massacred at a church in Central Baghdad followed by months of targeted killings of Assyrian, Chaldean and other Christian minorities.

A woman named Ban and her husband were forced to take their two young daughters and go into hiding. Every day brought news of more deaths among Ban’s friends and family members, along with new threats against Ban and her family. Ban’s priest was killed, and the compound of the Assyrian Democratic Movement was bombed twice while she was inside. Ban was a prominent activist for the rights of Assyrian Christians and religious minorities and the Secretary of the Assyrian Women’s Union in Iraq. Although her parents and siblings were resettled as refugees in the United States in the years following the invasion, Ban and her husband elected to ignore the threats from extremists and stay in Iraq to continue fighting for human rights.

Ban qualified for priority resettlement to the United States because of her work with USAID, but processing inside Iraq would take at least six months, and possibly as long as two years.

IRAP worked with Ban, the US Embassy in Baghdad and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) to evacuate Ban and her family to Jordan, where they could safely apply for resettlement to the US. Three weeks after IRAP received the case referral, Ban and her family were safely living in an apartment in Amman. IRAP students were able to visit them in January of 2011, by which time IRAP had already submitted Ban’s application for refugee status to IOM and gotten it fast-tracked for processing.
Iraqi Refugees: An Ongoing Humanitarian Crisis

Eight years after the US invasion, Iraq remains a nation in crisis. It is one of the most dangerous places on earth, with dozens of car bombs, suicide attacks, and sectarian assassinations taking place each week.

Now, with the ongoing withdrawal of US forces, the displacement crisis that began in 2003 has once again spiraled out of control. Resources devoted to Iraqi refugee populations are steadily diminishing and huge numbers of Iraqis once employed by the US military are losing their jobs.

Already, the number of Iraqis employed by US forces has plummeted from 44,000 in January 2009 to 10,500 this December. According to The New York Times, this massive decrease in employment has generated profound political, economic, and security concerns, including massive unemployment and targeted assassinations of individuals perceived as “collaborators” with the Americans. “Few have been able to take advantage of American programs to relocate endangered Iraqi allies,” noted the Times, “discouraged by long waiting lists and tangled rules for applying.” These are precisely the sorts of people whom IRAP helps find safe passage and new beginnings.

Anyone who questions the ongoing nature of Iraq’s human rights crisis need only look at the U.N.’s most recent data. In its survey conducted this fall, 61 percent of Iraqi refugees who had returned to Baghdad said they regretted coming back, most saying they did not feel safe. Refugee applications in Syria have risen more than 50 percent since May, 2010.

As this exodus continues, Iraq has become a forgotten war, and international resources available to refugees have dwindled.

IRAP is committed to representing the needs of this vulnerable population – saving the lives of Iraqis threatened by the withdrawal of US forces, guiding our persecuted allies to safe passage in the West, and creating a durable human rights infrastructure and, in the process, creating a durable human rights that can be applied to future refugee crises.
Imagine What IRAP Could Do with More

We've done a lot of good with almost no money, leveraging a total of $76,000 to deliver $2.4 million in pro bono legal services to work on more than 200 cases and resettle 400 refugees.

IRAP hopes to grow its programming in the coming year to create a permanent legal aid office in Jordan, an on-the-ground clinical legal program in Iraq, and an international legal advocacy network for refugees around the world.

Specifically, in 2011-2012 IRAP is working to:

- Provide free high quality legal representation to 450 cases, representing over $5 million in pro bono legal services.
- Resettle at least 1,000 refugees from urgent humanitarian situations.
- Have chapters at 16 law schools, including one in Jordan, one in Iraq, one in Canada, one in Australia and at least 12 in the United States.
- Have more than 450 participating law students and supervising attorneys.
- Create a permanent pipeline for emergency medical evacuations of Iraqi refugee children, and secure funded or donated surgical procedures.
- Create a permanent pipeline to allow the placement of child refugee victims of sexual slavery from Iraq into comprehensive re-entry programs in the US.
- Establish a second Middle East legal clinic at the University of Basra Law School in Iraq.
- Publish a comprehensive treatise establishing refugee law as a new, legitimate area of legal representation, advocacy and scholarship in the US.
- Expand its pilot forensic psychiatry program to provide expert witness testimony in 30 cases, with psychiatrists working out of three medical schools affiliated with IRAP chapters.
- Provide legal representation to 60 non-Iraqi clients to apply the IRAP model to urgent humanitarian situations around the globe, utilizing lawyers in the international offices of US based law firms partnering with IRAP.
Additional financial resources would help IRAP become sustainable at a time when the Mideast refugee situation threatens to become much worse. If IRAP had more money, it could help many more refugees. We would:

- Hire a staff attorney to respond to case inquiries, manage the intake procedure and maintain quality control.
- Hire a development director to free the executive director to lead vision and organizational development not related to funding.
- Hire permanent staff in Syria, Jordan and Lebanon.
- Hire a second staff attorney to coordinate systemic policy reform work and double our caseload.
- Hire a paralegal to do data management and ensure the security of institutional information.
- Expand our forensic psychiatry pilot program to other chapters and have the forensic psychiatrists available for some treatment for clients with trauma.

Thousands more refugees from Iraq need IRAP’s help. And they may soon be joined by other innocent families from the region.
NORA’S STORY

Nora faced an impossible choice: abandon her young daughter to fend for herself in a country where she had no citizenship, no family, no rights and could not legally work. Or Nora’s daughter could return to Iraq where she feared she would be killed. Nora and her family were Iraqi refugees living in a neighboring country, like most of IRAP’s clients.

Nora had been a loyal and valuable interpreter for the US military in Iraq before numerous threats against herself and her children forced her to flee Iraq. Based on her work, Nora had applied for a Special Immigrant Visa for herself, her husband, and her two daughters.

Her petition had been approved, but US Citizenship and Immigration Services had taken two years to get around to her application. By that time, her older daughter had turned 21 and USCIS told Nora that she would have to leave her daughter behind because she had reached adulthood.
Nora reached out to IRAP for help. IRAP submitted a legal claim to the Department of State, arguing that under the Child Status Protection Act, the US could not penalize Nora and her daughter simply because it took over two years to adjudicate her application. After several conversations with the Office of the Legal Advisor at State, the government agreed with IRAP’s interpretation of the law, and permitted Nora’s daughter to remain on the visa application with her family.

IRAP law students and volunteer attorneys do what they do because of people like Nora and her daughter.
Our Board

Mike Breen
Vice President of the Truman National Security Project; former U.S. Army Captain

Michael Breen is the Vice-President of the Truman National Security Project and a former U.S. Army Captain in Field Artillery and Military Intelligence. Mike served with an infantry company in Iraq, led a platoon of paratroopers in Afghanistan, conducted training and advisory missions in Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan, and served on a 2-Star level Joint Staff in Europe. During his time in Iraq, he spent a year as the “mayor” of two Baghdad neighborhoods of 300,000 people, working closely with local Iraqi leaders on reconstruction and social services projects. After leaving the military, Mike joined Pyramid Communications, a progressive Seattle strategic communications firm that serves organizations of all sizes working to create positive change. He has served as a law clerk in the Office of White House Counsel and as a consultant to the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia, a special panel of international judges presiding over the trials of the Khmer Rouge leadership. Mike was one of the founding policy directors of IRAP as a student at Yale Law School.

Salem Chalabi

Salem Chalabi was born in Baghdad, Iraq, in 1963. He graduated with a B.A. from Yale College in 1985, with a Master’s in International Affairs from Columbia University in 1987, and a Juris Doctor from Northwestern University School of Law in 1993. He is a member of the New York Bar.

Mr. Chalabi practiced law in the New York office of Morgan, Lewis and Bockius until 1997, when he moved to London to practice law with Clifford Chance. He now practices law in the Dubai office of DIA Piper, leading its Iraqi Practice.

In 2002, Mr. Chalabi worked with the U.S. Departments of State and Defense to addressing post-transition matters in Iraq. In 2003, Mr. Chalabi became a deputy member of the Iraqi Governing Council and a member of the Legal and Finance Committees. He was involved in drafting many law and orders during the period 2003-2004. In 2004, he was one of two Iraqis who drafted the interim constitution, known as the Transitional Administrative Law. In 2004 he also established the Iraqi Special Tribunal, in which he served as Executive Director.

Walt Cooper
West Point Asst. Professor; U.S. Army Major

Major Walt Cooper is an assistant professor in West Point’s Department of Social Sciences and a Ph.D. candidate in political science at Harvard University. Walt graduated first in his class at West Point in 1999 and was commissioned as an infantry officer. After graduation, he spent two years at Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar. Later, Walt commanded a U.S. Army Special Forces detachment during two tours to Iraq. Forging close-knit collaboration with Iraqi security forces, provincial leadership, and international partners, Walt’s team was cited by General David Petraeus in Congressional testimony as the template for a new operational concept later adopted throughout the theater. Walt subsequently served as a speech writer for General Petraeus at the U.S. Central Command. He will return to the operational army in 2012.
Tamara Daghistani

*Humanitarian Aid Director, Iraqi Business Council; Founding Member, Iraqi National Congress*

Tamara Daghistani comes from a long line of Iraqi civil servants and human rights leaders. Her father was the deputy chief of staff of the army when the monarchy fell, and was the first from the monarchy government to be tried and sentenced to death by the new regime, although his sentence was later commuted. After the Baathist regime came to power in 1969, the young son of her neighbors was taken away and killed by the new government, and she became an outspoken opponent of the state-sponsored violence. She was eventually forced to flee Iraq for the United Kingdom, where she helped found the Iraqi National Congress. She returned to the Middle East shortly thereafter, where she began running an international aid network to assist Iraqi refugee children suffering from chronic and fatal diseases. She currently divides her time between Iraq and Jordan, and is the director of the Human Rights section of the Iraqi Business Council.

Owen Fiss

*Sterling Professor of Law, Yale Law School; Director of Middle East Legal Studies Seminar*

Owen Fiss is Sterling Professor of Law at Yale University. He was educated at Dartmouth, Oxford, and Harvard. He clerked for Thurgood Marshall (when Marshall was a judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit) and later for Justice William J. Brennan, Jr. He also served in the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice. Before coming to Yale, Professor Fiss taught at the University of Chicago. At Yale he teaches procedure, legal theory, and constitutional law and is the author of many articles and books on these subjects, including more recently, Troubled Beginnings of the Modern State, Liberalism Divided, The Irony of Free Speech, A Community of Equals, A Way Out/America’s Ghettos and the Legacy of Racism, Adjudication and its Alternatives (with Judith Resnik), and The Law as it Could Be. Professor Fiss also directs extensive Law School programs in Latin America and the Middle East.

Carrie Grimm

*Pro Bono Administrator, Clearly, Gottlieb, Steen & Hamilton LLP*

Carrie Grimm, an expert in developing successful pro bono legal programs and partnerships, is the Pro Bono Administrator at the law firm Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP. Carrie facilitates the pro bono practice at the firm, which totals between 38,000 and 44,000 lawyer hours annually. The pro bono practice at Cleary Gottlieb includes every area of public interest law including filing asylum claims, representing indigent criminal defendants, assisting not-for-profit’s with compliance issues, developing risk assessments for micro-finance institutions, drafting wills for indigent seniors, representing families in adoptions, and negotiating leases for arts organizations. She has been honored by: Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts, Sanctuary for Families, MFY Legal Services Inc., Legal Services NYC and the Legal Aid Society of New York. Prior to joining Cleary Gottlieb in 2002, Carrie was the Program Director at the Alliance of American and Russian Women, a not-for-profit fostering women-led business development and developing ties between Russian and American businesswomen. She has also worked on program development at
the American Counsel of Teachers of Russian and at Special Olympic International's Moscow office. Carrie is a graduate of New York University’s Wagner School of Public Service, holding a MPA in International Policy and Development, with an BA in International Service and Development from the New School of California’s World College Institute.

Chibli Mallat  
**Presidential Professor of Law, University of Utah; EU Jean Monnet Chair of European Law at Saint Joseph’s University in Lebanon**

Chibli Mallat is Presidential Professor of Law and Professor of Middle Eastern Law and Politics at the University of Utah. He also holds the EU Jean Monnet Chair of European Law at Saint Joseph’s University in Lebanon. Professor Mallat is a human rights lawyer and has been involved in the non-violent democratic movement in the Middle East for the past twenty years, during which he helped organize a wide oppositional movement to the rule of Saddam Hussein in Iraq. Since 2003 he has been working with Iraqis on the establishment of the rule of law in the country, and was between 2008 and 2010 the Senior Legal Advisor to the University of Utah’s Global Justice Project: Iraq (www.gjpi.org) in Baghdad. He is the author of several publications on Iraq, including The Renewal of Islamic Law: Muhammad Baqer as-Sadr, Najaf and the Shi‘i International (Cambridge UP, 2003), Iraq: Guide to Law and Policy (Aspen, 2009) and Dalil al-Dustur al-Iraqi (Guide to the Iraqi Constitution, Baghdad 2009).

Elissa Mittman  
**Assc. Vice President, Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS)**

Elissa Mittman, Esq. is the Associate Vice President for U.S. and International Programs at HIAS and a member of several national working groups that address refugee and asylum policies. Prior to her current position, she was the National Immigration Director for the International Rescue Committee, as well as employed by the U.S. government and several other refugee non-governmental organizations. She regularly lectures on refugee, immigration, and Iraq issues, and is admitted to the New York Bar.

John Rodefeld  
**Managing Director, Barclay’s Capital**

John Rodefeld is a Managing Director within the Operations Division at Barclays Capital where he manages staff in NY, London, Singapore, Tokyo, Mexico, and Brazil. He joined the firm in January 1999. Prior to that, John was a Senior Vice President at Salomon Brothers Inc where he had worked for 16 years. The last 3 years at Salomon in the London office. John has a MBA in Finance from the Lubin School of Business - Pace University. He is married with three children. John has been active in various industry working groups while at Salomon and Barclays and has represented both firms via charitable organizations such as First Book, Easter Seals, and others.
H.E. Samir Suamaidaie  
*Iraqi Ambassador to the United States*

Samir Shakir Mahmood Sumaida’ie was appointed Iraq’s Permanent Representative to the United Nations in July 2004. In April 2006, he moved to Washington DC to serve as Iraq’s first ambassador to the United States of America in sixteen years. Ambassador Sumaida’ie has led a distinguished career in politics. In 2004 he served as Minister of Interior in Baghdad where he managed a domestic security force of over 120,000 and in 2003 he became a member of the Governing Council (GC) in Iraq where he was Chairman of the Media Committee and played a central role in founding Iraqi Telecoms and Media Commission and the Public Broadcasting Institution. Prior to the removal of the Baathist regime, Ambassador Sumaida’ie was actively involved in opposition efforts in the United Kingdom and attended a number of high-level conferences throughout the world. As founding member of the Association of Iraqi Democrats and the Democratic Party of Iraq, he is widely renowned as an expert on the political climate in Iraq.

In addition to his career in politics, Ambassador Sumaida’ie is a successful businessman. From 1978 to 2003, he worked as an entrepreneur, consultant and designer, founding a procurement agency in 1978 and establishing a design office in London. Most recently he served as Co-Founder and Managing Director of China Business International, an investment consultancy and procurement company based in Beijing.

Mike Wishnie  
*Director of the Jerome N. Frank Legal Services Organization at Yale Law School*

Michael J. Wishnie is Clinical Professor of Law at Yale Law School. From 1998-2006, he taught at New York University School of Law. Professor Wishnie’s teaching, scholarship, and law practice have focused on immigration, labor and employment, habeas corpus, civil rights, and administrative law. For years, Professor Wishnie and his students have represented grassroots organizations in a range of legislative, media, and community education matters. He is also a Non-Resident Fellow of the Migration Policy Institute and frequently handles litigation matters as a cooperating attorney for the American Civil Liberties Union. He has published numerous writings on immigration, refugee and labor law, and worked as a law clerk to Judge H. Lee Sarokin of the District Court of New Jersey and U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit; and as a clerk for Justice Harry A. Blackmun, retired, working in the chambers of Associate Justice Stephen G. Breyer of the Supreme Court of the United States.
In January and March of this year, law students representing IRAP chapters at six different U.S. law schools met with law students at the University of Jordan to conduct fact-finding and meet with refugee clients in several Middle Eastern countries.

In January, law students from U.C. Berkeley, Yale, NYU, U.C. Irvine and Stanford travelled to four different Middle Eastern countries to meet with their clients and learn more about the difficulties facing Iraqi refugees on the ground, including the forced sexual trafficking of women and girls and the poor access to medical care for children with health emergencies.
They met with representatives from the U.S. and Canadian Embassies, the Iraqi Ministry of Health, three different UNHCR offices and numerous humanitarian NGO’s, legal aid organizations and Iraqi community leaders.

In March, a delegation of IRAP students from the University of Pennsylvania School of Law traveled to Amman with their immigration law professor to conduct a joint training with law students at the University of Jordan on human rights legal advocacy and fieldwork.
IRAP WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE FOLLOWING LAW FIRMS FOR THEIR PRO BONO ASSISTANCE:

- Cleary, Gottlieb, Steen & Hamilton LLP
- Crowell & Moring LLP
- Davis, Polk & Wardwell LLP
- Debevoise & Plimpton LLP
- J. Fappiano Law Offices, LLC
- Fragomen
- Freshfields, Bruckhaus, Deringer LLP
- Kramer, Levin, Naftalis & Frankel LLP
- Lewis & Roca LLP
- Linklaters
- Morrison Foerster
- O’Melveny & Meyers LLP
- Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP
- Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP
- Reed Smith LLP
- Semanoff, Ormsby, Greenberg & Torchia, LLC
- Seyfarth, Shaw LLP
- Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom, LLP and Affiliates
- Vitt & Rattigan, Attorneys at Law
- Womble, Carlyle, Sandridge & Rice
# Looking to the Future

## IRAP's Projected Caseload and Overseas Programming Growth

### Overall

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total Cases (Cumulative)</th>
<th>Total People Resettled (Cumulative)</th>
<th>Total Number of Chapters</th>
<th>Total Participating Law Students and Lawyers</th>
<th>Total Overhead</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2009-2010</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>6 (Yale, NYU, U.C. Berkeley, Stanford, U. Penn and U. Jordan)</td>
<td>ab 150</td>
<td>$0 (National organization did not yet exist)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012-2013</td>
<td>900</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>22 (Yale, NYU, U.C. Berkeley, Stanford, U. Penn, U. Jordan, U.C. Irvine, Duke, Columbia, USC, Harvard, Northeastern, University of Washington, University of Basra) plus 8 more (including at least one in Canada and one in Australia)</td>
<td>800</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Jordan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total Cases (Cumulative)</th>
<th>Anti-Trafficking Work</th>
<th>Medical Evacuations and Free Surgeries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2009-2010</td>
<td>60 (Cumulative)</td>
<td>110 cases (Cumulative)</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010-2011</td>
<td>200 cases (Cumulative)</td>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011-2012</td>
<td>300 cases (Cumulative)</td>
<td>Anti-Trafficking work expanded to Jordan to include on the ground research for in-country advocacy on trafficking prosecution and custody laws, as well as inclusion in the U.S. Trafficking in Persons Report. Medical evacuations and free surgeries for Iraqi children (non cumulative): 8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Syria

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total Cases (Cumulative)</th>
<th>Anti-Trafficking Programming</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2009-2010</td>
<td>20 cases</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010-2011</td>
<td>40 cases (Cumulative)</td>
<td>Pilot anti-sex-trafficking programming to locate, assist and conduct policy advocacy on behalf of Iraqi refugee women and girls who are survivors of sexual slavery and trafficking.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011-2012</td>
<td>90 cases</td>
<td>Anti-Trafficking Programming:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Will use data collected to launch advocacy campaign in Iraq in Syria seeking enforcement and prosecution under anti-trafficking laws, as well as international legal advocacy campaign to pressure reform of custody laws allowing mothers to keep custody of their daughters.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Will create permanent pipeline to U.S. for ongoing placements of teenaged girls rescued for trafficking rings to be placed in homes with comprehensive re-entry services.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Medical evacuations and free surgeries (non cumulative): 5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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1. IRAP works with local NGO’s and community leaders to identify Iraqi children in need of emergency medical procedures for life-threatening conditions. We arrange for the procedures to be donated by specialists at hospitals around the world, and provide the legal assistance necessary to get the child and parents into the country where the surgery will take place.

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Iraqi Refugee Assistance Program
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Cases (Cumulative)</th>
<th>Activities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Iraq</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>300 cases continued Anti-trafficking programming. Medical evacuations and free surgeries: 10 (non-cumulative). Will use data collected to launch advocacy campaign in Iraq in Syria seeking enforcement and prosecution under anti-trafficking laws, as well as international legal advocacy campaign to pressure reform of custody laws allowing mothers to keep custody of their daughters. Will create permanent pipeline to U.S. for ongoing placements of teenaged girls rescued for trafficking rings to be placed in homes with comprehensive re-entry services.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lebanon</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5 cases (all Iraqi: 2 Egypt, 1 UAE, 1 Thailand and 1 asylum case in California)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>20 cases (cumulative) Pilot legal program to reach Iraqi refugees who have been imprisoned simply for being illegal immigrants. Medical evacuations and free surgeries: 3. Expansion of IRAP Model to non-Iraqi cases: 60 (goal: Afghan, Somali and Sudanese in Middle East, and partnerships in Nairobi, Hong Kong and Cairo).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>80</td>
<td>Legal clinic established at the University of Basra Law School to create legal framework for anti-trafficking operations. Medical evacuations and free surgeries: 5. Expansion of IRAP Model to non-Iraqi cases: 130 (build on prior caseload with on the ground operation in Hong Kong, utilizing existing law firm partnerships).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>120</td>
<td>Legal clinic at University of Basra Law School continues. Medical evacuations and free surgeries: 20.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>50 cases Continued expansion of detainee representation program. Medical evacuations and free surgeries: 3. Establishment of law school clinic to work on rights for refugee detainees, anti-trafficking research and resettlement cases.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>