

# WHY THE REFUGEE WORKFORCE IS THE BEST KEPT SECRET FOR THE U.S. ECONOMY:

- 1** 100% of all refugees resettled in the U.S. **are legal to work within days of arrival.** Refugees are vetted more extensively than any other arrivals to the United States.
- 2** There are nearly 7.5 million open jobs in the US. Meanwhile, **approximately 3 out of every 4 refugees who enter the United States are prime-working age and desire to work.**
- 3** As manufacturing demand increases, experts predict the industry will need to fill an estimated 4.6 million positions by 2028, or risk losing \$454 billion in value. **One out of every five refugees who enter the United States fills a job in the manufacturing industry.**
- 4** In 2015, refugees resettled in the US earned **a collective \$77 billion in income, contributing \$21 billion in taxes.**
- 5** **73% percent of US businesses employing refugees reported a higher retention rate for refugees than for other employees.**
- 6** At a time when U.S. workers are failing drug tests at “shocking” rates, the largest refugee employer in Atlanta says **100% of refugee applicants over the past 4 years have passed their mandatory drug test.**
- 7** **13 percent of refugees were entrepreneurs in 2015,** compared to just 11.5 percent of non-refugee immigrants and 9.0 percent of the U.S.-born population. **In 2015, over 181,000 refugee entrepreneurs generated \$4.6 billion in business income, providing jobs, goods, and services for thousands of Americans.**

*Sources: New American Pathways, U.S. Department of Labor, New American Economy, The Tent Partnership for Refugees, and National Immigration Forum.*

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