

# Congress of the United States

## House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

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WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6143

MAJORITY (202) 225-5074  
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<https://oversight.house.gov>

September 21, 2023

Dan Forbes  
Chief of Staff  
Coordinator for Afghan Relocation Efforts Program  
U.S. Department of State  
2201 C St., NW  
Washington, DC 20520

Joel Sandefur  
Afghanistan Mission Director  
United States Agency for International Development  
1300 Pennsylvania Ave., NW  
Washington DC 2000

Dear Mr. Forbes and Mr. Sandefur:

The Committee on Oversight and Accountability is continuing to investigate the United States' efforts to relocate Afghans in the United States following the Biden Administration's disastrous withdrawal from Afghanistan in August 2021. Specifically, the Committee is interested in gaining more transparency into the programs that have been instated to accomplish these efforts. To that end, the Committee seeks documents and information pertaining to programs and their contractors that relocate Afghans into the United States.

Through the Operation Allies Welcome program, which is led by the Department of State (State Department) and involves multiple departments and agencies, the U.S. has relocated nearly 70,000 Afghans into local communities across the country.<sup>1</sup> The program has assisted their transition into life in the U.S, including through the Coordinator for Afghan Relocation (CARE) program run by the State Department, which organizes relocation efforts across various U.S. government agencies.<sup>2</sup>

To ensure transparency in the execution of such programs, we seek documents and information on State Department and other relocation programs, management of any such

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<sup>1</sup>*Tens of thousands of Afghans have resettled across the U.S. Now, the challenge is making a home*, PBS (Feb. 3, 2022).

<sup>2</sup>*Afghanistan Inquiries*, U.S. DEP'T OF STATE, <https://www.state.gov/afghanistan-inquiries> (last visited Sept. 12, 2023).

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programs, and the role contractors may have in the management of or hiring of personnel to execute these efforts.

Please provide the following documents and information as soon as possible but no later than October 5, 2023:

1. All contracts, agreements, memorandums of understanding, and any originating documents regarding the CARE program and other Afghan relocation efforts or programs;
2. All documents and communications reflecting the purpose, mission, and goals of the CARE program and other Afghan relocation efforts or programs;
3. All documents and communications reflecting any State Department plans to continue and/or terminate the CARE program or other Afghan relocation efforts or programs;
4. All materials pertaining to the hiring process, practices, and requirements for CARE (or other Afghan relocation programs) employees, contractors, and case managers;
5. All documents reflecting the vetting performed by the State Department and any contractors when hiring employees, contractors, and case managers to assist with the CARE program and/or other Afghan relocation efforts or programs; and
6. A list of all employees or contractors involved in case management, hiring, and human resources for the CARE program and other Afghan relocation efforts or programs from August 2021 to the present.

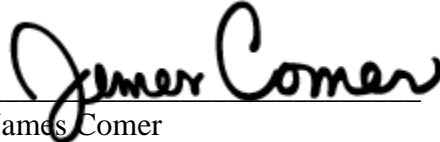
To arrange for the delivery of responsive documents or ask any related follow-up questions, please contact the Committee on Oversight and Accountability staff at (202) 225-5074.

The Committee on Oversight and Accountability is the principal oversight committee of the U.S. House of Representatives and has broad authority to investigate “any matter” at “any time” under House Rule X.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this important investigation.

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Mr. Joel Sandefur  
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James Comer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "J" and "C".

James Comer  
Chairman  
Committee on Oversight and Accountability

cc: The Honorable Jamie B. Raskin, Ranking Member  
Committee on Oversight and Accountability