



The Independence Call Line A one stop call center that provides support to Veterans and Afghans impacted by the recent withdrawal from Afghanistan.

<u>Loyal Source</u>, and the <u>Independence Fund</u>, recently announced the launch of the Independence Line - a call center designed to assist the tens of thousands of U.S. Veterans, Afghans, and their friends and family navigate the issues with the Afghanistan withdrawal.

"Many times, after refugees are out of the processing centers and beginning to settle, there's not much assistance available to them for navigating civilian life," said Wendy Lakso, Sr. Executive Director of Loyal Source. "Loyal Source wants to be that warm hand that assists and guides our Afghan allies with their new lifestyle in the U.S."

The call center is staffed by highly trained and qualified case managers and clinicians to provide assistance both to Afghans in the United States who served shoulder to shoulder with U.S. Service Members and U.S. Veterans who may have difficulty in these trying times. Staff members aid incoming requests for assistance related to housing, food, mental health, health care, clothing, legal assistance, and a host of other issues. The call center is a free service that conducts comprehensive assessments and works with case managers to find the best, quickest services - with no one being turned away.

"We greatly value our relationships with our Afghan brothers and sisters that fought alongside our Veterans during the two decades of war efforts. For that reason we are grateful to provide this service for Veterans, Afghans and their family members – we recognize that they will continue to need support and we are here for them for as long as it takes" Sarah Verardo CEO The Independence Fund

"With currently tens of thousands of Afghan men, women, and children arriving in the U.S. daily, the need for this call center is crucial," said Brian Moore, CEO of Loyal Source, "Partnering with the Independence Fund on this critical mission is a natural progression to our existing work with refugees across the nation that we are honored to be a part of."

The toll-free number for The Independence Line is 1-855-341-5456 and can take calls right away. Open from 8 a.m. to 12 a.m., seven days a week.