

Advent Soup Supper and Catholic Charities

How we can help!

Four Steps

Individuals and organizations can welcome refugees as they take their first steps towards their American dream in a number of ways.

1. Volunteer. Become a mentor, assist with household set-ups, training or transportation.
2. Give gently used furniture and household goods.
3. Prepare a Welcome basket.
4. Donate a Welcome Basket.

Welcome Basket Ideas:

Bath in a Bag: 1 of Each – Bath & Hand Towel, Wash Cloth, Toothbrush, Toothpaste, Bar Soap, Deodorant, Razor, Shampoo, Conditioner, Comb, 4-pack of Toilet Paper packaged in small trash bin.

Bed in a Bag: Twin size sheet set, blanket, comforter and pillow (must be in package) and laundry basket.

Kitchen in a Bag: 4 of Each – Plates, Bowls, Silverware, Glasses, Mugs. 2 or 3 serving bowls with lids, 1 small and 1 large sauce pan, 1 small and 1 large frying pan, 2 or 3 mixing bowls, 1 stock pot, 1 tea kettle, 1 can opener, 1 set of measuring cups, 1 set of measuring spoons, 1 cookie sheet, 1 rectangular cake pan, 1 cutting board, 1 chef knife, 1 paring knife, 1 spatula, 2 large spoons, 1 bowl strainer, 1 pitcher, 3 dish towels, 2 oven mitts, 3 storage containers, 1 dish soap, kitchen waste bin.

Assumption Church will be collecting Welcome Basket items now through January 7. Donations can be dropped off in the corner of the church under the Joseph statue or at the Parish Office. Thank you for your generosity!

Refugee Resettlement Volunteer Roles

Transportation

Volunteer is responsible for transporting clients to/from appointments (usually medical and benefit appointments). Provides informal contact and relationships often build following time spent waiting with refugees for appointments. Volunteer must be Virtus trained. (Monday-Friday opportunity, normal business hours)

Housing

Volunteers' help housing specialist organize the warehouse where donations are stored, prepare the home of a newly arriving refugee family before they are here, and perhaps collects donated furniture and household items. (1st and 3rd Saturday of each month)

Instructor Limited Literacy English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)

Volunteers work with adults with four years of schooling or less who are learning English. They help students to learn English vocabulary and communication skills. Duties include helping teach basic critical thinking skills, reading, writing and "numeracy" (arithmetic). There are three levels of ESOL volunteers could teach, level 1 being primarily for clients with no English background, and limited literacy. Volunteer must be Virtus trained. (Monday-Friday 9am-11am)

Employment Readiness Academy Instructor

Volunteer educates and leads students in a 6-unit employment crash course that covers an array of topics which includes but is not limited to resume writing, interview skills, the job search, and the application process. Volunteer must be Virtus trained. (Monday/Wednesday/Thursday 11:30am-1:30pm)

ESOL and Job Search Computer Lab Monitor

Volunteer will help adults use internet resources and computer software to search for employment, complete applications and to learn English. Volunteer must be Virtus trained. (Monday/Wednesday/Thursday 11:30am-1:30pm)

Vocational Job Track Employment Instructor

Volunteer will combine English instruction with industry specific work skills to help bridge the gap for recent arrivals into viable employment options such as hospitality and warehousing. Also includes presenting information to clients on how to advance their career whether through college or other vocational training. Volunteer must be Virtus trained. (Monday/Wednesday/Thursday 11:30am-1:30pm)

Individual Community Support Volunteer

Volunteer would commit to spending time with an individual client or client family for at least 1- 2 hours a week for three months. During this time the volunteer would serve as a connection to the community, and support the client by driving to their initial doctor's appointments, taking them to the grocery store, looking up bus routes online that are beneficial to know, cooking a meal, practicing English, and checking out free community events and places like parks, libraries, etc. RRS volunteer coordinator will support volunteers who are a good fit for this opportunity by emailing once a week to check in, answer questions, and share updates and celebrations. Volunteer coordinator will also be available as a resource for volunteers during normal weekly business hours. After the initial three month commitment the partnership can be maintained outside of Catholic Charities if mutually agreed upon. Volunteers must be Virtus trained. (1x/weekly as fits with the schedules of the client and volunteer).

Want to volunteer with Catholic Charities Southwestern Ohio?

Fantastic! Click this link to go to their Volunteer web page:

<https://ccswoh.org/how-to-get-involved/volunteer/>