



CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Refugee Resettlement Program

Overview

For more than 40 years, Catholic Charities has helped refugees resettle and call Chicago home. Each year we resettle more than 200 refugees. A refugee is someone who is unable to return to his or her home country because of persecution due to race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group or political opinion. Currently the world wide hot spots for refugees include: Syria, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Sudan, Somalia, Iraq, Afghanistan, and Myanmar (Burma).

You can help refugees by:

- Sponsoring all or part of a family's first three months of rent (\$5,000 with security deposit).
- Tutoring refugee parents and children in English, locating jobs for newly-arrived refugees, and teaching basic financial literacy to refugee families.
- Donating household items for a Refugee Welcome Pack, Ventra/CTA passes, gift cards, or apartment furnishings.

How Refugees Come to Chicago

1. United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees provides support and begins the process for resettlement.
2. Refugee participates in multiple lengthy security screenings.
3. U.S. State Department reviews the cases and distributes them to one of nine authorized resettlement agencies, including the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB).
4. USCCB assigns refugees to Catholic Charities Refugee Resettlement Programs throughout the country.
5. International Organization for Migration helps with transportation for the refugee to move to the U.S.
6. Catholic Charities Refugee Resettlement welcomes refugee families assigned to them.

Life in Chicago

When refugees arrive, one of our Case Managers will guide them through the process of adjusting to life in the U.S. for up to two years. This includes:

- Securing housing and providing food, clothing, and household items;
- Applying for public benefits, Social Security cards, and State IDs;
- Scheduling required health screenings and addressing emergency health problems;
- Orienting them to public transportation;
- Developing family budgets;
- Enrolling the family in English classes;
- Providing cultural orientation;
- Ensuring children are enrolled in school and helping parents understand the U.S. education system;
- Developing relationships with employers to assist in job placement for refugees



CATHOLIC CHARITIES AGENCY-WIDE SERVICES

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Nutrition
Refugee Resettlement
Senior Services
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Veterans Services

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FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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THE MISSION OF CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Catholic Charities fulfills the Church's role in the mission of charity to anyone in need by providing compassionate, competent and professional services that strengthen and support individuals, families and communities based on the value and dignity of human life. *In order to remain faithful to our mission, Catholic Charities is guided by these core values: Respect, Compassion, Competence and Stewardship.*