

SYRIAN REFUGEE SUPPORT – HOW YOU CAN HELP

As we welcome Syrian refugees to Canada, there is a lot of work to do to help them settle into their new country. There are many initiatives already taking place in the broader community that you can support. This webpage will provide information about different ways that you can get involved in the settlement effort.

If you are interested in helping with Jamaat-led initiatives in the future, please complete the volunteer survey here:

<http://bit.ly/JaffariSyrianRefugees>

If you have any specific questions, please email assttreasurer@jaffari.org.

If you are currently / interested in privately sponsoring refugees:

****If you are currently privately sponsoring refugees, please let us know by filling out this survey (<http://bit.ly/JaffariSyrianRefugees>)****

Name	Description	Website / Contact Information
Government of Canada – Sponsor a Refugee	Information and resources from the Federal Government regarding the private sponsorship of refugees	http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/refugees/sponsor/index.asp
Lifeline Syria	Recruits, trains and assists groups that are privately sponsoring refugees	http://lifelinesyria.ca/ 647-827-1428
Refugee Sponsorship Training Program	Supports private and community refugee sponsorship by addressing their information and on-going training needs	http://www.rstp.ca/en/
University of Ottawa – Refugee Sponsorship Support Program	Provide guidance and free legal advice on private refugee sponsorship	http://refugeessp.ca/sponsorship/

If you have property / housing that can be used by an incoming refugee family:

These agencies are currently working to help find housing for refugees:

Name	Region	Website / Contact Information
COSTI Immigration Services	Toronto/GTA, Ontario	http://www.costi.org/
Reception House	Kitchener-Waterloo, Ontario	http://www.kwrcentre.ca/
Cross Cultural Learner Centre	London, Ontario	http://www.lcclc.org/
Wesley Urban Ministries	Hamilton, Ontario	http://wesley.ca/refugee-information-portal/help-to-house-refugees-in-hamilton/
Multicultural Council of Windsor and Essex County	Windsor, Ontario	http://www.themcc.com/

These organizations are privately sponsoring refugees and have said that they need help with finding housing for the refugees:

Name	Region	Website / Contact Information
Islamic Society of York Region	Richmond Hill, ON	http://www.isyr.org/ hafiz.isyr@gmail.com 905-887-8913
Islamic Foundation of Toronto	Scarborough, ON	http://www.islamicfoundation.ca support@islamicfoundation.ca 416-321-0909

If you are a professional / expert in a specific field:

Profession / Area of Expertise	Who can Volunteer	Organization / Website / Contact Information
Health Care Professional	<u>Primary care providers</u> (e.g. Refugee Health Clinics, Community Health)	Government of Ontario – Ministry of Health & Long-Term Care

	<p>Centres, Family Health Teams, Nurse Practitioner-Led Clinics, midwifery practices, physician practices, walk-in clinics)</p> <p><u>Specialists</u> (e.g. obstetrics and gynecology, pediatrics, and psychiatry)</p> <p><u>Allied health-care practitioners</u> including occupational therapists, speech language therapists and physiotherapists</p> <p><u>Mental health</u> service providers</p> <p><u>Dentists</u></p> <p><u>Optometrists</u></p>	<p>Refugee HealthLine – call them at 1-866-286-4770</p> <p>You will be asked to provide your name, practice, location, service and the number of prospective patients/clients you are able to accommodate.</p> <p>Your information will be matched with requesting refugees and sponsor groups through the Refugee HealthLine.</p>
Lawyers	<p>Lawyers who are able to offer pro bono advice on the legal aspects of the sponsorship process to help a family in need.</p>	<p>University of Ottawa – Refugee Sponsorship Support Program</p> <p>http://refugeessp.ca/sponsorship/sponsorship-support-lawyer-list/</p>

If you want to volunteer your time and / or give donations:

Name	Opportunities to Serve	Website / Contact Information
SPARK Ontario	<p>Provides a listing of volunteer opportunities with different agencies in Ontario</p>	<p>http://www.findmyspark.ca/warmwelcome</p> <p>info@sparkontario.ca</p>
Canadian Centre for Victims of Torture	<p>Befriend survivors of torture as they adjust to life in Toronto</p> <p>Tutor English learners</p> <p>Interpret for those who do not speak English</p>	<p>http://www.ccvt.org</p> <p>Juliette at jntege@ccvt.org or 416-750-3045 ext 205.</p>

Islamic Society of York Region	Transportation, Translation and Health Services for incoming refugees	http://www.isyr.org/ hafiz.isyr@gmail.com 905-887-8913
Furniture Bank	They will pick up your gently used furniture, house wares, kitchen items, beds, electronics & artwork (for a fee)	To schedule a pick up: 416-934-1229 ext #2 or http://www.furniturebank.org/furniture-pickup-request/
The Clothing Drive	Collecting clothing donations, organizes them in a 'store' and refugees can come select items for themselves / their families	https://www.facebook.com/groups/theclothingdrive/ Fill out form here: http://tinyurl.com/TC Dassess
Volunteer Centres in Ontario	You can contact a volunteer centre in your area to learn more about opportunities available to serve	http://www.ovcn.ca/index.php?MenuItemID=270