



REFUGEE SPONSORSHIP FOR ANGLICAN PARISHES

Working Together To Help Refugees

THE PRIVATE SPONSORSHIP OF REFUGEES

PROGRAM allows Canadians to participate directly in refugee resettlement by committing to welcoming and supporting a refugee/family for their first year in Canada.

YOUR PARISH CAN FORM A SPONSOR GROUP!

The program began with the 'Boat People' in the 1970's. Since then, faith groups have been leading the way in refugee resettlement through private sponsorship, earning Canada recognition worldwide.

OUR SPONSORSHIP AGREEMENT:

The Diocese of Toronto works in partnership with AURA, the Anglican United Refugee Alliance. We share an agreement with the Government of Canada which provides a direct opportunity for Anglican Parishes to sponsor refugees.

Since 1991, AURA has facilitated the sponsorship of refugees from over 25 countries:



AURA's mission is to provide support and expertise to groups involved in refugee sponsorship and resettlement. We walk with parishes through each step of the process.

A REFUGEE is someone who has been forced to flee their home country because of civil war, armed conflict, or a well-founded fear of persecution based on race, religion, political opinion, nationality or social group. For resettlement to Canada they must be outside their country of origin, unable to attain rights and freedoms where they are.

THE GLOBAL REALITY:

Our world is experiencing record high levels of displacement. There are over 80 million displaced people and 25 million registered refugees, 85% of whom are hosted by developing countries. For many, resettlement is the only option for a safe future. But, only a tiny fraction of refugees are resettled.

MORE SPONSOR GROUPS MEAN MORE REFUGEES CAN BE RESETTLED TO CANADA

"It is the obligation of every person born in a safer room to open the door when someone in danger knocks."

- Dina Nayer

THE LOCAL REALITY:

AURA receives requests to sponsor over 10,000 refugees each year. Many have local family members who can contribute, but who cannot access the program on their own.

WHAT ARE SPONSORS RESPONSIBLE FOR?

- Forming a committed sponsor group
- Supporting sponsored refugees for 1 year upon arrival with settlement and emotional support
- Fundraising and providing sponsored refugee(s) with financial support for 1 year
- Ensuring their basic needs are met, including housing, furniture, clothing, household items etc.
- Helping newcomers adjust to life in Canada, access education, employment, medical care, transportation, day-to-day life etc...
- Coordinating donations and volunteers

"Because we can sponsor refugees, I believe we should. As an established Canadian, I feel I have a responsibility to share a bit of my immense privilege by welcoming others who have not been so lucky."

- Sponsor from Toronto

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