



HOME FOR REFUGEES

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Volunteer to join a Home Team. A **Home Team** is a Community Sponsorship Team of volunteers who assist a Resettlement Agency's or another resettlement organization's case worker to resettle a newly arrived refugee and who will continue to come alongside them for a 12-month period: building mutual friendships, introducing them to American culture, providing material support and advocacy, and teaching them how to access their community services more efficiently in order to help them become independent and vital contributors within their communities.

WHAT ARE PRACTICAL THINGS A HOME TEAM DOES?

- Finding Long-term Low Income Housing Resources
- Finding Employment Resources
- Following up with Social Services
- Familiarizing the Parents with Children's School System
- Navigating the Healthcare System
- Finding Community Mental Health Resources
- Finding Close ESL Classes
- Counsel on Education and Future Career Goals
- Helping practice for Drivers Permits/Licenses
- Finding Legal Services
- Helping with Pathway to Citizenship
- And More...

WHAT ARE THE HOME TEAM ROLES?

Home Teams are made up of **5 volunteers** that are given the following roles:

- Job coach
- Health advocate
- Financial coach
- Conversation partner
- Child education expert



WHAT'S THE FIRST STEP?

STEP 1 - ATTEND A VIRTUAL INFO SESSION: The one hour sessions covers the in's and out's of volunteering on a Home Team.

STEP 2 - APPLICATION PACKET: After attending a virtual info session and you get your questions answered, we will email you our application packet.

STEP 3 - BACKGROUND CHECK: Prior to receiving an assignment, all volunteers must complete a background check. Please click the link below to complete the Background Disclosure and Application Form that will enable us to complete the background screening process.

STEP 4 - TRAINING: Every volunteer is required to attend a series of four (4) volunteer training events. These training times include (1) an introduction to the foundation of our work, an overview of Home Teams and how they work, (2) fundraising, (3) navigating a helping relationship and cultural differences, and finally (4) an overview of the year which includes a timeline and assignment of team responsibilities and roles.

STEP 5 - FUNDRAISING: Each Home Team fundraises \$5,000 for their team's Relief Fund to provide support for unexpected expenses that the refugee may encounter during their first year.

Additionally, the Home Team is invited to consider covering the cost of their Home for Refugees' coaching to help us welcome even more refugees! It costs us \$5,000 to provide one coach for one Home Team for a year. We fundraise throughout the year to increase the number of refugees we can welcome with coached Home Teams.

STEP 6 - REFUGEE ARRIVES: The Home Team is partnered with a refugee and starts their year with a Welcome Meal together!



FAQ'S

- ***Do I need to be an expert in the role I am assigned?*** No. Roles are assigned by the organization based on interest and experience.
- ***How long do I need to be on a Home Team?*** The organization asks for a 1 year commitment.
- ***What is the weekly time commitment?*** The first month or two would require 3 - 4 hours a week. After that, the average is 1 - 2 hours a week.
- ***Do I need to speak another language?*** No. Most refugees arriving speak English but knowing Dari or Farsi is a bonus.
- ***How can I be sure a refugee is not a threat?*** A refugee undergoes an intense vetting process before arriving on U.S soil. More on this can be discussed in the info session.
- ***Is Home For Refugees a faith-based organization?*** Yes. The organization however does not discriminate against refugees on any basis. More on this can be discussed in the info session.
- ***Am I responsible for communicating with the Resettlement Agency?*** No. Each Home Team is assigned a coach from Home For Refugees (HFR) that serves as a mediator between the Resettlement Agency, HFR and your Home Team.
- ***Can I form/join a Home Team at Bread?*** ABSOLUTELY! Anyone can join a Home Team.
- ***How can I be sure our Home Team serves a refugee near me?*** Coaches consider location when assigning teams to refugees. More on this is discussed in the info session.
- ***I can't form/join a Home Team at this time, what else can I do?*** You can support your local team by donating to their fund or donating to the organization.
- ***I am interested in joining/forming a Home Team, what now?*** Gather a group of people that you are interested in forming a team with and email info@hfrusa.org to schedule an appointment for the info session. If you need help finding others to form a Home Team within Bread, email raul@bread.church.
- ***I have more questions, who should I contact?*** For specific questions about the organization email info@hfrusa.org. For questions about forming/joining a team at Bread email raul@bread.church.



homeforrefugeesusa.org



bread.church