



Co-Sponsor a Refugee Family with IRC

Help Welcome Refugees to Your Community

A **Co-Sponsor** welcomes refugees and other vulnerable populations alongside the IRC. Co-Sponsors serve as partners and friends who empower newcomers to navigate their new, unfamiliar environment and work towards self-sufficiency. Co-Sponsors mobilize community resources and connection to assist the IRC expand comprehensive, personalized refugee services.

Individuals may not serve as co-sponsors.



Program Specifics

Becoming a co-sponsor is a direct way to support the resettlement of vulnerable refugee families placed in New Jersey and within 100 miles of Elizabeth. As a group, you take the lead in supporting these new arrivals to your community and agree to take on the responsibility of fulfilling a majority or all the requirements of the R&P program. Families will be assigned to your group by the IRC NJ. IRC will provide technical assistance and training as well as a dedicated staff member as a point of contact. *Your group will be coordinating and problem solving on the ground to provide for the unique needs of each arriving case.*

The time commitment for a co-sponsorship is six to twelve months.

IRC Support

The IRC will work with the co-sponsor in providing technical assistance and training. IRC will support the group to ensure all delegated R&P services are completed accurately and on time for the case. IRC staff will maintain regular contact with the co-sponsor and the case to assist with any needs that may arise.

Interested? Please contact

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Services Co-Sponsors Can Provide

1. Secure a safe, sanitary, and affordable housing unit for the family that is available for at least 6-12 months.
2. Ensure housing is equipped with appropriate household items.
3. Greet and welcome the family at the airport.
4. Provide food and items for basic needs.
5. Connect adults to English class.
6. Enroll minors in school.
7. Connect to cultural orientation and integration services.
8. Enroll family in public benefits.
9. Connect adults to employment services.
10. Connect family with medical care and provide transportation.
11. Ensure completion of required documentation and registration.
 - Address Change, Selective Service
 - Social Security Card, State ID, EAD
12. Secure Interpretation services in the client's native language.

Become a Co-Sponsor

- Attend an informational or conduct a one-on-one meeting with IRC staff to review program requirements.
- Complete an application, which outlines your group's capabilities and commitment.
- Receive training on how to work with refugees and complete delegated core services.
- Pass an IRC background check for each member of the group.
- Sign an agreement with IRC to be a co-sponsor.
- Participate in weekly check-ins with IRC.