Helping Afghan Refugees in the US

- **The Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service** is hosting “The Afghan Crisis: How to Help Our Neighbors,” a webinar discussion about the situation on the ground in Kabul, our advocacy efforts, and tangible ways to help our Afghan neighbors. The discussion will be on **Tuesday, August 24 at 4 p.m. EDT**, and you are welcome to share this event with your networks. Registration is available [here](#).

- **General US-Wide Resources:**
  - [Resettlement Agencies](#) (nonprofit organizations) and those operating in your area.
  - **The International Rescue Committee (IRC)** has several volunteer opportunities **across the US**. Find a local activity here: [https://www.rescue.org/volunteer](https://www.rescue.org/volunteer)
  - **Refugee Council USA:** Local resettlement agencies have volunteer opportunities ranging from front desk help support to English language instruction. Check out **some of the opportunities** or contact us at info@rcusa.org and we'll help to connect you.
  - **Catholic Charities** works all over the US: [https://www.catholiccharitiesusa.org/find-help/](https://www.catholiccharitiesusa.org/find-help/)
  - **HIAS** also works all over the US. They accept in-kind donations: [https://www.hias.org/get-involved/volunteer/kind-giving-opportunities](https://www.hias.org/get-involved/volunteer/kind-giving-opportunities)

- **DMV Area:**
  - For those in the DMV area, **KAMA DC** has put together an extensive list of local efforts to assist Afghans arriving in the area, donation portals, and volunteer opportunities. Please find the list [here](#).
  - You can sign up here to volunteer with **Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS)** who are resettling Afghan newcomers. Volunteer for airport pickup, apartment setups, and/or meals for Afghans.
  - Pashto and Dari INTERPRETERS are needed to assist Afghans arriving for resettlement at **Dulles International Airport in Virginia**. Please email: hdmrc@fairfaxcounty.gov with subject line “Afghan Interpreters.”
  - Pashto and Dari INTERPRETERS are needed immediately at NOVA Community College in **Annandale, Virginia**. Volunteers are asked to show up ASAP at 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale, VA.

- **Around the US:**
  - **Denver, CO:** The **ECDC African Community Center, Lutheran Family Services Rocky Mountains**, the **International Rescue Committee**, and **Bridges Colorado** are helping Afghan newcomers resettle.
  - **Atlanta, GA:** Volunteer with Catholic Charities Atlanta: [https://catholiccharitiesatlanta.org/volunteer/](https://catholiccharitiesatlanta.org/volunteer/); New American Pathways
has volunteer and in-kind donation opportunities: 
https://newamericanpathways.org/get-involved/

- **Buffalo, NY:** These organizations are helping Afghan refugees: Journey's End Refugee Services, Jewish Family Services of Western New York and Catholic Charities.

- **Jacksonville, FL:**
  - Lutheran Social Services Of Northeast Florida: The agency is at 4615 Philips Highway, Jacksonville, FL 32207; (904) 448-5995; and contact@lssjax.org. For more information, go to lssjax.org.
  - Catholic Charities Jacksonville: Please email cestevez@ccbjax.org to inquire about our volunteer opportunities.

- **Chicago, IL -** RefugeeOne is the largest organization helping refugees in the area.

- **Texas:**
  - Volunteer with the Refugee Services Texas to help Afghan refugees who will be resettled in the state (apartment set up, cultural orientation, welcome team, transportation, among others)
  - Houston - Volunteer/Donate to Alliance Refugees Services Program. They are supporting SIVs (Special Immigrant Visa) holders from Afghanistan.
  - Dallas - Mosaic Family Services - To volunteer/donate items to refugee families, email Mosaic’s Volunteer Coordinator, Katie Jenkins at katiej@mosaicservices.org.
  - Austin - Austin Public Health contact information here.

- **Pennsylvania:**
  - Directory of PA Refugee Service Contractors by the PA Department of Human Services here.
  - Philadelphia: The National Service Center (NSC), a refugee resettlement agency, has volunteer opportunities here. The NSC also has an Amazon Wish List for items to help stock a refugee’s home.
  - Philadelphia: Help resettle refugees with temporary housing via HIAS Pennsylvania’s partnership with Airbnb’s Open Homes initiative, through which you can “use your extra space to provide a welcoming stay for refugees.” More information is available on the HIAS Pennsylvania website.
  - Philadelphia: Realtors and landlords who can provide affordable housing to refugees for six months to a year should contact community engagement specialist Anneke Kat at community@hiaspa.org.
- Philadelphia: If you are a business and can donate goods, appliances, and services (such as house cleaning). Contact NSC’s Adi Altman at aaltman@nscphila.org or HIAS Pennsylvania’s Kat at community@hiaspa.org.
- Philadelphia: Church World Service (CWS) needs volunteers for pre- and post-arrival support, welcoming arriving refugees, and arranges financial sponsorship for families.
- Pittsburgh: Jewish Family and Community Services (JFCS),
  - St. Louis, MO: St. Louis Mosaic Project, International Institute of St. Louis, and Jewish Vocational Service.
  - Raleigh-Durham, NC: USCRI North Carolina Field Office (USCRI-NC) and World Relief Durham.
  - New Jersey: Welcome Home Jersey City will help Afghan newcomers.
  - Cleveland, OH: Global Cleveland, International Institute of Akron, Asian Services in Action (ASIA), Refugee Response, and USCRI Cleveland.
  - Salt Lake City, UT:
    - Full list of agencies serving refugees here.
    - Catholic Community Services is accepting in-kind donations, has volunteer opportunities, and helps folks that want to become foster parents.
    - Utah Refugee Connection is also accepting in-kind donations and has resources for hiring refugees
    - Refugee & Immigrant Center Asian Association of Utah serves Afghan refugees. You can get involved here.
  - California
    - Sacramento, CA: World Relief Sacramento has programs for those who would like to host Afghan refugees.
    - Bay Area, CA: Jewish Family and Community Services, East Bay and City of Fremont Afghan Refugee Fund.
  - Arkansas
    - Northwest Arkansas: http://www.canopynwa.org/co-sponsor-team
    - Central Arkansas: https://www.dolr.org/catholic-charities/immigration-little-rock#how-you-can-help
Memphis Area:
https://worldrelief.org/memphis/get-involved/afghan-allies/

FAQs on sponsorships in the United States and Canada:

- The UUSC provides resources on sponsoring Afghan refugees here.

Fundraising Campaigns for Emergency Response:

- [The Bayat Foundation](https://www.bayatfoundation.org): Immediate domestic needs.
- [Creating Hope International/Afghan Institute for Learning](https://www.creatinghope.org): Emergency response efforts.
- [Eagle Online Academy](https://eagleonlineacademy.org): Emergency funds to help their students escape.
- [Friends of AUAF](https://www.friendsauaf.org): Supporting women in higher education in Afghanistan and the American University of Afghanistan
- [Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace, and Security](https://www.georgetown.edu/giwpas): Campaign to protect Afghan women
- [International Rescue Committee](https://www.rescue.org): On-the-ground assistance.
- [Institute for Economic Empowerment of Women](https://www.iiew.org): Safety and support for women entrepreneurs.
- [Lamia Afghan Foundation](http://www.lamiafoundation.org/): Education, food, necessities for internally-displaced persons (IDPs).
- [Women for Afghan Women](http://www.wfaw.org)
- [Turquoise Mountain](https://www.turquoisemountain.org): Critical support campaign.
- [WISE Afghanistan](http://www.wise-afghanistan.org): Emergency food and relief; assistance distribution. @wise-afghanistan (PayPal)