



Refugee Resettlement
Catholic Charities Community Services
80 Maiden Lane, 13th Floor
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212.419.3764
www.catholiccharitiesny.org

Introduction to Community Co-Sponsorship

Catholic Charities Community Services (CCCS) is seeking the commitment of community groups to help refugee families resettle in Yonkers and the Lower Hudson Valley. The ultimate goal for refugee families is to become self-sufficient. In close partnership with CCCS staff, co-sponsors will provide services and training that will prepare refugees to integrate into the community and achieve financial independence.

In order to become co-sponsors, the potential teams will submit applications to CCCS. Once a group is approved, the members will participate in an information session and begin organizing a Core Team (of at least eight dedicated individuals) who will be assigned various responsibilities. These include:

- *Designating a Point Person*
 - Serving as primary contact between the group, the CCCS staff, and the refugee family
 - Ensuring that the co-sponsoring group utilizes interpreters for important meetings with the refugee family (e.g., the arrival, the initial intake, employment, and financial meetings)
 - The Point Person will coordinate the overlapping activities of the other committee members and will check in with the refugees regularly until the family is securely established in their surroundings. Team members will make regular reports to the contact person who will be responsible for maintaining contact with the CCCS staff (weekly for the first two months.)
- *Safe Housing*
 - Securing an apartment rental: Safe, Clean, Affordable, Appropriate Size & Location
 - Setting up housing with furniture, household goods, and other basic necessities
 - Connecting utilities
 - CCCS will provide a list of required furniture, appliances, and other household items, and a list of culturally appropriate food for the kitchen
- *Welcome*
 - In close collaboration with the CCCS staff person, meet family at designated arrival point (typically JFK)
 - Bring appropriate clothing for the weather
 - Arranging for an interpreter to accompany, if needed

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New Americans Hotline 800.566.7636 (in New York State) – 212.419.3737 (outside New York State)

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