

Global Refugee
Sponsorship Initiative

FACT SHEET



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6 Facts About Community Sponsorship of Refugees

6 FACTS ABOUT COMMUNITY

1

Resettlement is a rare option.

Tens of millions of refugees worldwide are seeking a permanent protection solution, but fewer than 1% of them are likely to benefit from resettlement under existing programs.

2

Community sponsorship is a pathway to resettlement.

In community sponsorship, private citizens form groups and commit to providing integration, emotional, and financial support for a designated sponsorship period (usually one year) to help refugees adjust to life in a new country.

3

Community sponsorship is a whole-of-society approach.

Government, civil society, community groups, individual citizens, and the private sector each have an important role to play to ensure successful resettlement outcomes for refugees.

7 SPONSORSHIP

4

Canada has resettled more than 300,000 refugees since its community sponsorship program began in 1979.

The UK, Argentina, Ireland, and New Zealand are also developing community sponsorship programs.

5

Community sponsorship creates lasting bonds between newcomers and their neighbors and local authorities.

Sponsorship strengthens communities and builds awareness of broader refugee-related issues.

6

Community sponsorship can increase resettlement spots.

By enabling citizens to engage in resettlement efforts, community sponsorship adds to government resettlement programs and increases a country's overall capacity. Community sponsorship can also improve the quality of integration for refugees as a result of the personalized support and networks sponsors can provide.

**Global Refugee
Sponsorship Initiative**

Want to know more? Visit us at:
refugeesponsorship.org

**“It is incredibly rewarding
to help people build new lives.
Their hope for the future is
uplifting for everyone involved.
That hope and sense of future
is an incredible gift to the
sponsorship group members”**

LISA HÉBERT

Canadian Sponsor

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