

The GRSI at a Glance

What is the GRSI?

The Global Refugee Sponsorship Initiative (GRSI) is a partnership between the Government of Canada, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), The Giustra Foundation, the Open Society Foundations, The Shapiro Foundation, and the University of Ottawa Refugee Hub. The GRSI works to encourage and support the adoption and expansion of community sponsorship programs around the world. The GRSI began by sharing Canada's history, experience, and leadership in community sponsorship, by supporting countries in designing new programs that meet their unique needs, and by sharing innovations emerging in community sponsorship around the world.

In partnership with local community leaders and government policymakers, the GRSI aims to:

- ▶ Increase refugee resettlement opportunities and improve refugee integration outcomes by engaging governments, community groups, individuals, philanthropists, and businesses in resettlement efforts;
- ▶ Strengthen local host communities that come together to welcome newcomers; and
- ▶ Promote welcoming and inclusive societies and improve the narrative about refugees and other newcomers.

What does the GRSI do?

1. EXPERIENCE & INFORMATION SHARING

Sharing countries' community sponsorship experiences and providing public resources on community sponsorship.

2. CHAMPIONING COMMUNITY SPONSORSHIP

Identifying and supporting relevant actors including civil society organizations, local, national, and regional authorities, and communities interested in promoting community sponsorship.

3. POLICY SUPPORT & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Providing technical and strategic guidance to support governments and community actors in designing and scaling their own community sponsorship programs.

4. NETWORK BUILDING

Building partnerships and networks for key actors to connect and benefit from knowledge sharing and exchange.