



Co-sponsoring Refugees with the Afghan Church of the GTA

Who may be sponsored as a Refugee to Canada?

Based on the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act (IRPA): You can initiate resettlement for those who are in refugee-like situations outside of their own country AND outside of Canada, AND their life would be at risk upon return to their homeland, AND who have no other durable solution.

Can I sponsor people who are still in their home country?

No, you should not even start any process if the people are still in their own country of origin. Keep in mind that they might be banned from the program if they relocate only for resettlement purposes.

How can I cosponsor refugees with the Afghan Church of the GTA?

The Government of Canada, through the Ministry of Immigration, Refugee, and Citizenship Canada (IRCC), makes agreements with many established organizations, like church denominations. These are called Sponsorship Agreement Holders (SAH). At the beginning of each year, IRCC allots a specific number of refugee spots to each SAH that they may use during that year. The Afghan Church of the GTA is not an SAH, but we apply for refugee sponsorship spots by working with a number of Christian SAH organizations.

It can cost over \$10,000 per refugee to support them financially for one year. Cosponsors usually raise all of the funds necessary to support a refugee individual or family. The Afghan Church of the GTA will hold the sponsorship funds from the co-sponsor and channel the funds to the SAH providing refugee spots for the refugees. If the refugees' application should be refused, the funds will be reimbursed to the co-sponsor.

The co-sponsor will make a non-refundable donation of \$1,000 (CAD) to the Afghan Church of the GTA to support this ministry and to cover the administrative costs of the application.

Co-sponsors are also responsible for providing practical resettlement help to the refugees after they arrive. This will involve finding accommodation, welcoming at the airport, taking them to government offices to obtain Government documents, finding a doctor and dentist, general orienting them to Canadian life. The Afghan Church of the GTA will provide guidance and some assistance in these tasks. If the co-sponsors do not live in the Greater Toronto Area, we will seek to find a church or group of individuals who will take on the resettlement tasks that cosponsors would be expected to perform.



Co-sponsor Pre-screening Form

If you think that the person(s) that you wish to co-sponsor meet the above criteria, and

- you are willing and able to provide support for them for one year once they arrive in Canada, and
- you are willing and able to contribute \$1,000.00 (CAD) to the sponsorship ministry of the Afghan Church of the GTA,

then complete this form below and email it to refugeehelp@afghanchurch.ca

The Afghan Church of the GTA has limited resources, and accepting your form submission does not guarantee co-sponsorship.

Co-sponsor information

Full name

Address

Phone number

Email address

Refugee information

Full name

(of the individual or family head)

Current address

Phone number

Email address

Number of
family members _____

Status

UNHCR refugee

Country of Asylum refugee

Undocumented person

Stateless person

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Co-sponsor Pre-screening Form

Refugee's story

Have the refugee or head of the family (not the sponsor) write a brief summary of the refugee's story:

- Why did you leave your country?
- What is your current situation in the country where you are living?
- Why are you not able to return to your country of origin?

Please do not exceed this page, or approximately 400 words