

Refugee Life Ministries (RLM) Team Timeline

Interest Meeting

- RLM Staff will meet with church leadership to explain ministry and form partnership.
- RLM staff will meet with interested members of the church to share about refugees, the ministry and to explain the commitment of joining an RLM team.

Gather Team

- Gather members from the church to commit to being part of the team to welcome a family.
- Decide on a team leader(s) who will act as the point person for team and RLM staff.

Welcome Kit

- Determine strategies and timeline for collecting the Welcome Kit. RLM staff are available to assist with this.
- Team will collect Welcome Kit for a Family of 5 (unless the specific family match is already known).

Training One

- RLM Staff will meet with team to discuss the purpose of the ministry, basic cultural training, need to know information, and tips for working together as a team.

Family Match

- RLM staff will look for a family to match with the team. Arrive Ministries receives about 1-4 weeks notice before a family comes.
- RLM staff will communicate information about the family's housing and various appointments.

Training Two

- After approximately a month of being matched with a family, RLM staff will meet with the team again to discuss the family's situation, additional cultural training, and information and tips regarding the family's religious background.

RLM Meeting

- After about 3-4 months of being matched with a family, RLM staff will meet with team to reflect on the past few months. This will be another time of equipping and encouraging one another and looking to the future in how to best serve the family.

Celebrate One Year

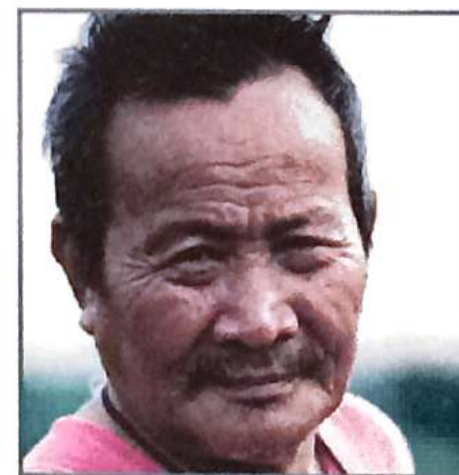
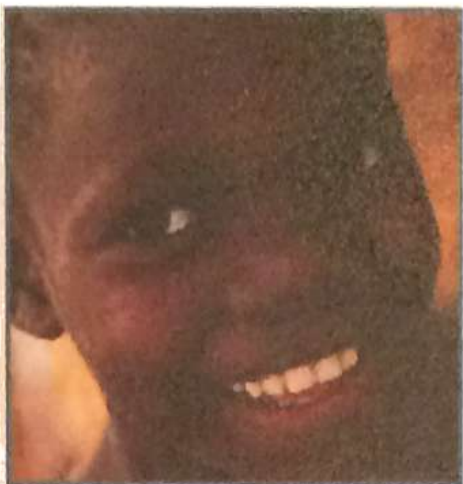
- Celebrate with the family! One year in the United States is a huge milestone.
- Meet as a team to discuss the experience, thank God for what He has done, and pray that He would continue moving in your hearts and in the lives of the refugee family.

World Relief Minnesota is Now



Arrive
Ministries

Serving Refugee & Immigrant Neighbors Together



Now is the time . . .

Continuing to partner with World Relief (U.S.) to transform lives

arriveministries.org



...to be the hands and feet of Jesus.

Today there are more refugees in Minnesota per capita than in any other state in the U.S. This phenomenon is the result of the many job opportunities, strong public and private support and a welcoming environment. Now is the time to celebrate that God has brought the nations to our doorstep and to welcome into our lives new neighbors who have already overcome so many struggles.

Arrive Ministries is a guiding compass on the journey our refugee families face as they navigate within their new environment. By partnering with the local church and dedicated volunteers, we help uprooted people find community, new opportunities, purpose and belonging. Together we restore lives as we see refugees and immigrants transformed economically, socially and spiritually. We, too, are transformed by God in the process of sharing our lives and our stories with our new friends.

We carry out God's command to welcome and bring lifelong transformation to hundreds of refugees and immigrants annually in Minnesota as we collaborate with churches and community partners to provide compassionate support to uprooted refugees, asylees and immigrants. (*Leviticus 19:33-34; Luke 10:25-37; Matthew 25:35-40*)

Our mission is to empower the local church to reach out and serve our new neighbors economically, socially and spiritually.

Arrive Ministries is a guiding compass on the refugee

Refugees arrive in Minnesota looking for hope and safety after overcoming war, persecution and years of trauma. They leave the familiarity of all that they knew to live in a new land with few friends or family, experiencing difficulties communicating and understanding our culture. They are the “widows, orphans and strangers” that the Bible calls us to love and serve. (*Deuteronomy 10:18*)

Arrive Ministries works daily to empower local churches, faith communities and passionate volunteers to be the hands and feet of Jesus in the lives of these refugees, immigrants and asylees from dozens of countries. Churches offer the best vehicle for assisting those who arrive in our communities seeking new lives and new beginnings.

While many refugees arrive with a vibrant Christian faith, many more have never heard the Good News of the Gospel. Because of the displacement of more than 17 million people around the globe, we are presented with mission at our doorsteps ordained by God.

“From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and where they should live.” Acts 17:26



Serving Refugee & Immigrant Neighbors Together



Building friendships by serving our newest neighbors

Through our Resources – Refugees must establish their households in Minnesota after arriving with few belongings and extremely limited resources. Churches, small groups and individuals bless new arrivals when they assist with basic household goods, furniture and other necessities.

Through our Relationships – While making their homes in Minnesota, newly arrived refugees need new friends who will love them and help them to understand our culture and navigate the complexities of our educational, medical and government systems.

Through our Advocacy – People with a passion for refugee and immigrant issues can become advocates within their churches and communities by facilitating educational opportunities, recruiting volunteers, and speaking on behalf of immigrants and refugees with local organizations and policymakers.

Abdirisak arrived in Minnesota with his older brother. To help support his new life in the U.S., he started working with our Refugee Employment Services Program. Abdirisak and his employment counselor immediately got busy with the job search process. Together they went to businesses to fill out applications, looked for jobs online, and practiced job interviewing skills.



Arrive Ministries learned about a local hiring agency that had restaurant locations in Minneapolis and were eager to hire refugee workers. We knew that Abdirisak would be a good fit for one of their dishwashing positions. He interviewed and got the job.

As weeks passed, his manager was so pleased by his hard work that another Arrive Ministries employment client also got a job at the same restaurant. Abdirisak has trained him and they have become friends. Abdirisak is now better able to support himself while also sending money back to his family in Africa who live in a refugee camp.

Abdirisak told us, “Without Arrive Ministries I didn’t know what to do in Minnesota. You helped me make a better life.”

Arrive Ministries Refugee Resettlement Services:

- Refugee Reception and Placement
- Refugee Cash Assistance
- Refugee Employment Services
- Immigration Legal Services
- Citizenship Classes
- Refugee Social Service Support

journey.

“To be a refugee is survival, to be an immigrant is opportunity, to be a citizen is contribution.”
– anonymous



Arrive Ministries

Serving Refugee & Immigrant Neighbors Together

Refugee Life Ministries (RLM) works with partner churches to welcome and resettle refugee families who arrive in Minnesota from around the globe. Church teams are paired with newly arrived refugees to assist with home orientation, employment, budgeting, medical care, education, U.S. cultural orientation and ESL tutoring while sharing the Gospel, hospitality and friendship.

Rajo Ministries equips churches to extend hope and love to the Somali community in Minnesota, helping them to develop friendships with Americans, learn new skills like sewing and baking, and receive help with practical needs such as transportation, tutoring and English acquisition.

Somali Adult Literacy Training (SALT) addresses the crippling condition of illiteracy among the more than 70,000 Somalis who make Minnesota their home. SALT has provided English language learning classes throughout the Twin Cities and in several other states to over 1,200 students. At many SALT sites, volunteer tutors work one-on-one with Somali students after teachers lead classroom instruction and literacy lessons, while other sites use an in-home tutoring model.

Church Refugee Gardens provide refugees with the opportunity to garden and make a familiar connection to the life our new neighbors once knew. These gardens also create an avenue for local congregations to build friendships with refugee families while helping them to put fresh food on their tables. Churches provide garden plots and help refugee families with gardening resources as they assist them to assimilate to American life.



How will you get involved?

Please partner with Arrive Ministries by praying, giving and volunteering. Together we strengthen and equip churches to serve their communities, enabling them to be beacons of hope for refugees in the life changing power of Jesus Christ.

You can assist with:

Resources: financial support and donations for furniture and refugee welcome kits (household necessities and winter coats)

Relationships: befriending, mentoring, tutoring and serving refugees through practical support and friendship-building activities

Recruiting: finding other passionate individuals and church teams to work together to serve refugees with practical support and genuine friendships.

To participate in Arrive Ministries refugee resettlement, visit the "How you can help" section of arriveministries.org for current volunteer opportunities.

"Before this experience, I really didn't know much about refugees and why they have come to the US. I used to think it was just to escape poverty, but it is so much more than that. So my eyes have been opened to understanding people who are coming from those situations and to appreciate how fortunate I have been to be born in a country where I know that I can go about my day and know I will be safe and free."



Arrive Ministries

Serving Refugee & Immigrant Neighbors Together



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REFUGEE LIFE MINISTRIES



Arrive Ministries

Serving Refugee & Immigrant Neighbors Together



Equipping churches to welcome
newly-arrived refugee families with the love of Christ

What is Refugee Life Ministries?

Every year thousands of refugees arrive in Minnesota from all over the world. Some of these refugees know Jesus; others have never understood the truth of who he is – while still others have never heard of him at all. Refugee Life Ministries (RLM), a church-based ministry of Arrive Ministries, provides churches with an opportunity to welcome newly-arrived refugee families with the love of Christ. Church teams are equipped to love their refugee friends holistically as they build genuine friendships, help them adjust to life in the U.S., assist with practical needs, and share the good news of Jesus.

Not only do churches become part of God's transformative work in the lives of their refugee friends, but they also find that they too are changed as they engage in this kingdom work. The pastor of one church noted that being a part of Refugee Life Ministries transformed his congregation. They were no longer an inward-focused church, but they became actively engaged in many new ways in God's work outside of the church.

What support do RLM Teams receive?

Members of church teams divide up tasks and responsibilities so that no one person is stretched beyond their capacity to serve. RLM teams are provided with ongoing cultural and practical training before and after they are matched with a family. They also attend bi-monthly training with other RLM church teams. This training provides Biblical, practical and cultural insights, while also equipping teams to share the gospel and provide assistance with home and community orientation, employment, budgeting, education, and navigating life in a new city. In addition, RLM staff provide continuous support – meeting with teams, providing resources and advice, and quickly responding to phone calls and emails.



Get Involved

Refugee Life Ministries operates in many churches across the Twin Cities. Our hope is that one day every refugee family that is resettled through Arrive Ministries will be welcomed by a church team. If you are interested in learning more about how your church or small group can welcome a refugee family, visit our website or contact Arrive Ministries for more information.

"By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth."
– 1 John 3:16-18

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Help a family in transition by collecting an arrival welcome kit.

Get Involved

When refugees arrive in the United States, they come with very few, if any, household items. They need to furnish an entire home with very few financial resources. You can help bless refugee and immigrant families by gathering the items listed and bringing them to Arrive Ministries (or delivering them directly to a family's apartment). You may gather an entire kit for a particular family or host a collection for a variety of items which will be distributed to multiple families. If you prefer to give, your donation will help us purchase needed supplies as together we make a difference in the lives of new arrivals.

Welcome Kit Recommendations

Note: Items or categories marked with * must be new.

Bedding & Linens

Sheet sets - twin & full
Blankets, quilts or comforters
Pillows* & pillow cases
Towel sets - bath, hand, washcloths
Shower curtain* & rings
Bath mat*

Hygiene Supplies*

Toilet paper
Kleenex
Shampoo & conditioner
Soap (Bars)
Soap dish
Toothbrushes & toothpaste
Toothbrush holder
Deodorant
Hand/body lotion
Chapstick
Razors & shaving cream (for men only)
Maxi pads

Cleaning Supplies *

Dish soap
All-purpose cleaner (non-toxic)
Sponges
Paper towels
Laundry detergent
Waste baskets (bathroom & kitchen)
Broom & dust pan
Mop & bucket
Trash bags
Toilet brush

Household Items

Alarm clock with batteries
Notebook & pens
Light bulbs
Laundry basket
Clothing hangers
Pocket dictionary
Picture dictionary
Calculator
Microwave
Vacuum cleaner

School Items*

Folders with pockets
Wide-ruled notebooks
#2 pencils, pencil sharpener
Erasers
Scissors
Highlighters
Rulers
Glue or glue sticks
Crayons
Pencil bags or boxes
Pens (black or blue)
Three-ring binders

Kitchen & Dining

Tableware (knives, forks, spoons)
Place settings (plate, bowl, cup, glass, etc.)
Mixing & serving bowls
Kitchen utensils (serving spoons, spatula, etc.)
Sharp knives
Can opener
Water/juice serving pitcher
Set of pots & pans
Baking dishes
Dish towels
Rice cooker
Large Rubbermaid storage containers

Baby items*

Diapers & wipes
Blanket
Baby bottles
Baby-sized bowls & utensils
Baby wash/shampoo & lotion
Car seat*

Note:

We are also accepting used cell phones, in partnership with Secure the Call.

To show respect to our clients, we only accept new or slightly used items. If a used item is potentially unsafe, may not work properly, or is so worn or old that the previous owner no longer wishes to use it, we respectfully ask that you refrain from donating that item to our refugees. Arrive Ministries reserves the right to refuse any donation that does not meet our standard.