



Refugee Co-Sponsorship

Lutheran Family Services of Nebraska (LFS) welcomes hundreds of refugees to Nebraska every year. Newly-arrived refugees need support for daily tasks such as shopping, connecting to others in their new community and learning financial literacy.

Your faith, civic or educational group can empower newly-arriving refugees through co-sponsorship. **Co-sponsors are guides, friends and advocates for newly-arrived refugees, helping refugees become self-sufficient quickly.** By working together, your group and LFS can best assure refugees succeed in their new country.

As Guides: Co-sponsors supply initial food, goods and clothing for refugees. They introduce refugees to U.S. culture, acquainting them with important aspects of American life, culture and customs.

As Friends: Co-sponsors offer friendship, emotional support and encouragement as refugees adjust to U.S. culture. Co-sponsors share in the cultural heritage of refugees and honor their customs and traditions.

As Advocates: To help ensure refugees are not exploited, discriminated against or taken advantage of, co-sponsors encourage refugees to connect with other refugees for mutual support, and to network with other groups to foster multi-cultural communication and understanding.

Co-sponsors are encouraged to make a 90-day commitment to the refugee(s). This is an ethical, not legal, commitment. And LFS staff will provide you instruction, information and advice during your co-sponsorship.



**Lutheran
Family Services**
of Nebraska, Inc.

**Community
Services
Offices**

1941 South 42nd Street
Suite 402
Omaha, NE 68105
(402) 536-3500

2301 "O" Street
Lincoln, NE 68510
(402) 441-7940

www.LFSneb.org

CO-SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

Level One:

- Collect all items outlined in "The Whole Nine Yards" to help furnish a new family's apartment or participate in a one-day apartment set-up.
- Purchase culturally-appropriate groceries for the new family.

Level Two

- Level One, plus meet the new family at the airport and share their first meal with them.

Level Three

- Level Two, plus commit to visiting the family at least once a week for three to six months. (May be an individual or a team of 6 to 8 people).

READY TO GET STARTED? CONTACT:

Omaha: (402) 536-3513 or WelcomeRefugees@LFSneb.org



**Items
needed to
set up a
refugee
household**



**Lutheran
Family Services**
of Nebraska, Inc.

Kitchen Items

Pots & Pans
Dishes
Glasses & Cups
Cooking utensils
Flatware
Can opener
Sharp knives
Mixing bowls
Plastic storage & Zip-Locs
Trash can
Cutting Board
Dishcloths
Paper towels
Bakeware
Teapot
Rice Cooker
Dish drainers
Plastic wrap & foil

Cleaning Items

Broom & dust pan
Bucket & mop
Dish washing soap
All purpose cleaner
Plastic trash bags
Sponges/cleaning rags
Laundry detergent
Scouring pads & powder
Toilet bowl brush & cleaner

Furniture

Dining table/chairs
Beds
Lamps
Couch
Dressers
Recliners
Coffee & side tables
Desks

Only Clothing Accepted

Winter coats
Gloves, hats, & scarves
Shoes
Children's clothing (*new or in good condition*)
Jeans



LFS International Services

Bedding

Bed sheets
Comforters
Blankets
Pillows

New Toiletries

Toothpaste/Toothbrush
Soap
Shampoo
Deodorant
Brush & comb
Razor & shaving cream
Feminine hygiene
Toilet paper
New towels & wash cloths
Lotion
Nail clippers
Diapers & wipes (if needed)
First aid kit & aspirin

Miscellaneous

Alarm clock/clock radio
Light bulbs
Shower curtains & hooks
Linens
Clothes hangers
T.V.
Calendar
Rugs
Electric fans
Vacuums
Radio/Stereo
Crayons, pens, pencils
Dictionary
Bicycles
Scissors & tape
Telephones
Quarters for laundry
Grocery store gift certificates
10-ride Omaha Metro bus passes

Due to staff and space limitations, we cannot accept:

Recliner sofas
Waterbeds & king size beds
Decorations/knick-knacks
Broken or incomplete items
Stained or unwashed clothing items

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Please call to schedule pickups for large items.
Our need for appliances varies. Please call for information.