



# An information pack on Refugee Welcome

# Reset has been supporting refugee welcome since 2018



***With the motivation and dedication of volunteers, we've welcomed over 2,000 refugees***

At Reset, we now work on three different programmes that all work towards promoting the community-led welcome of refugees across the UK.

Our longest standing programme is Community Sponsorship, which allows communities in the UK to welcome a refugee family through safe routes.

In the last year, we've been working with Talent Beyond Boundaries and NHS England on a programme called Neighbours for Newcomers. This programme welcomes refugee nurses to come to the UK and work in the NHS and we bring together communities to welcome and support these nurses.

Finally, since March 2022, we've been working to provide a matching service for those coming to the UK under the Homes for Ukraine scheme.

# A BRIEF GUIDE TO COMMUNITY SPONSORSHIP

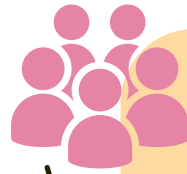
The Community Sponsorship scheme was launched by the Home Office in 2016, in response to the Syrian civil war. A new, community-led movement was born and very quickly Community Sponsorship groups sprung up in every region and nation of the UK. In the first five years of the programme more than 150 groups welcomed almost 700 refugees.

A new chapter of Community Sponsorship began in early 2021 with the launch of the UK Resettlement Scheme (UKRS). The scheme focuses on resettling those who are registered with UNHCR in host countries in the Middle East, North Africa and elsewhere. The UKRS was designed to welcome the most vulnerable families who have been waiting the longest for resettlement. Unlike previous resettlement schemes, the UKRS has a broader, global scope. Community Sponsorship is a movement that is set to continue growing and thriving. Since January 2022, Community Sponsorship groups have been able to welcome those who were forced to flee Afghanistan, through the Afghan Citizen Resettlement Scheme.

The group supports the family through their first year in the UK to live independent lives, develop their English language skills, and access schools, benefits, healthcare and employment and participate fully in the community. These groups receive training and support from Reset through every stage of their journey and are also supported by their Lead Sponsor, who takes legal responsibility for the project.



# YOUR COMMUNITY SPONSORSHIP ROAD MAP



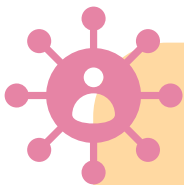
The first thing to do is **get a group together**. Hopefully, you'll meet just the right people at your CommuniTea Party!



Next, you need to find a registered charity that will take legal responsibilities associated with Community Sponsorship. This is called a **Lead Sponsor**.



Once you have your Lead Sponsor, you need to get consent from your **Local Authority**. They can provide your group with additional support, and signpost you to resources.



You will then need to **research your local area**. Making sure you've made good connections to help the family you are sponsoring integrate smoothly. Job centres, schools and GPs are a must!



With all the information gathered, you and your Lead Sponsor will submit the sponsorship application to the **Home Office**.



The Home Office require Community Sponsorship groups to **raise a minimum of £9,000** which will be used to buy essential items for the family you welcome.



Whilst you're busy fundraising, you'll also need to **source accommodation** for the family you're welcoming that will be affordable for the family and available to them from the day that they arrive in the UK and for the next 2 years.



Once you've got all of this in place, the Home Office will approve your application and **match you with one of the families identified by the UNHCR** (the UN's Refugee Agency) as being in priority need for resettlement.



Once you've been matched, the **Home Office will inform you of their arrival date**, and key members of your group will **meet them at the airport** and welcome them to the UK!

# NOT SURE ABOUT COMMUNITY SPONSORSHIP?

## WE ALSO RUN OTHER PROGRAMMES THAT WELCOME REFUGEES...



**Homes for Ukraine** was set up in response to the war in Ukraine. At Reset, we run a government recognised matching service.

Through training, guidance and attention to detail, we make sure that sponsors and Ukrainians coming to the UK are as prepared as possible for their six months of sponsorship.

You'll need to be able to offer at least one room in your home for a minimum of six months, which you cannot charge rent for. However, you'll be offered a monthly thank you payment of £350 from the government, which you will be paid for up to a year.

Don't worry, we have loads of information on our website and if you have any questions, you can email us!

 [homesforukraine@resetuk.org](mailto:homesforukraine@resetuk.org)

 [www.homesforukraine.org.uk](http://www.homesforukraine.org.uk)



Local volunteers can welcome and support skilled healthcare workers forced to flee their home countries as they begin new careers and find homes in communities across the UK with **Neighbours for Newcomers**.

This joint initiative between Reset and Talent Beyond Boundaries coordinates a community-led welcome of skilled forcibly displaced people, including refugees. 'Newcomers' are candidates of Talent Beyond Boundaries' Displaced Talent Mobility programme and are coming to the UK with Skilled Worker Visas having fled their home countries. Newcomers will be working with employers, mostly NHS Trusts, across the UK.

If you get involved, you will be providing support to 'newcomers' who are working in your area who have come through this scheme. This can be anything from helping find music lessons, to next accommodation or going for a cup of tea.

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