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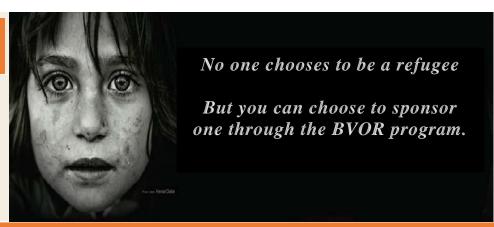
Volume 1 Issue 1

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Share the cost and save a life!

# BVORNEWS



Choosing to Sponsor >>>

RSTP will help match you with a suitable BVOR refugee and guide you through the sponsorship process

BVOR refugees are referred by UNHCR to Canadian visa offices and not by private groups or organizations. If you know of a particular refugee or refugee family that you would like to privately sponsor, please contact a sponsoring group or contact the <a href="mailto:info@rstp.ca">info@rstp.ca</a> for guidance.

**Update from ROC-O:** New Application form Guide for Groups of Five & Community Sponsors: When a BVOR case is sponsored, ROC-O gives the sponsor a deadline of 14 calendar days to submit the undertaking/paperwork. Now, when a G5 or CS sponsors a BVOR case the Officer requests a CPIC check at ROC-O. If no record appears, the Officer can proceed with processing the BVOR decision. This ensures that the application is not delayed. If a record appears, the Officer will request an official criminal record check. In short, you no longer need to submit a criminal check when you send your BVOR application.

## The Blended Visa Office-Referred (BVOR) Program

### A Cost-Sharing Program!

The BVOR Program is designed to resettle refugees identified by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) who have been approved by the Canadian government.

The refugee/refugee family sponsored through the BVOR program will arrive within 6 to 12 weeks after their application is approved.

The refugees resettled under the BVOR Program receive income support from the Government of Canada through the Resettlement Assistance Program (RAP) for 6 months after their arrival (during months 2-7). Private sponsors offer another 6 months of financial support (during months one and 8-12) and the startup costs.

### What are the sponsor's settlement responsibilities?

- *Reception* at the airport (refugees are not be taken to the Reception Centre);
- Housing & basic necessities (this is covered for 6 months through RAP income support, but sponsors cover start-up costs);
- Settlement assistance (such as language classes, enrollment in school, finding health care providers, introducing job search resources, etc.), and
- Emotional & moral support.

# Who can Sponsor under the BVOR Program?

To sponsor refugees under this program, you must be a:

- Sponsorship Agreement Holder (SAH) or Constituent Group (a group that can sponsor refugees under a SAH agreement);
- Group of Five; or a
- Community Sponsor.





Photo: UNHCR

# Refugee Populations in the BVOR Program include (but are not limited to):

- Syrians, Iraqis, Iranians
- Congolese, Ethiopians, Eritreans
- Somalis, Colombians, Sudanese

Particular vulnerabilities or reasons for resettlement:

- Woman and girls at risk
- LGBTQ2
- Survivors of violence and torture
- Lack of foreseeable alternative durable solutions

To learn more about the countries that refugees are coming from, visit RSTP's website:

http://www.rstp.ca/en/refugees/country-condition-information/.



Photo: UNHCR

## Today, there are <u>123</u> available BVOR Refugee Profiles in the RSTP Matching Database

They include:

**REFUGEE PROFILE #: 1270-06-18 Xref-1271-06-18** 

**FAMILY SIZE: Two** 

Additional information- Woman at Risk, relative in Moose Jaw, SK

**COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Democratic Rep. of Congo** 

**COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE: Tanzania** 

This 30-year-old Congolese woman with one 11-year-old child has a grade 5 education and has experience selling items. She is a woman at risk. She is seeking a better life and would appreciate the assistance of a sponsor during her resettlement in Canada. Her mother and relatives live in Moose Jaw, SK and she would like to resettle close to them. Her 26-year-old nephew is linked case **BVOR 1271-06-18**, t We recommend they resettle together.

**REFUGEE PROFILE #:1290-06-18** 

**FAMILY SIZE: Three** 

Additional information- Friend in Toronto, ON

**COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Syria** 

**COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE: Jordan** 

This 23-year-old Syrian man and his 25-year-old wife have one child, and are looking for sponsors in Toronto, ON. He and his wife have limited education and English language skills. He is a survivor of violence and trauma and cannot return to his ountry for safety and security concerns. They have a friend in Toronto and we recommend they resettle there.

REFUGEE PROFILE #:1337-06-18 Additional information- Ottawa, ON

**FAMILY SIZE: Six** 

**COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Syria** 

**COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE: Turkey** 

A 41-year-old Syrian man, his 32-year-old wife and four young kids (ages 8-14) are looking for sponsors in Ottawa, ON. He and his spouse have limited education and language ability. He has work experience as a barber in his home country and currently works as a porter. He is a survivor of violence and trauma and cannot return to his country of origin due to safety and security concerns.

### Available BVOR Refugee Profiles (continued)

**REFUGEE PROFILE #: 1136-06-18** 

**FAMILY SIZE: Three** 

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: None COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Somalia COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE: Ethiopia

A 47-year-old single mother with two daughters aged 25 and 24. She has limited education, language and work experience. Both of her daughters have English language knowledge which will help the family to establish fairly quickly. The family has no medical needs and no relatives in Canada. They cannot return to her country of origin due to safety and security concerns. The family will benefit from sponsor assistance in the community of settlement.

REFUGEE PROFILE #: 1202-05-18

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Woman at Risk

**FAMILY SIZE: Two** 

**COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Eritrea COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE: Eygpt** 

This 42-year-old Eritrean woman has an 11-year-old child. She has nine years education and experience as a kitchenware store owner, a cleaner and a housekeeper. She is trained in emergency injury treatment. She and her child do not have any resettlement needs. She is a survivor of the gender-based violence and would benefit from counselling services as well as the assistance of a sponsor during her resettlement in Canada.

**REFUGEE PROFILE #: 1274-06-18** 

**FAMILY SIZE: One** 

**COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Somalia COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE: Kenya** 

This single Somali man with no children has no work experience, speaks a little English and has an informal Grade 7 education. He has few resettlement needs, but is a survivor of violence and may benefit from counselling support. He cannot return to Somalia for fear of his safety due to his sexual orientation. He would appreciate the assistance of a sponsor during his resettlement in Canada.



#### Ask the experts >>>

Where can I find information on the RAP rate for the family I sponsored?

A: The Resettlement Assistance
Program (RAP) rates for
refugees sponsored under the
BVOR program varies for each
Province/Territory. Visit:
<a href="http://www.rstp.ca/en/sponsorship-responsibilities/resettlement-assistance-program-rap-rates/">http://www.rstp.ca/en/sponsorship-responsibilities/resettlement-assistance-program-rap-rates/</a> to
get information on the RAP rate
for your Province or Territory.

## Upcoming BVOR event

Sponsoring refugees through the BVOR program.

Date: Wednesday July 25, 2018

Time: 6-8 PM

Welcome Place - Manitoba Interfaith Immigration Council, 521 Bannatyne Ave, Winnipeg, MB R3A 0E4

You can register for the workshop by visiting the following link:

https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/sponsoring-refugees-through-the-bvor-program-tickets-48239966037

If you are interested in sponsoring any of the available BVOR refugee profiles included here, or want to learn more, **log in to the RSTP Matching Database** with your username and password: **cathcrosscultural.sharepoint.com/rstp** 







Immigration, Refugees

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