

WORKPLACES are rich in people, networks and opportunities that benefit newcomers. Colleagues can form a workplace sponsorship group, while employers can provide employment and volunteer opportunities for newcomers, or fund the sponsorship cost.



“I did not want to grow old and say I stood by and did nothing. I wanted to settle as many people as possible with the money and resources I had available.”

Jim Estill, CEO Danby Appliances, Guelph, ON.
Has sponsored more than 200 refugees.



“Refugee sponsorship is the most meaningful and powerful thing that we can do.”

Tyler Berglund, Owner,
Doors Metal Bar
and Taco Joint,
Hamilton, ON.
Sponsoring for the
second time.

FIND OUT MORE

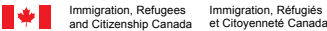
CONTACT:
BVOR@RSTP.CA | 877.290.1701 X2403



The Refugee Sponsorship Training Program (RSTP) administers the BVOR program.

Refugee Sponsorship Training Program
c/o Catholic Crosscultural Services
55 Town Centre Court, Ste. 401, Toronto, ON M1P 4X4
Toll-free: 877.290.1701 info@rstp.ca

www.rstp.ca



Thank you to The Refugee Hub (refugeehub.ca) for their resources on workplace sponsorship.



**WORKPLACE SPONSORSHIP
OF REFUGEES**

Refugee
Sponsorship
Training
Program

www.rstp.ca

Your workplace can help refugees find a safe, secure home from which to rebuild their lives.

**We're here to help you become
a workplace sponsor.**

WHO ARE REFUGEES?

- Refugees in need of resettlement come from the Middle East, Africa, Asia and Latin America. Refugees are noted for their resilience. They are eager to establish themselves and their families in Canada as quickly as possible.

WHY SPONSORSHIP IS IMPORTANT

- Of the more than 21 million refugees who need to be resettled, fewer than one percent will ever find a permanent home.
- Canada is one of the few countries that offers full rights to refugees, including the right to work, citizenship and education.

HOW DO I SPONSOR?

- Refugee sponsors form groups to provide financial, emotional and settlement support to newcomers during their first year in Canada.
- Contact RSTP's BVOR program at bvor@rstp.ca, and we'll help you choose a refugee.

THE BVOR PROGRAM

- **The BVOR (Blended Visa Office-Referred) program is the quickest way to sponsor refugees.** UN-referred and government-approved, the refugees are travel-ready and arrive within 6 to 12 weeks of your application being approved.
- **The financial cost of each BVOR sponsorship is shared with the Government of Canada.** The sponsoring group is responsible for resettlement, helped by local resettlement agencies.



THROUGH WORKPLACE SPONSORSHIP, YOU CAN:

- **Save lives** – Help more refugees find a safe, secure home in Canada.
- **Build community** – Within the workplace and with the refugee newcomers and their families. Sponsors often say that this is the greatest reward of sponsorship.
- **Develop skills** – A sponsorship group works together to achieve an important goal. Through sponsorship, staff take on new roles and develop new abilities such as project management, group facilitation and fundraising.
- **Share cultures** – Sponsors and newcomers learn about each other's cultures – music, food, traditions. This enriches everyone involved.



- **Increase workplace engagement** – Sponsorship can contribute to the employer's Corporate Social Responsibility goals and increase employee engagement.