



# Friends of Refugees www.friendsofrefugees.com

## INDIVIDUAL VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

### **Support After School Tutoring**

Spend time with middle and high school students. Share a meal, play soccer, assist with homework. Start an elementary tutoring program at an apartment complex in Clarkston. Join the Friends of Refugees Youth Program to make a difference in the life of students and their families. (Weekly commitment for one semester. Middle and High School Program on Tuesdays, 5:00-8:00pm. Elementary Program can choose Monday-Thursday afternoons. Minimum commitment of 2-3 hours, one day a week for one semester.)

### **Share Parenting Skills with Refugee Moms**

Parenting in the U.S. is different from many places in the world. Spend time sharing your knowledge and encouraging moms in their parenting abilities in the Refugee Family Literacy Program. Use the skills and knowledge that you already have and become a part of this life-changing program. (Monday-Friday mornings, 11:30-12:30. Weekly commitment for one semester. Opportunities for home visits.)

### **Assist in a Preschool Classroom (ages 0-4)**

While moms are having English classes, Friends of Refugees provides Early Childhood Development for babies through 4 year olds. Assist in engaging some precious little ones and help them learn English in the process! Join our Refugee Family Literacy Program to make a difference in the lives of children and their families. (Monday-Friday mornings, 9:00am-12:00pm. Weekly commitment for one semester.)

### **Support a Pregnant Refugee or New Mother**

Pregnant refugee moms need help getting to pre-natal doctor visits and sometimes need an advocate during the birthing process. New moms need someone to check up on them and to drive to post-partum and new-baby pediatric appointments. Volunteers can help with our Birthing and Women's Health classes by teaching a class, hosting a mom circle, picking up attendees, or bringing snacks. Discover how you can get involved in the Friends of Refugees Embrace Program. (Various days and times.)

### **Assist in Basic Needs Preparation (Food Distribution & Clothes Closet Organization)**

Friends of Refugees receives bread from several bakeries that we make available to refugee families and other partner programs. Wrap bread one day during the week and/or deliver bread to families. Come sort and organize in the clothes closet or help a family shop to find the things they need. (Various days and times.)

### **Volunteer in the Community Garden**

Our garden contains parcels for 95 refugee families in Clarkston. We dig, mulch, chop, build, and organize to support families growing their own food. Join this thriving Friends of Refugees community. (Saturday mornings, 9:00am-12:00pm during the growing season.)

### **Assist Refugees with Resumes and Job Skills**

Café Clarkston Employment Center is a vital part of assisting refugees looking for jobs in the Atlanta area. Find your place in the Internet café, and use your knowledge and skill to help a refugee write a resume, find jobs to apply for, or prepare for an interview. (Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday afternoons. Monthly, biweekly, or weekly commitment for six months.)

### **Lead in Summer Camp Spectacular**

For eight weeks every summer, Friends of Refugees provides camp for 130 children in the Clarkston community. Find your place at the crafts table, on the game field, or during the academic hour. Come hang out with elementary and middle school kids this summer at Summer Camp! (Monday-Friday, 8:30am-1:30pm. Daily or weekly commitment for June & July, or a one-week commitment.)

### **Support Refugee Women Who Sew, Knit, Weave & Bead**

The Refugee Sewing Society helps women create beautiful handmade goods, such as dolls, purses, scarves, and jewelry. Become a part of this Friends of Refugees program to help women learn English, develop craft and sewing skills, and sell handmade products. (Sewing ability not required. Monday-Wednesday, 11:00am-4:00pm, Weekly, six month commitment.)

### **Mentor a Refugee Family**

Most refugee families would like to have an American family come alongside them as friends. Discover how your family can help a refugee family practice English, learn their way around Atlanta, or figure out American culture. Join the Family to Family Program through Friends of Refugees. (Various days and times, four month commitment.)

### **Need More Information and Time**

If you are not sure what the right fit might be for you, that's understandable. The first step in our volunteer process is Friends of Refugees Orientation. Check this box, and we will invite you to an upcoming orientation where you will hear and see more detail about all of our programs. At the end of orientation, you can determine where and when you would like to volunteer.

## GROUP SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Within the programs of Friends of Refugees, we can find a fit for nearly any group—regardless of size, date or ability. This partial list of group opportunities will give you an idea of the kinds of experiences we are able to host, but this list does not cover all the possibilities. Contact [volunteer@friendsofrefugees.com](mailto:volunteer@friendsofrefugees.com) to create a unique experience for your group!

### Host an Embrace Program Baby Shower

Throw a baby shower for expectant refugee moms to provide basic necessities for their babies. We provide a list of basic items needed for each mom—which you purchase—and an Embrace cloth bag for each mom for you to pack with gifts. You will plan the shower—bring decorations, light snacks, and the prepared gift bags. We will provide the location and invite the moms. What a great way to serve women who are building a life—and a family—in a new culture! (Quarterly events. Groups up to 15. Perfect for women's groups!)

### Tackle a Community Garden Project

The Jolly Avenue Community Garden is a living, changing thing. There are always projects to complete! Mulching pathways, repairing or building fences, splitting wood for the fire pit, maintaining the common berry garden—we can find a project that will work for almost any size group on almost any day of the week. Come alongside our refugee gardener families and protect this amazing Friends of Refugees community project. (Various days and times, 5-50+ people. Great for scouts or students!)

### Experience Summer Camp

Groups from all over Metro Atlanta come to Clarkston for a week to assist in leading Summer Camp. Bring your group to serve at camp in the mornings and to participate in another area of service in Clarkston every afternoon. Summer groups will receive cross-cultural education and camp training. This is a packaged experience with accommodations in Clarkston that will allow your group to experience life in a refugee community. (All summer, one week, Saturday-Saturday, 10-30 people. Perfect church mission trip!)

### Visit in Refugee Homes

Many times during the year, we send groups into the community to communicate with our refugee families—to deliver invitations to Garden Parties, to register kids for Summer Camp, to report and solve small maintenance problems for families. Bring your group to Clarkston and discover how you can serve in this vulnerable, but culturally-rich community. (Various days and times, 10-50+ people. Great for families, adults, seniors, and church groups.)

### Help Refugees Find Jobs

Bring your small group to Café Clarkston and apply your knowledge and skill to help others find employment. Perhaps your group could host an interview preparation workshop or could provide several hours of computer maintenance and clean up. Maybe your company needs to hire some hard-working, honest employees—your group could hold a job fair in the Café. Your experience working in the United States is a valuable thing in this Friends of Refugees program! (Various days and times. Café is open Tuesday & Thursday from 2:00-5:00pm and Saturday from 12:00-3:00pm, 4-8 people. Great for corporate volunteer days!)

### Assist in a Preschool Classroom (ages 0-4)

While moms are having English classes, Friends of Refugees provides Early Childhood Development for babies through 4 year olds. Assist in engaging some precious little ones and help them learn English in the process! Join our Refugee Family Literacy Program to make a difference in the lives of children and their families. (Monday-Friday mornings, 9:00am-12:00pm. Groups up to 20. Perfect for students, seniors—anyone who loves kids!)

### Step into the Sewing Circle

The Refugee Sewing Society provides community and supplemental income for refugee families. Your small group could provide a pop-up shop in your community to sell these fabulous handmade items or contact boutiques to find new locations to carry our merchandise. Perhaps your group would like to spend time tagging merchandise, cutting fabric, or organizing supplies in the Refugee Sewing Society. (Various days and times. RSS is open Monday-Wednesday, 11:00am-4:00pm, 4-10 people. Great for women's groups!)

### Host Dinner and Hang Out After School

Bring your small group to provide and serve dinner for our middle and high school students in our after-school tutoring program. Hang out, play soccer, and share a meal. (Tuesdays, 6:00-8:00pm, 2-4 people, mostly male groups. Great for guys night out!)

## WALK IN MY SHOES—EXPERIENCE LIFE AS A REFUGEE

This unique and customized experience takes your group through simulations and thought-provoking activities that allow them to experience what it might be like to live as a resettled refugee in an unfamiliar country. The experience can be a half-day or several days, depending on your preference and time allowance. The Walk in My Shoes experience is a great place to start for any group that is new to Clarkston—especially groups that have no cross-cultural volunteer experience. *(A per-person fee is charged for attendance, which is calculated based on the specifics of your group's experience. Developed by World Relief in partnership with Rehoboth Baptist Church and Mission To the World.)*

To register as a volunteer: [www.friendsofrefugees.com](http://www.friendsofrefugees.com)