

Jolly Avenue

DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Abundant Life in Flourishing Communities



Friends *of* Refugees

“The progress of the world will call for
the best that all of us have to give.”
– Mary McLeod Bethune

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Friends of Refugees' mission is to empower refugees through opportunities that provide for their well-being, education, and employment.

We anticipate more than doubling the impact of our programs through this new facility.



CARING THROUGH RELATIONSHIPS & OPPORTUNITY

1,800... the number of refugees from countries facing war, famine, religious persecution or political unrest that are resettled in the Clarkston area every year.

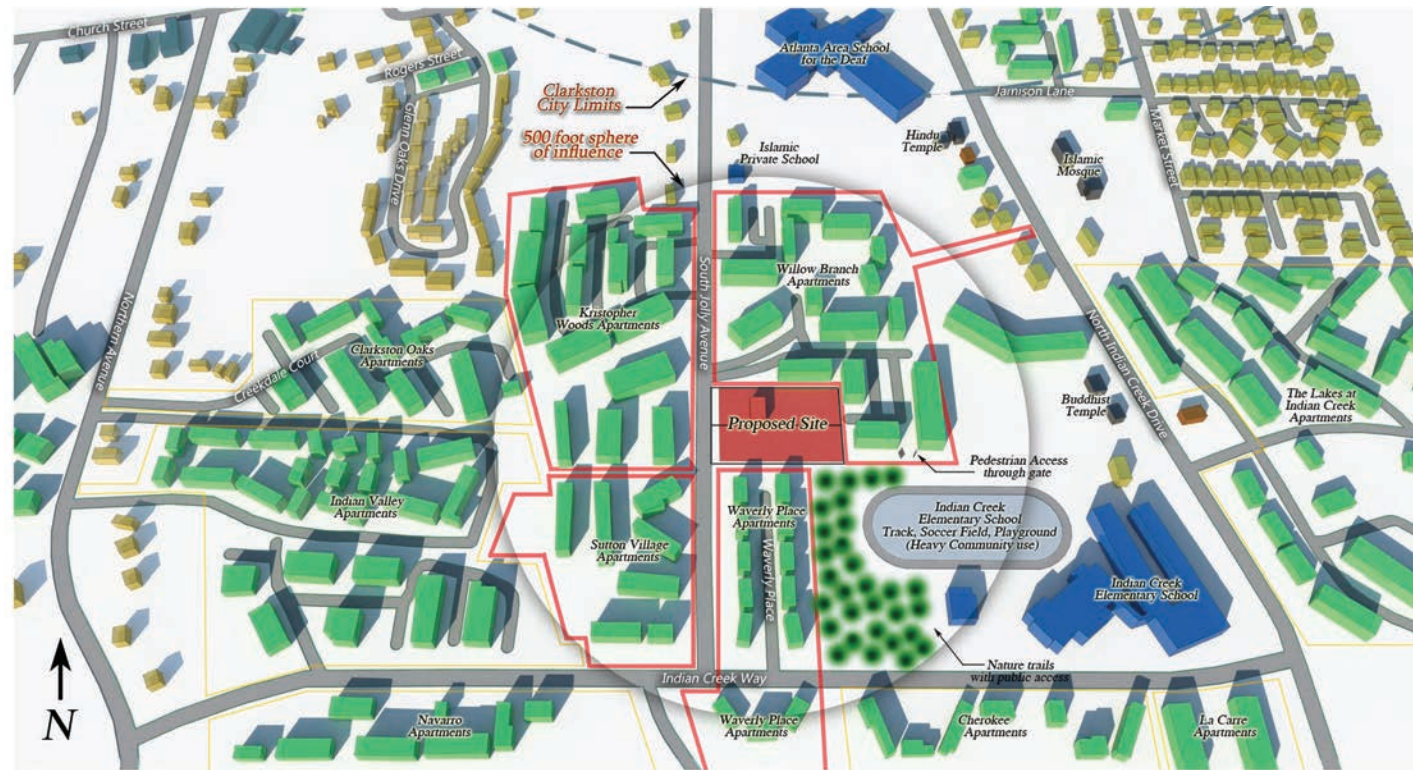
Transitioning from life in a refugee camp to Atlanta has numerous challenges such as not knowing how to speak English, how to drive, or even how to turn on the lights!

Friends of Refugees was established not only to help refugees overcome these challenges, but also to experience the abundant life that Jesus promised. One relationship at a time.

Friends of Refugees programs care for refugees through relationships and opportunities that provide for their well-being, education, and employment as they become leading members of the community.

“We can never get a re-creation of community and heal our society without giving our citizens a sense of belonging.”

– Hunter Campbell Adams



Legend:

- Multi-family Residential
- Single-family Residential
- Academia
- Religious
- Office/ Institutional
- Commercial
- Less affected area of impact
- More affected area of impact

Ethnic diversities represented in adjacent communities:

Acholi	Bangubangu	Chin	Fulbe	Kachin	Mobidan	Romanian	Tigrinya
Afghan	Bantu	China	Fulero	Karen	Moldovian	Russian	Tumale
Ajuran	Banya	Colombian	Fur	Karenni	Mon	Sabo	Tuni
Amharic	Banyamulenge	Congolese	Gali	Korean	Muhororo	Serbian	Tunisian
Arabic	Barawan	Croatian	Krahn	Mushi	Shan	Turkish	Turkmen
Arkanese	Bembe	Cuban	Kru	Muvira	Sheikhal	Ukrainian	Urdu
Armenian	Benadir	Darod	Kurdish	Mvira	Siryac	Uzbek	
Asharaf	Bhutanes	Digil-Mirifle	Lhotsampa	Nigerian	Somali	Vietnamese	
Assyrian	Bosnian	Dinka	Lor	Oromo	Sri Lankan	Zagawa	
Azerbaijan	Burmese	Dir	Luba	Pashtoon	Sudan	Zimbabwean	
Azeri	Burundi	Eritrea	Madiba	Persian	Tajik		
Babembe	Central Afric. Rep.	Fars	Mandingo	Punjabi	Tama		
	Chadian	Ethiopian	Mende	Rahamweyn	Tamil		
	Bajuni	Chaldean	Foor	Iraq			

Parcel Map:



A SENSE OF BELONGING

Jolly Avenue has transformed into a place where immigrants (especially UN War Refugees) come to embark on their journey of becoming New Americans. We want those who live, work and play here to enjoy a community unlike any other.

The Jolly Avenue Development Center (JADC) is a low-cost, self-funding neighborhood development center being created by the local non-profit Friends of Refugees, in partnership with area businesses, other non-profit organizations, the surrounding property owners, and members of the community.



Abundant outdoor meeting space, family community gardens, wrap-around porches, an edible landscape and public benches make the Jolly Avenue Development Center a place to share life together.



In 2013, more than 1,500 people gave over 50,000 volunteer hours to serve with Friends of Refugees. As a result, we were able to help more than 2,000 individuals across 8 program areas.

A PLACE TO STAY

The JADC hosts a full-time caretaker and director whose role is to manage, maintain, and operate the center, as well as provide hospitality for office tenants, guests, and overnight visitors. The caretaker will also oversee the community gardens, and ensure the security of the property around the clock.


The onsite hospitality provided will allow refugee families sent to Atlanta incorrectly to have a welcoming stay for a few days until they are sent to their correct destination – a relocation process known as “out-migration.” Likewise, volunteer teams from universities and organizations around the country who come to serve will have a place to sleep which is walkable to the community they have come to assist.



UNLOCKING POTENTIAL

Through multiple years of community research, the JADC has been carefully designed not to replicate existing resources in the neighborhood.

The JADC seeks to promote well-being, education and employment by being a space where residents can find what they need to become flourishing, contributing members of the community. Offices can be rented by emerging businesses that support the mission of FOR. While our community gardens grow family food security and ensure the transmission of agricultural knowledge between generations.



Those who come into contact with this center will find what they need to realize the potential they possess; because, while intelligence, ability and ambition are evenly distributed throughout humanity, the opportunity to deploy them for success is not. We're going to change that.



THROUGH EDUCATION & TRAINING

Friends of Refugees' current Uplift programs improve refugee family literacy for hundreds of mothers and their children, support job placement and training services, healthy pregnancy care, youth development programs and more. The JADC will provide critical additional service and office space for these existing programs.

The main auditorium allows the JADC to partner with neighborhood groups in need of a small gathering space within walking distance for educational, religious, and training events. The entire center is designed to serve as a S.T.E.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) field trip and experiment site for adjacent schools, thereby igniting a passion in our children for careers in sustainable agriculture, ecology, environmental design, engineering, and construction.



Education is the
most powerful
weapon which you
can use to change
the world.
– Nelson Mandela

The Jolly Avenue Development Center has offices for the occupancy of a torture/trauma counseling and marriage/family therapy service. This mental health need is a significant barrier to family well-being and workforce success in our community.



SITE PLAN



The center features groundbreaking innovation in affordable environmental design and construction. With annual operating costs up to 90% lower than a standard building, the JADC will allow FOR to focus donors' resources on community impacts, not capital upkeep. It will be the most operationally affordable and efficient building of its kind in the United States.



OUR BUILT-ENVIRONMENT PHILOSOPHY:

1. To build a center that demonstrates a future where buildings no longer pose an operational burden, through ultra-efficiency at a practical cost; and organizations use their money for mission, not overhead.
2. To be good stewards of our resources by employing building material reuse as a practical and scalable alternative to disposal in environmental design and construction.
3. We desire to shift the conversation from whether organizations, institutions and businesses 'can afford' to build a green building, to a realization that, by every measure, they cannot justify anything else.



FIRST FLOOR PLAN



SECOND FLOOR PLAN



7 | Stewardship

We are so passionate about stewardship that it is one of our three core values. FoR believes that maximum influence and benefit for refugees towards its mission are the products of excellence in programs, continual improvement by staff and partners, and delivery of unparalleled value in the way we manage all of our resources. Good stewardship is a distinct hallmark of all FoR's programs.

"You make a living
by what you get. You
make a life by what
you give."

— Winston Churchill

The JADC features groundbreaking innovation in affordable environmental design and construction. It will set the stage for demonstrating that ultra-low operating costs and sustainably built environments are possible at code-built cost levels. While delivering an unparalleled value to our donors, we also hope that the JADC will be the green building that sparks more affordable and sustainable construction in this community and acts as a force to attract the resources necessary to build them.

Families are our greatest resource. The Jolly Avenue Development Center desires to transform an area afflicted by crime and poverty into a closely-knit neighborhood where families flourish and abundant opportunities for self-improvement can be found. Families who come into contact with this center will find what they need to realize the potential they possess; because, while intelligence, ability and ambition are evenly distributed throughout humanity, the opportunity to deploy them for success is not. We're going to change that.



FRIENDS OF REFUGEES
PARTNERS & AFFILIATIONS



GUIDESTAR®

CRSA
Coalition of Refugee
Service Agencies



CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

8 | Our Programs



AFTER SCHOOL TUTORING

The challenges surrounding a refugee's unique circumstance can contribute to academic stresses for many children. Friends of Refugees partners with volunteers and other organizations to provide support and encouragement to students through after-school tutoring programs.



FOOD & CLOTHING DISTRIBUTIONS

Community volunteers help Ms. Pat (the founder of FoR) pick up donated food and work with local families in the community to distribute it wisely while also helping new families access much needed clothing in partnership other programs and churches in the community.



EMBRACE

Embrace is a pregnancy care program that meets the needs of expectant refugee mothers. Quality pre-natal and post-natal education is vital for every woman, and especially important for refugees unfamiliar with American healthcare procedures. Embrace provides workshops, hospital visits, relationship networks with local healthcare organizations and more!



MOMMY & ME FAMILY LITERACY

Most ESL programs in our community offer no childcare. Mommy & Me Refugee Family Literacy offers ESL classes for refugee mothers and childcare/preschool for their young children. Each student receives nine hours of instruction each week and participates in a twice weekly parent and child class together as well as a weekly class on parenting, life skills, or health.



THE REFUGEE SEWING SOCIETY

The Refugee Sewing Society serves refugee women who have fled violence in their homelands of Bhutan, Congo, Iraq, Sudan, Somalia, and other war-torn countries. We provide an atmosphere for healing, an opportunity to express creativity, a means for re-building dignity, and a place to find peace in God. Each week, our women meet to sew, knit, crochet and bead to create beautiful handmade items. The sale of these items generates income these entrepreneurs use to support their families.

COMMUNITY GARDEN

The Jolly Avenue Community Garden is a collaborative garden which allows members to grow and enjoy their own food. The gardens create a space for 90 families to grow their own food, transmit agricultural traditions to future generations, and market food into the local community.



SUMMER CAMP

Summer Spectacular is a low-cost 8 week summer day camp for the children in our community. Our camp provides opportunities for over 150 children to be cared for, spend time with great influencers, build intercultural friendships, get ready for school – and have lots of fun, too! It is the largest camp in Clarkston and a cornerstone program of Friends of Refugees.



CAFÉ CLARKSTON

Café Clarkston is an employment assistance center where refugees and new immigrants develop job and life skills while expanding and deepening their social and professional networks. The Cafe equips refugees to find employment opportunities, create resumes, receive basic job skills training, and learn computer skills. Many North Georgia companies look to Cafe Clarkston to find their most dependable and high quality employees!



ADULT ESL CLASSES

English-as-a-Second-Language classes help adult refugees practice and learn English, overcoming barriers to success in their new home. Our ESL classes are held in apartment complexes around the community in partnership with other organizations, allowing FOR to facilitate others in doing good well in our community.



FAMILY TO FAMILY

Families are our greatest resource, and connecting them to one another is the golden thread that weaves through all of Friends of Refugees' programs. Family to family connects American families to New American families for the purpose of developing long-term relationships, welcoming them into established fellowships, and being a light in their lives.





Friends *of* Refugees

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Friends of Refugees would like to thank these individuals for participating in the creation of this brochure:

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