



## Who are refugees?

Refugees are immigrants to the United States who are fleeing their homeland because of persecution and are invited by the American people. Refugees undergo the most rigorous background, security, and medical screens of any class of immigrants. Refugees represent some of the most vulnerable, but resilient, members of society.

In FY 2016, over 313 refugees from countries such as Burma, Bhutan, Iraq, Somalia and Afghanistan and others were resettled by Catholic Charities Atlanta. Over 20 staff members, fluent in 21 different languages, provided services to meet the specific needs of each family and start them on a road to independence.

## What Catholic Charities Atlanta Provides

Catholic Charities Atlanta provides Refugee Resettlement Services to refugee families arriving in the Atlanta area. The extensive resettlement services are designed to aid refugees to achieve economical and social self-sufficiency in their first few months in the United States. CCA also provides needed support services in the areas of employment, home management, crisis intervention, financial literacy and medical assistance to refugees who have been living in the United States for less than five years.

## Volunteer Opportunities

Our dedicated volunteers help make these opportunities happen.

Here are ways to get involved:

- Become a “Family Friend” to a recently arrived refugee family and help them adjust to their new life in Atlanta
- Be a “Strong Back for Refugees” volunteer and help us move furniture into apartments for arriving families
- Organize a team to furnish a refugee apartment

## Donation Opportunities

- Sponsor a family for their first 6 months in the U.S.
- Donate furniture for a refugee apartment
- Make an on-line donation to help furnish a refugee home
- Hold a Welcome Box drive at your church, school, or with your favorite group

## Contact Information

For more information please email [refugeeresettlement@ccatlanta.org](mailto:refugeeresettlement@ccatlanta.org)

To volunteer, please visit [catholiccharitiesatlanta.org/volunteer](http://catholiccharitiesatlanta.org/volunteer)

## A Refugee's Journey



- Refugee flees country of origin
- Registers with United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR)
- Referred for 3rd Country Resettlement
- Referred to State Department for U.S. Resettlement
- Security & Medical Screenings
- Referred to National Resettlement Agency
- Arrival in Atlanta and assigned a local Resettlement Agency

