

PRIVATE REFUGEE SPONSORSHIP through The Anglican Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island

The Private Sponsorship of Refugees (PSR) program is a resettlement program, in which private groups, Churches or Parishes apply to sponsor refugees to come to Canada.

This is done through a Sponsorship Agreement Holder “SAH”. A SAH is an established organization that has signed an agreement with the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration Canada to Sponsor refugees. The Anglican Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island is a SAH.

The Parish or Churches wanting to sponsor refugees would form a group/committee to sponsor refugees to Canada under the SAH agreement of the Anglican Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.

The Church or Parish group, called the “Sponsor”, provides financial support for all of the refugees’ basic expenses (including rent, food, transportation, etc.), usually for one year or until the refugees become self-sufficient, whichever comes first.

Sponsors are also responsible for providing settlement support to the refugees for one year. This entails supporting them throughout the entire settlement process, including helping apply for necessary documents and services, finding a doctor and dentist, opening a bank account, learning how to use public transportation, enrolling in English classes, finding a job, and connecting with a local settlement agency.

How to get started:

1. Call a meeting within your Church or Parish;
2. Form a committee, minimum of 10 people;
3. Contact your local Sponsorship Agreement Holder “SAH”, The Anglican Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island (anglicanrefugeesns@gmail.com), to determine the requirements to move forward with a sponsorship;
4. Organize your committee - i.e. Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer and Team Leaders for Fundraising, Housing, Furniture collection, Education, Medical and Social.

During the Sponsorship Period the sponsoring group promises to provide:

1. Reception;
2. Lodging;
3. Basic care and financial support;
4. Settlement assistance and support;
5. Ongoing friendship and emotional support.