



RENTAL HOMES FOR HOPE

Make a difference in the lives of newly
resettled refugees in Omaha



Make a difference

Rent to a newly resettled refugee family and provide a home where they can live, learn and grow



Benefits

Eliminate property vacancy!
Resettled refugees arrive
all year long



Support

Through the resettlement agency, you will have access to an interpreter and caseworker

Refugees Strengthen Our Community!

Help welcome these amazing families to Omaha by participating as a landlord in the resettlement process.

FACT SHEET

1

What is a refugee?

A refugee is someone who has been forced to flee his or her country because of persecution, war or violence. A refugee has a well-founded fear of persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality, political opinion or membership in a particular social group.

2

Refugees are legal immigrants

All resettled refugees in the USA go through a rigorous, years long vetting process through the US government and arrive on US soil as legal immigrants

3

Most refugees...

68% of those displaced across borders come from just five countries: Syria, Venezuela, Afghanistan, South Sudan and Myanmar.

In some countries, civil wars have been raging for 30 to 50 years. Civilians are the victims of these wars, and are often forced to flee their homes to seek shelter.

Half of all refugees are children.

Many refugees live years or decades in refugee camps.

4

Only 1% of refugees are resettled each year

The number of refugees needing resettlement is tremendous and far outstrips the number of countries who are willing and/or able to resettle them. 26.4 million classified as refugees.

5

It is NEVER a crime to seek asylum

Article 14 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights establishes the right to seek asylum in another country . It is NEVER a crime to seek asylum in another country.

6

Millions of people are displaced within their own countries

A refugee is someone who has fled their country, and there are over 26 million people in this situation. In addition, 48 million people are internally displaced in their own countries. These individuals cannot seek refugee resettlement because they are not technically considered refugees, due to still being within their country of origin.

TESTIMONIAL



Fairview Apartments in Omaha, Nebraska has nearly 85% of their 204 units rented to refugees, primarily from Burmese ethnic groups. Chris Rios, the manager since 2017, says *"The best thing about having refugee tenants is that they make it feel like a real community. Everyone looks out for each other, gets along with their neighbors and pays rent on time."*

Various agencies support these families and help with teaching acclimation classes, which makes it easier to navigate the cultural and language barrier. Tenants have learned how to take pictures and send them to Chris, to request maintenance help. And many have learned how to set up auto online rent payments!

"Working with refugees is a learning experience and definitely worth it," says Chris. *"It makes one realize what all they have to be grateful for!"*

WIN-WIN

As a landlord, you'll receive:

- Deposit and first month's rent from local resettlement agency
- Access to case management support and interpretation services
- A tenant with a strong desire to create a home and a future
- A tenant who is responsible and family oriented
- A tenant cleared by rigorous US background checks
- A tenant who has guaranteed access to financial, employment, language and cultural support

Benefits of renting to resettled refugees:

- Virtually eliminates risk of property vacancy (resettled refugees arrive all year long)
- You will be brought into our network of partners if you need more tenants
- Promotes and supports your business
- Less turnover
- Loyal tenant who values the stability and safety of a home
- Helping to promote diverse communities
- The chance to show people what's right with America
- You will be providing a refugee with a decent, safe place to live, learn and grow in!

LANDLORD REQUIREMENTS

1

Have a willingness to rent to someone you have not met, and to do so without much notice.

4

Understand that refugees come to the USA without a Social Security number or an immediate job.

Resettlement agencies cover rent until they obtain employment.

2

Have compassion and empathy towards refugees, who have often been victims of war and trauma.

5

Must be registered with the City of Omaha's mandatory Rental Inspection Program.

3

Must only rent out houses and apartments that are in safe, healthy, and livable conditions.

RESOURCES

You are not alone!

You will have access to a caseworker and interpreter through Omaha's two resettlement agencies.

Additional resources can be found at:

www.omaharefugees.com

---> Click "I Rent to Refugees"

HOW TO GET STARTED

Reach out to the housing specialists at Lutheran Family Services and Refugee Empowerment Center:

refugeehousingomaha@gmail.com

