



Frequently Asked Questions Welcome Corps

I heard that the U.S. government is allowing the private sponsorship of refugees now. How can Exodus help me sponsor someone?

The Biden Administration did just announce a private sponsorship model called “Welcome Corps.” This program will allow groups of at least five people to privately sponsor refugees and bring them to the United States. To be part of a group, you must be a U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident.

This program does not run through private refugee resettlement agencies like Exodus. In fact, the government has indicated this could help bring refugees to communities that do not have resettlement agencies like Exodus. To apply to sponsor someone, you will need to go to www.welcomecorps.org to find more information.

I want to sponsor someone I know from another country. How can Exodus help?

Until mid-2023, people who are participating in the Welcome Corps program will not be able to choose who they sponsor through this program. Instead, they will be assigned someone to sponsor. More information about this can be found at www.welcomecorps.org.

Exodus cannot assist with the preparation of private sponsorship applications.

What do I need to do if I want to be a sponsor?

The most up to date information about this program will always be found on www.welcomecorps.org. However, what we do know is that in order to sponsor someone, you must raise \$2275 per member of the family who is being resettled. You must pass a background check and be ready to assist the refugees with basic resettlement needs like finding and paying for housing, providing food, enrolling children in school, helping the refugees apply for public benefits, and more.

This sounds overwhelming, but I'd still love to work with Exodus to help sponsor a refugee.

Our community support teams might be a great option for you! Community support teams are groups of 10 to 20 individuals who come alongside a newly arrived refugee family to help them adjust to life in our community, but they do so in partnership with Exodus. Groups typically work with a family during their first 90 days in the U.S. but may also be placed with a recently arrived family who would benefit from support. Find out more by visiting our website!

I still have questions! Who can I contact?

For more information about the Welcome Corps program, visit www.welcomecorps.org. For information about becoming part of a community support team, contact Cassandra at csanborn@exodusrefugee.org.