RENTING TO REFUGEES
An Overview

THE OPPORTUNITY
The resettlement program offers the potential for a mutually beneficial partnership between area landlords, property managers, and refugee resettlement agencies.

- With new policies on refugee admissions from the US federal government, we expect to see a large increase in refugees coming to Columbia over the next several years.
- We rely on community members like you who are open to renting to people looking for a new start in this country.

ARRIVAL
- When we get notice of an upcoming arrival of a new refugee family, CCCNMO:
  - Looks at the size of their family, their specific needs, and neighborhoods that may work best for them
  - Checks if the landlords on our list have properties that match these needs

CULTURAL ORIENTATION
- When refugee clients first move in, CCCNMO educates them on how to take care of their home – using home appliances, keeping their place sanitary, paying rent, the financial responsibility of damage to the property, etc.
- Case workers are also available to help facilitate communication and provide interpretation when necessary.

PAYMENT
- CCCNMO covers at least the first few months of rent and security deposit for refugee clients upon arrival to the U.S. The client signs the lease, if a lease is required.
- The clients’ assigned case managers work with them to create a budget and ensure they understand their financial obligations.
- If a client is temporarily unable to pay for basic needs such as rent, emergency funds may be available to help. However, most problems are resolved without using those funds.

WHO ARE "REFUGEES"?
Refugees are people who have fled their homeland due to persecution.

The term "refugee" could also include the following people:

- Asylees: People who have fled their homeland and are seeking admission/protection in the U.S.
- Parolees
- Trafficking victims: Certified by Homeland Security
- Cuban/Haitian entrants
- Amerasians
- Special Immigrant Visa holders
- Lawful Permanent Residents

CONTACT
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3,750 Refugees expected to come to MO in 2022

Produced by the Missouri Office of Refugee Administration moora.org
HOW DO REFUGEES GET TO MISSOURI?

- Flee homeland to another country or refugee camp
- Apply for resettlement with UNHCR
- Medical and security screenings by U.S. federal agencies
- After passed and approved, arrive to U.S. and met by a resettlement agency rep

REFUGEES ARE MOTIVATED AND RELIABLE

- Our clients are very motivated to create stability for themselves and their families. CCCNMO works with them to develop personalized resettlement plans with short- and long-term goals to encourage self-reliance and self-determination.
- CCCNMO provides comprehensive case management and family and career support services, which help ensure that refugees have a smooth transition to life in America, are connected to jobs as soon as possible, and are able to thrive in their new homes. The services we offer include re-credentialing, developing personal employability plans, résumé development, interview skills, job placement with employers, and job retention. Many clients begin working within 90 days of arrival.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- Let us know about any properties along public transportation and/or with reasonable rent
- Provide the option to bypass background check and application fee*
- Understand that a resettled refugee’s Social Security Number will be available but might not be available upon arrival
- Allow us to pick up keys and set up the home BEFORE an arrival
- Ongoing commitment to work with us

*Refugees aren’t able to undergo traditional tenant background checks as they are new to the country, but they are extensively vetted by the US government before arriving.

UNHCR screens and interviews each resettlement candidate. Then the U.S. conducts its own vetting process, and they decide whether to accept a refugee for resettlement. The process involves:

8. U.S. Federal Government Agencies
6. Different security databases
5. Separate background checks
4. Biometric security checks
3. Separate in-person interviews
2. Inter-agency security checks

REFUGEES IN MISSOURI COME FROM...

Democratic Republic of the Congo
Afghanistan
Ukraine
Burma
Pakistan
and more!