

TOGETHER PROJECT

About the Organization

Together Project matches “Welcome Groups” of five or more volunteers with government-assisted refugee newcomer families for settlement support and friendship. Common areas of assistance include learning and practicing English, neighbourhood orientation, and accessing public services. Each match is assigned a volunteer interpreter - a role we call Cultural Ambassador - to help bridge the linguistic and cultural gap between the newcomers and their counterpart Welcome Group.

Volunteer in a Welcome Group!

Welcome Groups are formed of ideally five or more volunteers, and are matched with refugee newcomers using a preference matching system - we try to match groups with newcomers based on criteria like availability, capacity, location, shared interests, and family composition. In this way, we allow flexibility with regards to time commitment - we like to think that there's a match for every kind of group.

Volunteer as a Cultural Ambassador!

A Cultural Ambassador is assigned to every match for regular in-person interpretation and frequent WhatsApp interpretation between Welcome Groups and newcomer families. They act as a critical linguistic and cultural link between Canadians and newcomers in the early stages of their settlement process. Individuals interested in volunteering as Cultural Ambassadors will need to be able to fluently write, read and speak in both English and another language commonly spoken by members of your city's newcomer communities - e.g. Arabic, Swahili, Tigrinya, etc. Cultural Ambassadors are assigned a maximum of three matches, and are expected to translate via WhatsApp on daily basis and be available for in-person interpretation at least twice a month, or as necessary.

Interested?

Please visit us at www.togetherproject.ca/volunteer to sign up!

If you have any questions about any part of our matching program, please email Andrew Luszyk, our Matching Director, at andrew@togetherproject.ca.

