

LOCAL OFFICE INFORMATION



WORLD RELIEF WESTERN NY

SINCE 2002, WESTERN NY HAS
WELCOMED OVER 16,000
REFUGEES

“Dear Friends, Thank you for joining the work that God has prepared for us here at World Relief Western New York. We love what we get to do, and the wonderful people that we have the privilege of welcoming to our community. We also have a special appreciation for those who give of their time, energy and resources as volunteers. So, just taking this first step already makes you one of our favorite people! Building a Community of Love and Welcome is hard work. In light of that, we’ve prepared this Volunteer Handbook to give you a little bit more knowledge of who we are, who we get to offer love and welcome to, and what resources we have to support you in this wonderful opportunity. Our office team is here to support you as you learn and grow through this process, and our hope is that this will be a resource that you can come back to again and again. Welcome to the team,

Ken Pitcher, World Relief Western New York, Director

HISTORY OF REFUGEES IN WESTERN NEW YORK

At World Relief Western NY (WNY), we come alongside refugees and other immigrants in vulnerable situations as they rebuild their lives in the United States. Rochester, NY has a long history of involvement in the resettlement of refugees under the United States Refugee Admissions Program, with over 16,000 refugees coming to WNY since 2002. This accounts for 1% of all refugees resettled in the US. In 2018, three Rochester churches co-hosted the event "Loving the Stranger Among Us" and over 250 Christians from over 35 different local churches came together to consider how God could be asking us to respond to the ongoing global refugee crisis. Refuge Rochester was born as a direct result of that gathering, created as a way to respond to that question. Since then, we've focused on connecting Christians and churches with refugee families, and education and discipleship through events.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

For the most up to date list of volunteer opportunities, please visit [our website](#), a few opportunities we offer include:

1. Conversation Partner Team
2. Good Neighbor Team
3. Home Team
4. Transportation Team
5. One Time Service Projects

CONTACT INFORMATION

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<https://worldrelief.org/western-ny/>