



Good Neighbor Team

Overview

THE WHAT AND WHY:

A Good Neighbor Team is a team-based ministry opportunity for a small group of 5-12 people from a local church that partners with World Relief to welcome and walk alongside a newly arrived refugee family for 6 months. Our goal is for each refugee who arrives in the U.S. to feel the warm welcome of his/her local community. As your team tangibly follows Jesus by welcoming the stranger (Matthew 25), loving your neighbor as yourself (Luke 10:27), and making disciples of all nations (Matthew 28), you will experience the Gospel lived, shared, and received in powerful ways.



World Relief in partnership with the local church to serve the vulnerable.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND COMMITMENT:

Prepare for Arrival:

Before a refugee family arrives in the U.S., their Good Neighbor Team works with World Relief staff to prepare their house or apartment. In addition to gathering basic household items and furnishings, we encourage Good Neighbor Teams to commit to praying for this family's adjustment even before they arrive. In most cases, members of the Good Neighbor Team are also present when their refugee family arrives at the airport, offering a warm welcome and the hope of a new beginning.

Resettlement & Adjustment:

During their first few months in the U.S., refugees have many appointments to schedule, orientations to attend, and things to learn. Some teams may assist with tasks like securing a state ID, or teaching the family where and how to buy groceries, how to use public transportation, or even how to greet someone in English. Working through these tasks together empowers the family to move towards self-sufficiency, while reaffirming a sense of community and support as they adjust to life in the U.S.

Friendship:

Members of the Good Neighbor Team commit to visiting their refugee family weekly. These visits often provide opportunities to help practice English, orient to American culture, and meet other practical needs, but the primary goal is to offer genuine and mutual friendship.

Financial Support:

We ask that each team partners with World Relief financially to support refugees and allow our organization to continue empowering the local church and community to welcome refugees. Continue reading through the application process for more on this commitment.



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Timeline

INITIAL INTEREST

World Relief and Church staff or contact talk about the GNT opportunity and commitment. This could be through e-mail or an initial meeting.

RECRUITING

Local church partner recruits and forms a group of 5-12 members.

ONBOARDING & TRAINING

Onboarding and Training:

- Submitting individual Volunteer Application*
- Completing US Programs E-Learning Course*
- Completing and receiving clearance on Background Check and Motor Vehicle Record
- Good Neighbor Team Training
- GNT will create a Track it Forward account to log volunteer hours and accept a Microsoft Teams invite for communication.

*Must be completed before training

PLACEMENT

GNT is matched with a refugee family or group of individuals. GNT Coordinator will meet with Team Leads to discuss the match and to sign the GNT Agreement before the family arrives.

6 MONTHS OF RESETTLEMENT

GNT will walk alongside the refugee family for a commitment of 6 months. During this time, the GNT will help to provide some core resettlement services as well as invest relationally in the refugee family with the goal of helping them integrate and thrive in their new community.