

CONVERSATION PARTNER – Austin/Fort Worth, Texas

Goal

English acquisition is an important step for refugees as it can lead to job opportunities, education, and friendships. Conversation Partners help refugees to learn and practice English, so they are better able to navigate life and opportunities in America. Conversation Partners can be paired with 1-3 individuals or a family to provide this support.

Primary Duties and Responsibilities

- Meet regularly with the individual(s) or family you are paired with
- Help set attainable goals around English acquisition and digital literacy
- Engage in English conversation practice to help strengthen their English skills (curriculum provided)
- Encourage them to find other creative ways to practice English in between visits
- Teach basic digital literacy skills (i.e. texting, accessing the internet, etc.)
- Build friendships through visits with refugees in their homes and around the community

Secondary Duties and Responsibilities

- Complete all onboarding steps in the Volunteer Portal:
 - Background Check – 5 mins
 - E-Learning – 45 mins
 - References – 2 mins
- Complete [Conversation Partner E-Learning Course](#)
- Review confidentiality statement and policies in the National Volunteer Handbook
- Log hours in the Volunteer Portal
- Report any concerns or conflicts to the Volunteer Coordinator

Time Requirements & Location

When learning a new language, consistency is very important. For this reason, Conversation Partners are asked to meet with the individual(s) or family they are matched with for at least 1 ½ hours twice a month or 45 minutes three to four times a month for a total of 6 months. Location can be flexible, but it is recommended for volunteers to meet at the refugee's home the first few times.

Skill & Qualification Requirements

- Previous teaching or tutoring experience preferred
- Sensitivity and openness to persons of culturally diverse backgrounds
- High degree of patience, understanding, and flexibility
- Ability to work with people from different cultures and with limited English proficiency
- Comfortability engaging within local refugee communities

How to Apply with Links

You can apply for this role by visiting <https://worldrelief.org/texas/get-involved/volunteer-application/>. For questions about this role, please email volunteertexas@wr.org.