

# HIAS Welcome Circles Resource Directory



Welcome the stranger.  
Protect the refugee.

Version 2: Updated 6/8/22

## Newly Added Resources (also included in the sections below)



- [FAQ about the I-134 affidavit of support](#) for humanitarian parolees
- [Airbnb booking process](#) for Welcome Circles
- [HIAS custom budget tool](#) (click the link within the page to download the spreadsheet)

## General Sponsor Circle Resources

- [Sponsor Circles website](#)
- [HIAS Welcome Circles FAQ](#)
- [HIAS Welcome Circles Guidebook](#)
- [Sample Circle Structure and Roles](#)
- [Self Sufficiency](#) checklist
- [State Refugee Coordinator](#) list
- Community sponsorship resources (Note: Community Sponsorship is not the same as Sponsor Circles, but much of this info will apply)
  - [IRIS community sponsorship resources](#) on the [IRIS website](#)
  - [Church World Service community sponsorship manual](#)
- [What it's like to sponsor a family](#) (Canada)
- [Self-care strategies](#)
- [Fundraising resources](#)
- [How to access the HIAS Welcome Circles Community of Practice](#)



## New Sponsor Circle Model Info/Media



- [New York Times article on private sponsorship](#)
- [The case for private sponsorship](#)
- [Article in Hadassah Magazine about private sponsorship](#)
- [HIAS Webinar about Welcome Circles for Ukrainians](#)

## Ukraine Background & Crisis Info

- [Ukraine situational overview](#) from UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency
- [Uniting for Ukraine](#) information from U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
- [HIAS and VOICE rapid assessment](#) of Ukraine and five bordering countries to assess the needs of women and girls affected by the war





### **Boundary Setting**

- [Boundary setting guide](#)
- [Boundary setting one-pager](#)
- [Refugee Welcome Collective](#) trainings and learning sessions for community sponsors
  - Refugee Welcome Collective Lunch and Learn Webinar on [Community Support and Empowerment: Power Differences, Respecting Diversity, Self-Agency, and Choice](#)

### **Budgeting**

- [HIAS custom budget tool](#) (click the link within the page to download the spreadsheet)
- [Budget estimator tool](#) and [manual](#) from IRIS
- [Money management resource](#)
- [Calculator: The total cost of owning a car](#)



### **Connections to Services**



- [Sample basic services checklist](#)
- [Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program \(LIHEAP\)](#)
- Search online for electric, gas, sewage, and water low-income assistance programs
- [WIC \(supplemental nutrition for women, infants, and children\)](#)
- [Comcast Internet Essentials for Low-Income Households](#)
- [Directory to locate your state's Department of Motor Vehicles information](#) for details about state ID cards and driver's licenses
- [Benefits assistance search engine](#)

### **Cultural Orientation**

- Cultural orientation training (in English and Russian) at [Cultural Resource Exchange \(CORE\)](#)
- [Community sponsor resource](#) from CORE (Cultural Orientation Resource Exchange)
- [Welcoming activities/icebreakers](#)



### **Education**

- State Depts of Education (rules regarding school enrollment): This varies by state, search online for your own state's page



- [Info on school enrollment for children in temporary housing](#) from Switchboard
- [Cultural Orientation on Education](#)
- [Support for youth and children: BRYCS](#)
- [Information on U.S. Education System](#)

## **Employment**

- [Refugee Support Services: focus on employment](#)
- [Refugee Career Pathways](#)
- Employment and case management resources at [Switchboardta.org](https://www.switchboardta.org)
- Employment for higher-skilled English-speaking individuals at [Upwardly Global](#)
- [Job Seeker Journey Map](#) from Upwardly Global
- Mainstream employment providers:
  - [TANF employment and training services](#) (for families with children under 18 receiving cash assistance)
  - [SNAP employment and training services](#) (families not receiving cash assistance)
- [Job readiness curriculum](#) from Switchboard
- [Newcomer employment basics](#) from IRIS
- [Employment Exchange](#) from Welcome.US
- [U.S. childcare programs and subsidies](#)



## **ESL**

- [Free app for learning English](#)
- [Teaching plans and resources](#)
- More on [English Language Learning](#) from Community Sponsorship Hub (developed for Afghan newcomers, but links are helpful for newly arriving Ukrainians as well)
- [ESOL resources for true beginners](#) from IRIS (zip file of PDF resources)



## **Housing**

- [Housing guide](#) for family
- [Safe housing](#) checklist
- [Airbnb booking process](#) for Welcome Circles
- [Benefits of renting to refugees](#)
- [Importance of good housing](#)
- [Template using "Sign-Up Genius"](#) for furnishing donations



- [Affordable housing locator resource from HUD](#)
- [Newcomer Housing Suggestions](#) from CSH
- [Household Supplies List](#)
- [Pantry List](#)
- [Editable Letter to Prospective Landlords](#)
- [4Stay room rental search engine](#)

### **Interpretation**



- Free interpretation resources: [USA Hello](#)
- Free interpretation: [Tarjimly](#)
- Free texting translation: [Talking Points](#)
- Working with interpreter [training video](#)
- Switchboard [training](#) on working with interpreters
- [Right to interpretation](#)
- Per minute telephonic interpretation such as [LanguageLine](#), [Language Services of America](#)
- [How to Access a HIAS discount](#) for LanguageLine Telephone Interpretation

### **Legal Immigration:**



- [Changing One's Address with U.S. Immigration Services: The AR-11](#)
- [Instructions: How to Complete the AR-11 Change of Address Form](#)
- [Resource for Local Immigration Legal Service Providers from IMMI](#)
- [AILA Search Directory](#) to find Immigration Legal Service Providers
- [Applying for an Employment Authorization Document \(EAD\)](#) with an I-765 petition
- [HIAS EAD Toolkit](#) (this is a general Employment Authorization toolkit and is designed to be used by lawyers)
- [HIAS' Humanitarian Parole for Ukrainians I-134 Toolkit](#)
- [FAQ about the I-134 affidavit of support](#) for humanitarian parolees

### **Medical Care:**



- [Find a Federally Qualified Health Center \(FQHC\)](#) for each family member to get an initial health screening (required)
- [Federally Qualified Health Center \(FQHC\)](#): focus on under-served populations for primary and some specialties
- Search online for your Local Health dept (vaccinations) contact
- [What is Refugee Medical Assistance](#)

### **Public Benefits**

- [Refugees and TANF assistance](#)
- Your local County Assistance Office (welfare for cash, food stamps, Medicaid)
- Search online for your City/County Dept of Human Services re: services including mental/behavioral health, youth, seniors, housing etc.
- [Supplemental Security Income \(for people over 65 or those with disabilities\)](#)
- [Public Benefits Overview for Refugees and Other Humanitarian Immigrants](#), from Switchboard



**Refugee Services** (due to capacity issues, there may not be slots available at your local refugee resettlement agency)

- [Refugee Support Services: focus on employment](#)
- [Intensive case management for refugees with high needs](#)
- [Refugee Career Pathways](#)



### **Rights to Services**

- [Right to work](#)
- [Title VI of Civil Rights Act](#)
- [Dept of Justice & Right to Work](#)
- [Fair Housing Act](#)
- [National Origin and Discrimination Protection](#)



### **Safety**

- [CDC COVID-19 Information](#)
- [Child welfare and mandated reporting](#)
- [Car seat safety](#)



### **Trauma-Informed Care**

- [Trauma & trauma-informed care guide](#)
- Refugee Welcome Collective Lunch and Learn Webinar on [Dealing with Vicarious Trauma as a Welcomer of Newcomers](#)

