

HELP ARRIVING AFGHAN FAMILIES

[HELP US HELP THEM](#)

You'd like to help the newly arrived and incoming Afghan Special Immigrant Visa holders (SIVs) and their families but are unsure how? First, thank you for thinking of **Catholic Charities Migration & Refugee Services**! Ours is one of three resettlement agencies in northern Virginia designated by the State Department to receive and place the newly arrived Afghan refugees. Every little bit of your help has an impact, and we appreciate your interest and generosity. Below are the **best ways to help**:

1. **(URGENT) Long-Term Housing** - If you know of friends or others *who own properties for rent*, it will help to provide stable housing for families as quickly as possible. MRS provides financial support towards rent but without credit or work history, it can be difficult to secure leasing for newly arriving SIV families. Our families benefit greatly from being near their family and friends in the area and so we are urgently looking for housing in:
 - **Alexandria, VA**
 - **Fredericksburg, VA**
 - **Sterling, VA**
 - **Woodbridge, VA**

If you have contacts in *other areas of Northern Virginia*, please send them along – we are trying to work with ALL housing leads! email: Lourdes.lglesias@ccda.net

2. **(Pro-bono or deeply discounted) Professional Services** – Our Afghan brothers and sisters are in need of the following critical services:
 - **Mental Health counseling**
 - **Dental Services**
 - **General Medical evaluations, services, and School Health Screenings**

Please email: MRSDonations@ccda.net for more information

National Migration Week – Toward an Ever Wider ‘We’. This special week provides a variety of in-person and virtual events to learn about refugees and immigrants’ experience and how parishes and neighbors can welcome these newcomers into our communities. Please join us September 20 to September 26, 2021

Visit: <https://www.ccda.net/nationalmigrationweek/> for more information.

“...This year’s observance is particularly poignant as our nation opens its arms to refugees from around the world, particularly Special Immigrant Visa holders from Afghanistan, who are fleeing violence and oppression...” ~ from the statement by Bishop Michael J. Burbidge, Bishop of Arlington

Quick Links to MRS/Catholic Charities Information

- TO MAKE A MONETARY DONATION - <https://secure.ccda.net/Give/Give/Donate/Giving.aspx>, under **Gift Designation** choose *Migrant & Refugee Services* from the drop-down menu.

- GENERAL INQUIRIES – MRSDonations@ccda.net
- VOLUNTEER OPPORUNITIES - https://volunteer.ccda.net/custom/501/opp_search
- NATIONAL MIGRATION WEEK - <https://www.ccda.net/nationalmigrationweek/>
- JOIN OUR FACEBOOK GROUP - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2318446838463350>

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Hello,

Thank you for your interest in volunteering with Migration and Refugee Services! Please look at our available volunteer opportunities located at the link below:

[VOLUNTEER / BRING LOVE](#)

Be sure to click “Migration and Refugee Services” from the Ministry drop down menu on the left-hand side of the screen. Once you find an opportunity that looks to be a good fit for you, please sign up! Click on the “more details” button listed under the opportunity, and then the blue “Sign Up” button on the left-hand side of the Program Details page!

If you have any questions about completing the Volunteer Application, please contact volunteer.newcomer@ccda.net. Thank you again for your generosity and have a wonderful day.

Sincerely,

Migration and Refugee Services (MRS)
Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Arlington
website: www.ccda.net