



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Arriving in the United States is an exciting, but overwhelming time for newly arrived refugees. Adjusting to the differences in their new home can be stressful, and volunteer support is vital to help them transition successfully. Volunteer your time to make a difference in a family's new life during their first few months in the United States.

AIRPORT RECEPTION VOLUNTEER -- Refugees arrive in Sacramento after 24-48 hours of travel, and are often tired and exhausted, but excited to have finally arrived in the United States. Assist ODI in welcoming these arriving refugees to their new home in Sacramento, and be the first smiling face they see when they arrive at the airport!

* Airport Reception Volunteers help families gather their belongings at the airport, drive them to their new homes in Sacramento, and help them get situated for their first night in the United States. Airport Reception Volunteers play an important role in the initial reception of families, and will be someone these individuals remember for years to come.

*Airport pick-ups typically occur Monday-Thursday between 9:00pm and 11:00pm.

NAVIGATOR VOLUNTEER -- Newly arrived refugees have many responsibilities and appointments in their first few weeks after arrival. Navigator Volunteers walk, drive, and/or take the bus with families to various appointments at the ODI office, health clinics, and school enrollment of children.* Navigator Volunteers assist individuals in arriving on time, communicating with staff, and learning the route for future appointments.

*Appointments typically occur Monday-Friday between 8:00am and 5:00pm.

REFUGEE MENTORSHIP -- Mentors provide guidance and support to a newly resettled refugee family in Sacramento. As a mentor, you will be responsible for preparing refugees for a positive experience living in the United States. Introducing them to their new community, mentors assist a family with: navigating the health care system, opening a bank account, transportation to appointments, applying for a California ID/Driver's License, and finding low cost grocery/clothing stores. You may also assist clients with their resume, job search and applications, interview preparation, and using their local library's resources. Additionally, mentors can help with school and/or learning English, and take the family on field trips to local points of interest.

*This is a 3 month commitment for 1-2 hours a week.