

Community Perspectives: The Big Shift: From “Friendly” to “Welcoming”

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Riverdale Refugee Lifeline

The Big Shift: From “Friendly” to “Welcoming”
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@InterActSummit

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MOHAWK

Presentation Outline

- Who is Riverdale Refugee Lifeline
- Why we are participating in refugee sponsorship
- What is our process
- How knowledge sharing builds community
- Why we need to go from Friendly to Welcoming



Who is Riverdale Refugee Lifeline

- From dinner to meeting in a classroom
- 15 households with diverse backgrounds in a Toronto neighbourhood
- In partnership with
 - Lifeline Syria
 - Eastminster United Church
 - AURA (Anglican United Refugee Alliance)

Why we are participating in refugee sponsorship

- Personal response
- Family memory
- Community history
- Aspirational



What is our process

- Decision to formalize group for accountability
- Developing partnerships within the community
- Learning on the go
- Communication, communication, communication

How knowledge sharing builds community

- Outreach to friends, neighbours and strangers
- Sharing templates through social media
- Building networks

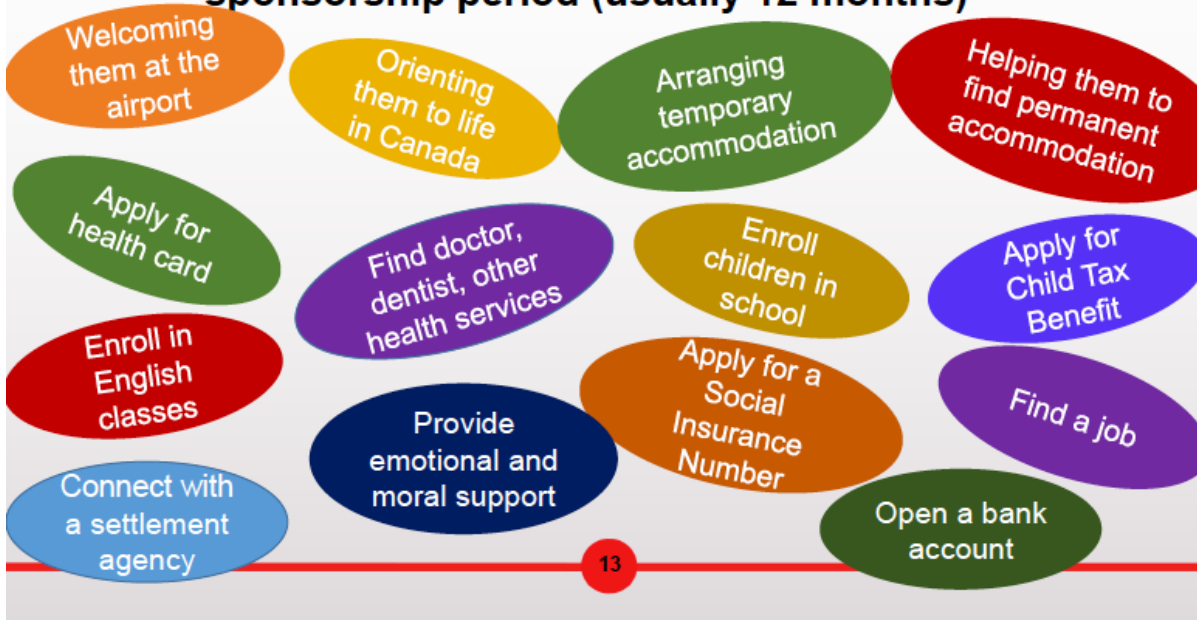


From 'Friendly' to 'Welcoming'



(borrowed from RSTP)

Provide settlement support for the duration of the sponsorship period (usually 12 months)



Thank you

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Presents



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