



**SPONSOR
A REFUGEE**

Answering God's Call

FACTS ABOUT THE GLOBAL REFUGEE CRISIS

Who is a refugee and how many refugees are there in the world today?



A refugee is **someone who has been forced to flee his or her country because of persecution, war, or violence**. There are currently **27.1 million refugees worldwide** — the highest number the world has ever seen. This is more than half of Canada's population.

Where do refugees come from?



69% of the world's refugees come from just five countries: **Syria, Venezuela, Afghanistan, South Sudan, and Myanmar**.

Afghanistan Special Initiative



The government of Canada is committed to resettling **40,000** Afghan refugees. 7,000 of the 40,000 will be privately sponsored refugees under the Operation Afghan Safety (OAS) Program. Thankfully, 7,000 Afghans have already been sponsored through OAS and the program is now closed.

What countries host the most refugees?



The vast majority of the world's refugees are hosted by low and middle-income countries which struggle to accommodate them. **Turkey, Pakistan and Uganda host over 6.8 million refugees combined**.

How many of the world's refugees are children?



UNHCR estimates that more than **1.5 million children** were born into a refugee life between 2018 and 2021, equivalent to some 380,000 children per year.

How many of the world's refugees are in need of resettlement?



In 2021, just **4% of the estimated 1.4 million refugees in need of resettlement were resettled**.



FACTS ABOUT REFUGEES IN CANADA



Since the end of World War II, **Canada has welcomed more than one and a quarter million refugees.** More than 327,000 of these refugees have been privately sponsored.



It is a myth that refugees in Canada receive more than Canadians on social assistance. Government sponsored refugees receive income through the Resettlement Assistance Program (RAP) during their 12 month sponsorship period, which is roughly equivalent to what Canadians receive on social assistance. Privately sponsored refugees are not eligible to receive RAP or social assistance during their sponsorship year.



Research shows that, **with time, refugees have the same levels of economic success as other Canadians,** in terms of household income and home ownership.



In 2021, Canada maintained its proud humanitarian tradition of being the top refugee resettlement country in the world, resettling **20, 428** refugees.

CHANGE THE STORY

World Renew believes that refugee sponsorship is a meaningful way for a church or group to live out the words of Matthew 25:35, "I was a stranger and you welcomed me."

You can make a difference. By sponsoring a refugee, you can demonstrate Christ's love in action in the midst of the world's greatest refugee crisis. When strangers become neighbours, cultures are shared, friendships are formed, and communities become stronger.

