

## **RESPONSIBILITIES OF SPONSORSHIP**

The sponsorship manual is full of detailed information to assist sponsors in their responsibilities of sponsorship, but this page is offered as a simplified version of those responsibilities. If the refugees you are sponsoring already have relatives in your area, many of the responsibilities will be shared with them.

1. Work in cooperation with **Kentucky Refugee Ministries**, your Church World Service/Episcopal Migration Ministries local affiliate office.
2. Receive orientation and training from Kentucky Refugee Ministries.
3. Sign the Commitment for Sponsorship form.
4. Prepare a resettlement plan in cooperation with Kentucky Refugee Ministries.
5. Meet and welcome the arriving refugees and take them to their housing.
6. Provide decent, safe, sanitary, furnished housing for the initial 3-4 month period of resettlement.
7. Provide food or food allowance as needed (generally 1-2 weeks) and pocket money for the first 3 months.
8. Provide necessary clothing.
9. Assist refugees in applying for Social Security cards.
10. Assist refugees in registering children in school.
11. Provide orientation to the new community and society.
12. Help refugees learn English and/or enroll in English classes.
13. Help refugees get a health exam within 30 days.
14. Assist Kentucky Refugee Ministries to help refugees become prepared to work and find a job as soon as possible by relaying any information regarding job openings to job developer.
15. Provide emergency and back-up services when needed.
16. Be in contact with the family and visit them regularly (daily in the beginning, at least once a week after family is settled in) during the first 3 months.
17. Provide all information necessary for Kentucky Refugee Ministries to complete the 90 day Follow-up Questionnaire and other documentation.
18. Urge the refugees to repay their travel loans—in tiny payments if that is all they can afford to begin with.
19. Urge the refugees to apply for permanent resident status after one year and citizenship after 5 years (both processes can be handled by Kentucky Refugee Ministries' staff).
20. Be a friend to and advocate for the refugees.