

**The Guelph Community Foundation & The United Way Guelph, Wellington, Dufferin
Refugee Impact Meeting Follow-up**

MAKE THE CONNECTION: Please read BOTH documents and see if there are any connections you can make between the resources available and your needs. *Please share these resources within your agencies and contacts.*

REFUGEE RESOURCES AVAILABLE – SUMMARY

Organization	Contact Information	Resources Available
<p>Immigration Services Guelph Wellington</p> 	<p>Jean Chow Settlement Services Integration Coordinator</p> <p>jchow@is-gw.ca 519-836-2222 ext. 226</p> <p>Also see website for Vision, Mission, Values as well more programs, workshops, events: http://www.is-gw.ca/</p>	<p>ISGW has 7 settlement counsellors. Among them they speak Arabic, Spanish, Punjabi, French, Cantonese, Mandarin, Farsi, and Vietnamese. We are able to see clients within 5 to 7 days of a call for an appointment. Our staff have built and maintain a good system of referral to other services.</p> <p>Services/programs include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Settlement Services - English Language Assessments (2 assessors) - Fee-for-Service translation and interpretation services - Youth program - Vietnamese and Chinese Seniors programs - Workshops and information sessions that assist clients in understanding systems and processes ie education system, how the government works, how to start a business, income tax workshops, rights and responsibilities etc. - One-on –one conversation practise - MEI (mobilized engaged and involved) objective to promote voluntarism and create opportunities for new immigrants - Score High tutoring for school aged children...one child per volunteer tutor - Informal English conversation via One-on-one, a Dari speaking group, Chinese Seniors group, new group in association with Score High parents of the children attending score high will get together for informal conversation - We provide itinerant settlement services at Shelldale, Parkword Gardens, Brant Ave School, and the Guelph Community Heath Centre. - We provide itinerate languages assessments in the County and at Shelldale or we do remote assessments via the internet. - We have a mobile computer club at the Westminster library, we have a Chinese Seniors Group that meets at Shelldale.

<p>The Children's Foundation of Guelph & Wellington</p> 	<p>Karyn Kirkwood Program Coordinator karyn@childrensfoundation.org</p>	<p>The Free to Play Program provides up to \$400 per child per calendar year to participate in recreational activities such as sports, the arts, and camp. Eligibility is based on the LICO (low income cut off) scale and applying is easy and confidential.</p> <p>The Adopt-A-Family Program matches families in need (who have been referred to us through social workers and agencies) with community donors at the Christmas* holiday time to provide the children with gifts from their “needs and wishes” lists, as well as grocery gift cards for a holiday meal. <i>*While Adopt-A-Family began as a Christmas holiday program, it is open to people of all backgrounds and traditions.</i></p> <p>The Food and Friends Program supports children in Guelph, Wellington and Dufferin through student nutrition programs at schools. There are 105 programs in local schools that provide breakfast, lunch and/or snack programs for students in a supportive, nonjudgmental environment where they feel cared for and safe. Any student can access a nutrition program without being “screened” for eligibility.</p>
<p>City of Guelph</p> 	<p>Immigrant Services, Wellington County Settlement Services, and the Local Immigration Partnership will be used to help inform the refugees of what is available to them.</p>	<p>The city plans on helping out Syrian refugees arriving in Guelph by offering them free bus passes, free access to open recreation programs and free access to the Guelph museums.</p> <p>Passes will be issued from the date of the refugees' arrival in the city for one full year.</p> <p>Also offering orientation sessions to newcomers on services provided by the City of Guelph</p>
<p>Chalmers Community Services</p> 	<p>Diana Sterenberg, Administrator, Chalmers Community Services Centre (CCSC) community@chalmerscentre.ca</p>	<p>- food pantry, clothing, small household items, mending services, support and referral, cafe</p> <p>-welcoming volunteers in a safe space: 2 locations: 40 Baker St. (Chalmers Downtown), 577 Willow Rd. Chalmers WEST) in a portable behind Three Willows United Church)</p> <p>-all services at no cost and no means testing</p> <p>-focus on fresh fruit, produce, eggs, dairy</p> <p>-may access any of our 3 food pantries every other week, all other programs weekly</p>

<p>University of Guelph</p> 	<p>Sue Bennett, Director, University and Community Relations s.bennett@exec.uoguelph.ca</p>	<p>The University could provide many volunteers. There is a student group who are organized already. They are planning a number of activities including buddy system, ESL and bike riding.</p> <p>We are limited in our resources, but the community should look to the University for volunteers in a variety of capacities.</p>
<p>YMCA Guelph</p>  <p>YMCA - YWCA of Guelph</p>	<p>Jim Bonk CEO jimbonk@yuelphy.org</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have some space that could serve as a gathering space if needed. We have a room that could function as a small classroom for ESL classes and could provide child minding. • We have the facility and staff to deliver Health, Fitness and Aquatic programs including swim lessons for children. • We will provide Free Memberships for refugee families or individuals which will include access to all our programs and services with the exception of Licensed Childcare.
<p>Family Counselling & Support Services for Guelph Wellington</p> 	<p>Andrea Wyshniowsky – Manager, Programs & Services andreawyshniowsky@familyserviceguelph.on.ca</p> <p>Joanne Young Evans – Executive Director JoanneYE@familyserviceguelph.on.ca</p>	<p>FCSSGW is a multi-service connected community partner.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are experts in trauma therapy and grief counselling. We can be of assistance during the “Phase 2/hump” where refugees experience depression, grief, guilt or frustration. This is typically done in a one-on-one format or a special group setting could be provided. • We provide Access, Information and Referral (including service coordination) for children who have a diagnosed Developmental Disability. • Service Coordination for adults with a Developmental Disability can connect them with services specific to the Developmental Services sector that they might qualify for. • We provide Financial Health and Literacy for the community which can include: Learning about money management so that individuals become self-sufficient. Education surrounding credit and debt management. <p>We host Walk-In counselling services on Wednesday afternoons</p>

<p>Volunteer Centre of Guelph Wellington</p> 	<p>For services and programs serving Syrians: Geraldine Howitt, updates@volunteergw.ca For volunteering: Chantal Vallis, Membership and Volunteer Services Coordinator, cvallis@volunteergw.ca</p>	<p>We have a Community Information Database, phone line and walk-in service.</p> <p>We also recruit and refer volunteers (for agency members) and we promote volunteering to individuals/groups.</p>
 <p>Better Beginnings, Better Futures</p>	<p>Mitra Salarvand, Peer Parent Co-ordinator msalarvand@bbbfuelph.ca 519-824-8498</p>	<p>We are co-located in a community hub with many other organizations that refugees may need to be connected with. In the Shelldale Centre there is an office of the Guelph Community Health Centre, Family & Children’s Services Guelph Wellington, WDG Public Health, Lutherwood Employment Services, Immigrant Services, Playsense, CMHA, and 3 education programs through Upper Grand District School Board. This sharing of physical space allows us to provide hand-to-hand referrals. For example, we will walk down the hall to the Community Health Centre and help someone fill out the intake form or sit with a pregnant mother the first time she attends the Public Health Canadian Parental Nutrition Program if she is nervous about attending alone. This type of referral not only insures that the referral is a good fit, but also helps to overcome many barriers such as transportation, language and anxiety. Many programs that are offered in the building but not offered by our own organization experience a transfer of credibility. We are able to build a trust relationship with individuals (primarily through our peer parent family home visitor program) that we find community members to associate with any service offered in the building.</p> <p>We have parenting support programs, family home visitors, baby and parent drop-in programs and a women’s circle. Although the primary outcome of many of these programs surround child development and parenting skills, an added benefit to these important programs is that they serve as a first exposure to. We may refer a mother to have a language assessment when we meet them, but then they do not feel comfortable going to school right away or are placed on a waiting list. Our programs give them an opportunity to listen to the Canadian accent and to practise English at their own pace. We have found anecdotally that community members who have a language assessment before participating in our programs and then join an ESL class after spending time in our programs are able to complete level 1 and 2 ESL classes more quickly than average. These programs also help people to make friends, to settle into the community more easily and to support their mental health.</p>

		<p>We also offer programs for children and youth that help to build confidence, competence, cooperation, creativity and commitment.</p> <p>We have the space available to offer more programming. We are also able to provide childminding during programming if the financial capacity is provided. We have been discussing the possibility of TESL trained volunteers from the Refugee Sponsorship Program or retired teachers coming in to offer an ESL program in one of our meeting spaces. With support we would be able to offer childminding during these classes.</p>
	<p>Judith Carson, President of Guelph Wellington Seniors Judith.Carson@sympatico.ca</p> <p>Maryanne Wilford Manager of Community Support Services, GWSA mwilford.gwsa@gmail.com</p>	<p>We are a not-for-profit organization run by volunteers. We have an outreach program at several locations in the community for isolated seniors. We provide transportation, program and a hot meal for \$7. There is also a gentle exercise program at various locations in the community for a small donation.</p>
	<p>Gabriella Currie-Ziegler Executive Director Guelph Youth Music Centre</p> <p>gabriella@gymc.ca</p>	<p>The GYMC has some meeting/learning space available (depending on the day/time) which we could make available without charge, for a one-year period.</p>
<p>March of Dimes Canada</p> 	<p>Barbara Moore March of Dimes Canada – Community Coordinator bmoore@marchofdimes.ca http://www.marchofdimes.ca 1-866-380-0758 ext. 263</p>	<p>March of Dimes Canada provides a wide range of services to people with physical disabilities throughout the country -One Stop: Opportunities for Independence. March of Dimes Canada programs are available to any person with a physical disability who can benefit. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People born with physical disabilities (such as cerebral palsy, spina bifida, or muscular dystrophy). • Those who develop it later in life (such as multiple sclerosis, Parkinson’s disease, stroke, or post-polio syndrome). • Those who acquire it through injury or an accident. • We also offer services to seniors and the medically fragile, as well as services to families, caregivers, employers and health insurance companies

 <p>The Guelph Community Foundation</p>	<p>Chris Willard Executive Director 519.821.9216 www.guelphcf.ca</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possible granting opportunities and the POSSIBILITY of CFC's Welcome Fund for Syrian Refugees (details in process and TBC) - Board room - Distribution lists - Facilitators to help make connections • The ability set up a fund or any charity specifically themed for refugees or for any of the agencies affected
<p>United Way Guelph Wellington Dufferin</p> 	<p>Shakiba Shayani Community Investment Manager United Way Guelph Wellington Dufferin</p> <p>519-821-0571 x 24 www.unitedwayguelph.com</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local community funder • Facilitators to help make connections • Boardroom available