

# SYRIAN REFUGEE RELIEF UPDATE

Many expressions of interest, support and questions have come to us from last week's bulletin cover and Paska Orach's talk at all the weekend Masses.

- ***What is a private refugee sponsorship?***

It is the resettlement of a refugee family to Canada, with a private group providing for the financial costs and the resettlement support for the refugees. In our case, it is the parish who intends to support a nuclear refugee family with children, approximately 4-6 members.

- ***What is a co-sponsor?***

Our committee has consistently said that we will be co-sponsoring a refugee family with the Association for New Canadians - ANC. The ANC is a non-profit, community-based refugee organization serving the needs of immigrants and refugees. They have a signed agreement with Citizenship and Immigration Canada which permits them to privately sponsor refugees.

A co-sponsor (St. Pius X Parish) partners with the Association to share the responsibility for sponsoring refugees. While the Association holds the sponsoring agreement, and has vast experience in this area, we, as co-sponsors, take the lead role in providing financial, resettlement and day-to-day support for one (1) year.

- ***What is the parish responsible for? What is the ANC responsible for?***

<b><i>Role of Co-Sponsor</i></b>	<b><i>Role of ANC</i></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• airport reception, interpreter</li> <li>• housing, food, clothing, furniture and other house hold goods</li> <li>• assisting with living arrangements</li> <li>• providing financial orientations</li> <li>• providing life skills orientations</li> <li>• assistance with transportation and public transportation</li> <li>• connecting them to essential programs such as SIN, MCP, Child Tax Benefit and other resources such as the ANC</li> <li>• assistance with the health care system</li> <li>• facilitating access to childcare</li> <li>• enrolling children in school and adults in language training</li> <li>• facilitating social connections</li> <li>• helping in search for employment</li> <li>• assist with transition at the end of the sponsorship program</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• assist co-sponsors with sponsorship application process</li> <li>• training of volunteers</li> <li>• provide access for refugees to               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• information, referral and orientation programs</li> <li>• life skills training</li> <li>• language assessment and training</li> <li>• employment services</li> <li>• in-school settlement support for children and youth</li> <li>• volunteer supports</li> <li>• social, recreational and educational supports</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

*If you wish to make a financial donation,  
you can pick up an envelope on the tables at the Church and Chapel entrances.  
Please include your name and address so a tax receipt may be issued to you.  
Your generosity will certainly be appreciated.*