

# Info & Ideas

**Church World Services** – serving refugees and immigrants in central Pennsylvania  
With the help of local co-sponsoring churches and volunteers, the CWS immigration and refugee office in Lancaster welcomes around 400 individuals each year to central Pennsylvania and aims to help the new arrivals adjust, become successful members of their local neighborhoods.

**Some ways to get involved:**

- Set up an apartment-- Gather furniture and household items and set up the family's apartment the week or weekend before they arrive in the United States.
- Cook the family a culturally appropriate and familiar meal for their day of arrival.
- Greet the family at the airport.
- Transport refugees to appointments – doctor, job interviews, ESL classes, etc.
- Tutor children, practice conversational English or help teach English as a Second Language (ESL).
- Mentor-- Befriend a refugee or refugee family.
- Orient-- Provide cultural orientation or explore the city together.

**The Community School at Reynolds Middle School — Focused on Refugees:**

The United Way of Lancaster County provided a grant for the New Americans Integration Project, in which agencies in Lancaster come together to begin a Community School focused on providing for the needs of refugees. This hub of refugee-related community services will be located at Reynolds Middle School, led by the IU-13 and opens on October 7, 2015.

**Vision:** Our diverse community thrives and prospers.

**Services offered:**

- ESL classes for refugee parents, (also GED classes in the future)
- Donating school uniforms
- Extended day programs for students
- Afterschool tutoring and ESL for children
- Health care - Southeast Lancaster Health Services is opening a clinic there 10/1
- Supply collection and distribution (ex. collect books, stuffed animals, blankets...)
- Community hub and resource center
- Workshops or clubs for students related to certain skills or interests, provided by interested professionals in the community
- Support for processing their transition and life events

**Upcoming events, sponsored by Lancaster County Refugee Coalition:**

**Sept. 17**— Dinner & Dialogue at Upohar, 5:30-7:30pm, Topic: ESL in Lancaster

**Sept. 30**—Quarterly Meeting, 3:30pm. Topic: Mental Health and Refugees

**Oct. 7**— Reynolds Community Fair-- ribbon-cutting ceremony at 3:45pm and a fair with international dinner, games, and presentations from 5-7pm

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