

RSTP Bulletin

The latest news and updates on the Private Sponsorship of Refugees (PSR) Program

Looking Back

As the year comes to an end, let us celebrate some of the amazing things that happened this year! We expect to resettle about 18,000 privately sponsored refugees and over 1000 BVOR refugees by the end of 2018! We at RSTP want to thank each and every sponsoring group that has made it possible for some of the world's most vulnerable people to live without fear!



The Toronto team sending our warm appreciation!

RSTP WEBSITE UPDATE

The RSTP Fact Sheet on sponsorship disputes and breakdowns has been updated and posted on our website!!

Please make sure you use the new version found here: <http://www.rstp.ca/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Sponsorship-Breakdown-Info-Sheet-Dec.2018-Revised.pdf>

GOODBYE 2018



A BVOR family that arrived in June, 2018!!!

Mohammed Abd Elnour, his wife Assgad Ali, and their two daughters, Rafaa, 9, and Ruba, 5, arrived in Toronto from Amman on June 4, 2018.

The family was sponsored under the [Blended Visa Office Referred](#) (BVOR) program, which matches travel-ready refugees with sponsors. The program, which started in 2012, splits the cost of settlement between private sponsors and the federal government.

HOLIDAY GREETINGS



Re: SAHS CAP Spaces for 2018

As we approach 2019, many of you have been asking how long you have before you lose your allocated CAP spaces

Our Answer

- * 2018 cap spaces are valid only until December 31, 2018.
- * Unused spaces cannot be carried over into 2019, and any new or resubmitted applications received by IRCC after December 31, 2018, will be returned to you, unprocessed.

An application is considered received by IRCC if it is postmarked by December 31 or emailed prior to midnight local time.

**DON'T
WAIT!**

Till the last minute!



THE CANADIAN REFUGEE SPONSORSHIP
AGREEMENT HOLDERS ASSOCIATION

Time to **Renew** Your **2019 SAH Association membership!!**

- * The current membership year ends on December 31, 2018 and the new membership year will begin January 1, 2019.
- * The application form needs to be submitted to the SAH Association by January 31, 2019
- * The annual **membership fee** is \$100.00 per membership and late fees will apply after January 31st, 2019.

On November 14th and again on December 19th, 2018, an email was shared through the SAH list by the SAH Secretariat containing membership information, a membership letter, membership consideration and a membership application form!

- * Please **complete and submit the Membership Application form by January 31, 2019!**

If you have any questions about membership, please contact the SAH Council members or the SAH Secretariat, Ellen Woolaver, via email at ewoolaver@sahsecretariat.com.

E-Training - Introduction to Private Sponsorship

[The Introduction to Private Refugee Sponsorship](#) (IET 101) E-Training Winter 2019 session begins in January 2019. If you are interested in taking the IET 101 Winter 2019 Course, please email etraining@rstp.ca and request to be added to the wait list.

Additionally, if you have taken the Introduction course and are interested in participating in the advanced course, [Eligibility And Admissibility Considerations Related To The Private Sponsorship Of Refugees](#) (AET201), please also contact etraining@rstp.ca to register and get enrolled! The advanced E-Training session will begin in mid-January!!

REGISTER NOW!

Joint Assistance Sponsorship (JAS)

Refugees sponsored under the **Joint Assistance Sponsorship (JAS)** program have special or enhanced needs that will likely result in a longer or more difficult period of integration in Canada, due to:

- Trauma from violence or torture;
- Medical disabilities;
- Effects of systemic discrimination; or,
- Large family units (such as a single parent with several children).

Under the JAS program, the government and private sponsors support refugees for up to 24 months, depending on the needs of the resettled refugee. In a few cases, the private sponsor may support refugees for up to 36 months. These refugees receive income support from the Government of Canada. They are matched with a private sponsorship group to help them adjust to life in Canada through settlement and emotional support.

Some refugees are identified overseas for the JAS program due to special needs. Others are converted into JAS cases after they arrive in Canada, if they need more support.

JAS refugee profiles can only be picked up by SAHs and their constituent groups.

Special needs: The mother struggles to raise five children on her own in an unfamiliar environment. This has slowed her settlement process. One child has a heart condition, two others suffer from developmental delays and disabilities, and the remaining two are being assessed for developmental delays. The child with a heart condition requires a specialist's regular medical attention. The mother experienced trauma while living in a refugee camp in Ethiopia. This affects her parenting and other life skills.

Support needed: She needs help keeping medical appointments and maintaining her English studies. She would benefit from learning to juggle her many responsibilities. She needs support with life skills, such as general hygiene in her home and understanding finances, and with parenting skills.



Many In-Canada JAS Refugees are waiting to be sponsored!

Including

In-Canada JAS PROFILE #: 1888-11-18
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Lethbridge, AB
COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Eritrea
FAMILY SIZE: 6

Family composition: This 38 year old single mother from Eritrea arrived in Canada with her five young children in March 2018.

Background: The mother is illiterate but attends English classes while taking care of her family. The children are enrolled in school. Their mother goes to parenting and behavioural support classes. The family has been matched with a volunteer with extensive experience working with newcomers.

For more information about the JAS program or to get more on these JAS Refugee Profiles, contact our Refugee Resettlement Project Worker at paznavehzadeh@rstp.ca or visit the RSTP website - [JAS page](#)

Upcoming RSTP Webinars Series

Introduction to Canada's Refugee Sponsorship Programs

Date: Monday, January 7, 2019

Time: 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM AST

Topics covered: an overview of Canada's refugee sponsorship programs; the history and launch of the PSR program; and, the PSR program as part of global resettlement efforts.

For registration, please click: : <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/7123343705183948290>

The PSR Program: Who Can Sponsor and Who Can be Sponsored

Date: Wednesday, January 9, 2019

Time: 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM AST

Topics covered: who can sponsor under the PSR program; who can be sponsored; refugee status documents: what are they and who needs them; and, an overview of sponsors' financial and settlement responsibilities under the PSR program.

To register, please click: : <https://attendeegotowebinar.com/register/5724287727208339203>

Refugee Sponsorship, Cultural Sensitivity and Communication – Communicating Across Cultures

Date: Monday, January 14, 2019

Time: 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM EST

This webinar will provide refugee sponsors with information and tips on cross-cultural communication styles. The following topics will be covered: dimensions of culture; aspects of cultural differences; visible and non-visible aspects of culture; individual and family dynamics; verbal and nonverbal communication; differences within the "similarly perceived" cultures; the refugee experience; and, where do we meet. The webinar will be followed by a Q&A session.

For registration, please click: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/631973290682523139>

For more information, please visit: <http://www.rstp.ca/en/training/>



Happy Holidays and Best Wishes
from the RSTP team!

Refugee
Sponsorship
Training
Program



Immigration, Refugees
and Citizenship Canada

Immigration, Réfugiés
et Citoyenneté Canada