Refugee Sponsorship Training Program

# RSTP Bulletin

July 28, 2014



On **August 1**, 2014, the age of a dependent will be lowered to **under 19 years** of age. For more info visit http://bit.ly/UyBVkM or contact the RSTP.

## Sponsoring refugees in Turkey



With the increasing number of asylum seekers in Turkey and inquiries about sponsoring out of Turkey, we thought we would compile a brief step-by-step guide for sponsors. If you would like more detail about any of the following steps, please contact us.

#### STEP 1: Pre-screen

Assess, to the best of your abilities, whether the refugee applicant meets all the <u>regular PSR eligibility and admissibility criteria</u>. Remember, only Iraqis, Iranians and Syrians can currently be sponsored by a SAH from Turkey.

#### STEP 2: Obtain required spaces

If you want to sponsor Iranian or Iraqi asylum seekers in Turkey, you will need to have uncapped spaces. If you want to sponsor Syrian asylum seekers in Turkey, you will need uncapped spaces or Ministerial Syrian Priority spaces. If you do not have the required spaces, you can try to secure spaces from your colleagues by sending an email to the SAH list and Elizabeth Walton at the SAH Secretariat.

## STEP 3: Ensure Turkey Pilot criteria are met

Regardless of the type of spaces you intend to use, PSR applications for Iranian, Iraqi and Syrian refugees must meet the Turkey Pilot Project criteria, including registration with Turkish authorities and UNHCR registration or possession of a valid passport. This applies to the PA and their dependents.

STEP 4: Send case details to SAH Secretariat STEP 5: Submit application to CPO-W

## **Upcoming Webinar**

#### Caps & Allocations for 2014

Participate in this webinar presentation with Capper Tracker, Elizabeth Walton of the SAH Secretariat to learn more about the allocations process for 2014, trading spaces, recording spaces and everything you need to know about allocations. This will also be a great opportunity to ask questions and get clarification.

**Date:** August 14, 2014 **Time:** 1:00 pm - 2:30 PM

To register, go to the <u>registration link</u>.

## **Upcoming Workshops**

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## **Joint Assistance**

## Sponsorships: Post-Arrival Support

Where: Catholic Crosscultural Services

55 Town Centre Court, 4<sup>th</sup> floor Scarborough (Toronto), ON

**Date:** July 30, 2014 **Time:** 10 am - 3 pm

Register at sshahsiah@rstp.ca

## **Sponsoring Syrian Refugees**

**Where:** Catholic Crosscultural Services 55 Town Centre Court, 4<sup>th</sup> floor

Scarborough (Toronto), ON

**Date:** August 6, 2014 **Time:** 6:00 – 8:00 pm

Register by August 4 at nnasir@rstp.ca

Have a request or suggestion for a webinar or workshop? Contact us

#### **AVAILABLE BVORs**

#### **VOR 052**

PA is a 29 year old Ethiopian male who speaks basic English, Oromo and Amharic. He and his family were persecuted in Ethiopia on the grounds of their ethnicity and imputed political opinion. The PA was imprisoned and suffered physical abuse. He fled to Kenya and was threatened there as well refusing join political organizations. He has some university schooling and work experience as a shopkeeper. He can be resettled anywhere in Canada and his case is considered high urgency.

#### **VOR 103**

PA is an 8 year old Bhutanese male accompanied by his 26 year old mother and 5 year old sister. Mother is a woman-at-risk who is a survivor of violence. As a child, she lived with an uncle who treated her poorly. She married and left to live with her husband in a refugee camp in Nepal. She was tortured and abused by her husband, and is now divorced. This is a high urgency case as the PA, his sister, and mother still live close to him in the refugee camp. Due to their minority ethnic origin, they struggle and depend on rations. The family is eager to resettle in Canada.

#### **VOR 105**

PA is a 36 year old Iranian male who speaks basic English and Farsi, and has worked as a transport clerk. He was persecuted by Iranian authorities and his family based on his sexual orientation. One day his brother and cousin raided the home where the PA and his partner were living and beat them both. The PA was taken to his uncle's house where he was threatened and notified he would be marrying a female cousin. A sheikh sentenced him to 72 lashes for sodomy. Fearing further persecution, the PA fled to Turkey. He can be resettled anywhere in Canada.

#### **INQUIRIES & RESPONSES**

**YOU ASKED...** The age of dependents will be changed to under 19 years of age on August 1<sup>st</sup>. We are currently working on an application. Will there be a grace period?

**OUR REPLY...** CIC will not be granting a grace period. Therefore, any PSR applications received by CPO-W on or after August 1<sup>st</sup>, will be processed under the new definition of 'dependent'. Any PSR applications received (i.e.: date stamped) by CPO-W before August 1<sup>st</sup> will be processed according to the current definition of dependent (i.e.: under 22).

**YOU ASKED...** We are preparing the PSR application of a PA whose spouse and child are not accompanying. Do we have to submit Schedules A and 2 for the non-accompanying dependants?

**OUR REPLY...** CPO-W indicates that PSR applications without Schedules A and 2 for non-accompanying family members will be considered 'incomplete'. If the non-accompanying family members cannot be accessed or reached, and therefore their original signatures for Schedules A and 2 cannot be obtained, please include a cover letter explaining the circumstances and a description of the attempts to obtain signatures with your PSR application submission to CPO-W.

**YOU ASKED...** In the case of self-supporting refugees, are sponsors still required to have funds for the sponsorship at the time of submitting the application?

CIC's REPLY... Yes, sponsors must demonstrate up front that they have sufficient funds to support the refugee, even if the refugee is self-supporting. The signed Undertaking creates a legal obligation to provide support, which is not revoked or invalidated once the refugee is found to be self-supporting overseas. While sponsors can assume that a self-supported refugee would be able to cover their own expenses, there is no guarantee, and the sponsor is ultimately liable should the refugee cease to be self-supporting during the sponsorship period.



Missed all the fun at the 2014 SAH Conference? Check out the pictures here: <a href="http://bit.ly/1AgHHsr">http://bit.ly/1AgHHsr</a> (click on 'view album' and then on 'play slideshow' in top right)