RSTP Bulletin

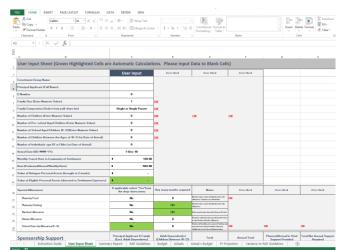
The latest news and updates on the Private Sponsorship of Refugees (PSR) Program

SAH RESOURCES - WHAT SAHS ARE USING

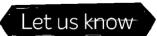
The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Toronto is using this fabulous Excel document called the "Budget Workbook" to calculate the amount that sponsors in Ontario should be providing as income support based on the Ontario RAP Rates.

This is a great tool to calculate income support based on family size and composition. It also helps sponsors calculate the amount of financial support they need to provide when the sponsored person(s) begins paid employment.

This tool is useful for all SAHs and sponsoring groups in Ontario. You can find it in the <u>Forms</u> section of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Toronto's website. The Forms section also has other resources that may be useful.



Do check them out!



We want to periodically feature the useful tools you are using in the RSTP bulletin to help other SAHs and sponsoring groups.

What kind of tools and resources are you using?

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT NON-DECLARED FAMILY MEMBERS

All family members must be included in your refugee sponsorship application, whether or not they are travelling to Canada with the principal applicant. Non-declared family members are excluded from being members of the family unit. They will not be able to come to Canada through any family reunification process.

There are no exceptions! Every family member should be included, even if they are:

- → Missing;
- → Imprisoned;
- → Unable to leave their country of birth; or
- → Presumed dead.

All family members must be included on both:

- \longrightarrow The Sponsorship Undertaking; and
- → The Application for Permanent Residence

Family members who are not declared will not be able to come to Canada through these family reunification processes:

- \longrightarrow The One-Year Window of Opportunity application
- → Family class sponsorship.

If there is a newborn child, or if the principal applicant marries or legally adopts a child after the application is received by ROC-O, the new family members should be declared as soon as possible or at least before departure to Canada. This will ensure that the application is not delayed or refused.

Information on adding a dependent can be found in our <u>January</u> 18^{th,} 2019 Bulletin!

ATENTION Sponsorship Agreement Holders (SAHs)!

You've agreed to include <u>all of the family members</u> of the Principal Applicant in your sponsorship. It is an offense to advise someone not to include all their family members. If you tell someone to misrepresent themselves or their family on an appropriate themselves are the family members.

someone to misrepresent themselves or their family on an application, you could face serious penalties, including:

- \rightarrow A fine of up to \$100,000
- → Imprisonment for up to 5 years
- → Cancellation of your sponsorship agreement



The Canadian Centre for Refugees (CCR) has valuable information and resources on Excluded Family Members that may help you!

Advise those you are sponsoring to include all family members, whether or not they are travelling to Canada!

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;
- The effects of systemic discrimination; or,
- Being a large family unit (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 with settlement help and emotional support.

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

JAS refugee profiles can only be picked up by SAHs and their Constituent Groups.



For more information about the JAS Program or JAS Refugee Profiles, visit the RSTP website JAS page

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

Including

REFUGEE PROFILE #: 19-0028

ADDITIONAL

INFORMATION: Kitchener, ON **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN:** Burundi

FAMILY SIZE: 7

Background: This family was urgently resettled in early 2018 due to ongoing insecurity in their country of origin, Burundi, as well as in their country of refuge. They have faced significant discrimination due to the medical condition of their oldest son.

Special needs: The family has received settlement support, including financial

orientation, life skills support and language instruction. They struggle due to a lack of formal education.

PHOTO: AMBER BRACKEN/THE GLOBE AND MAIL

Support needed: A sponsor could provide social support and help the family navigate medical and community support systems. The mother and her spouse need help with building their confidence. A sponsor could help them become empowered and self-sufficient as they learn to support their family in a new environment.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Winnipeg, MB

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Eritrea

FAMILY SIZE: One

Family Composition: A young, married Eritrean man.

Background: He arrived in Winnipeg in May 2018, while his spouse and young daughter remain in Egypt. He has accessed appropriate community resources, has been enrolled in English language and education programs, and receives weekly home care support that includes housekeeping and cooking assistance.

Special needs: He has difficulty settling into his new community due to a traumatic history. Serious burns to his upper body have affected his dexterity, and he has had numerous surgeries. He has had difficulty adjusting and being self-sufficient, and lacks the confidence to successfully settle in his new home.

Support needed: A sponsor could provide social and emotional support and opportunities to informally practice his English. They could reduce his feelings of isolation as he goes through surgeries. A sponsor could help him navigate the health care system and connect with other community resources. They could help him integrate, gain confidence and move towards greater self-sufficiency and eventual employment. A sponsor could help him access the necessary financial and emotional support to properly address his health challenges.



For more information visit the RSTP website <u>JAS page</u>

Upcoming RSTP Workshops & Webinars

Workshops

Overview of Private Sponsorship of Refugees (PSR)

Date: Wednesday, February 6, 2019

Time: 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm EST

Location: Catholic Crosscultural Services Mississauga, 3660 Hurontario Street, 7th floor,

Mississauga, ON L5B 3C4.

Description: This monthly RSTP information session provides an overview of Private Sponsorship of Refugees (PSR) in Canada. In this session, the following topics would be covered:

- Who can be sponsored to come to Canada;
- Who can sponsor?;
- The PSR process;
- PSR obligations and rights of sponsored refugees; and
- Q & A.

Please note that individual cases will not be discussed during the session but you are most welcome to connect to have your application discussed in a one-on-one session afterwards.

For registration: Please click <u>here</u> or contact: Inas Hamid (RSTP Ontario Trainer) at 905.273.4140 ext. 6239 or email: <u>ihamid@rstp.ca</u>.







RSTP Ottawa Trainer **Beth Daniel** at Refugee 613's Learning Forum (Photo: <u>@refugee613</u>)

Webinars

Introduction to Canada's Refugee Sponsorship Programs

Date: Tuesday, February 5, 2019 **Time:** 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM EST **For registration:** click here

Managing Expectations in the context of Private Sponsorship of Refugees (PSR)

Date: Friday, February 8, 2019 **Time:** 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm EST **For registration:** click here

The PSR program: Who can sponsor and who can be sponsored

Date: Monday, February 11, 2019 **Time:** 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM EST **For registration:** click here

The PSR program: How to prepare and submit a successful Application Package

Date: Wednesday, February 13, 2019

Time: 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM EST For registration: click here

Preparing a good quality settlement plan (G₅)

Date: Friday, February 15, 2019 **Time:** 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm EST **For registration:** click here

The PSR program: Adding dependents postsubmission and updating applications

Date: Thursday, February 21, 2019 **Time:** 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM EST **For registration:** click here

Managing expectations in the context of Private Sponsorship of Refugees (PSR)

Date: Friday, February 22, 2019 **Time:** 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm EST **For registration:** click here

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







Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada

Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada