

Do you want to help welcome Ukrainian families to our community?

Upholding Humanity, an interfaith coalition on Long Island, is looking for committed volunteers interested in working on the resettlement of Ukrainian refugees.

In partnership with HIAS, Upholding Humanity will be helping to resettle Ukrainian families in Long Island. HIAS asks that each family is supported by a Welcome Circle.

What is a Welcome Circle?

A Welcome Circle consists of 5-8 volunteers who will support the family with various tasks such as:

- securing permanent housing;
- submitting documents for work authorization and social security cards;
- applying for public benefits;
- enrolling children in school and adults in English classes;
- assisting with medical appointments;
- connecting individuals with mental health resources;
- and supporting the adults with their job search.

Are volunteers financially responsible for the family?

No. Upholding Humanity has allocated funding to support the family and will complete necessary documents to formalize the sponsorship -- the Welcome Circle will not be responsible for providing any financial support to the family.

Who can be a Welcome Circle volunteer?

Anyone! Welcome Circle volunteers do not need to have any specialized skills or educational backgrounds -- they just need to have a passion for helping! The Welcome Circle will receive ample resources and training to guide them through all aspects of the family's resettlement and they will be connected with a liaison from HIAS to answer any and all questions that come up.

What else do I need to know?

The initial time around arrival will require more involvement from the Welcome Circle and will decrease as time goes on until they transition to independence within 6 months. Please note that Upholding Humanity will cover costs for background checks, which each volunteer will be required to complete.

If you would like to get involved in this meaningful work, please complete **this form**.

Please reach out to Maddy Donath at 646-331-0772 or maddyupholdinghumanity@gmail.com with any questions or concerns.