



Refugee Resettlement: How You Can Help

We know that many Wisconsinites are interested in helping these individuals and families. The below agencies are in need of donations and/or volunteers.

Please note that to ensure the health and safety of individuals and families at Fort McCoy, groups prefer new items, which can also help ensure expedited processing. Clean, new clothing and footwear are among items that are of the highest priority and need at this time.

Catholic Charities

Catholic Charities of La Crosse is collecting donations of new items and has set up multiple ways for people to provide supplies by simply shopping online. Their website includes a full list of the items needed, along with links to online shopping lists through major retailers. Catholic Charities is also committed to using monetary donations for items in need at Fort McCoy and refugee resettlement in the Wisconsin communities.

To learn more, visit <https://cclse.org/afghanistan-refugee-assistance>.

Team Rubicon

Businesses and other groups with large quantities of new clothing, footwear and other items to donate can contact Team Rubicon at Resettlementsupport@teamrubiconusa.org. Team Rubicon, a veteran-led disaster response organization, is working to establish a collection system for these larger donations to ensure they can be properly distributed to those staying at Fort McCoy. Team Rubicon also expects to have a donation website online by Labor Day.

To learn more, visit <https://teamrubiconusa.org/>.

Not Near a Donation Site?

While donation locations are currently limited, the state plans to open more locations across the state in the coming weeks. Individuals who are not near a location can still support local relief efforts by making a monetary donation directly to Catholic Charities of La Crosse at <https://cclse.org/>. Additionally, individuals can support efforts across the nation by donating to the American Red Cross at <https://www.redcross.org/>.

Citizens are encouraged to research any organization not provided on DCF's list prior to making a monetary or supply donation to ensure the organization is legitimate and donations are being used appropriately.

Good afternoon, community partners,

Thank you to those of you who joined us for the call today regarding the crisis in Afghanistan and evacuees residing in the US. If you were not able to join us, we discussed the likelihood that **World Relief Fox Valley will begin welcoming up to 100 Afghans with humanitarian parole status between now and March 31, 2022.** Currently we have very little information beyond this, but the presentation covered humanitarian parole, the situation at Fort McCoy, and what World Relief is doing to prepare for these arrivals.

You can view the recording here: <https://youtu.be/FVgsUWvmdFM>

Here is a list of referenced sources:

- Donation guidelines for World Relief: <https://worldrelief.org/fox-valley/get-involved/donate/>
- Situation at Fort McCoy, WI: <https://minnesota.cbslocal.com/2021/09/02/afghan-refugees-wisconsin-fort-mccoy/>
- US withdraws from Afghanistan on 8/30/21: <https://www.npr.org/2021/08/30/1032683828/the-last-american-soldier-to-leave-afghanistan>
- UN anticipates 500,000 refugees to flee Afghanistan: <https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/half-million-afghans-could-flee-across-borders-unhcr-2021-08-27/>
- Humanitarian parole (including charts on eligibility for benefits and history of large-scale parole - highly recommended reading): <https://immigrationforum.org/article/explainer-humanitarian-parole-and-the-afghan-evacuation/>
- Additionally: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/afghan-refugees-resettlement-legal-operational-hurdles/>
- Additionally:
 - <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/refugee> For updates on the refugee situation.
 - DCRefugee@wisconsin.gov email to share resources (employment opportunities, housing, etc.) with the Wisconsin Department of Children and Family Services

Please continue to send questions, ideas for housing and employment, and connections our way. We know we are blessed to have the opportunity to welcome refugees, SIVs, asylees, and now parolees to this incredible community we live in.

Have a wonderful weekend. Thank you,



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