

# Syrian Refugee Resettlement Family Connection Volunteer Recruitment



**The City of Moncton and MAGMA are actively seeking volunteer families to be matched with Syrian families to support their resettlement in our community.**

## OVERVIEW

- Since December 29, 2015, Moncton has welcomed 315 Syrian refugees.
- Average age of this population is 15 years old, while Moncton's current average age is 45.
- Average Syrian family currently in Moncton has 4-6 children.
- To date, over 45 families have moved into apartments, and less than 20 families still need to transition from hotels to more permanent homes.
- The City expects to welcome additional refugees in the coming months, though the exact number is not yet known.
- Since the beginning of March, the City of Moncton and MAGMA have asked for a pause in welcoming new Syrians to ensure that we can properly integrate those who are already in our community.
- Our province and our region need to increase our population base and we want Greater Moncton to be a leader in welcoming and integrating newcomers.

## WE NEED YOUR HELP

- There is an **urgent need** for Family Connection Volunteers (FCV) – families/teams that are assigned to 'adopt' a Syrian family, to guide them through their transition into Canadian society.

## WHAT IS EXPECTED

- The primary role of the Family Connection Volunteer is to help Syrian families learn new life skills and to guide them as they integrate their new community. FCV's are an important link between new families and other local support organizations.
- There is much to learn about Canadian culture, such as budgeting, grocery shopping, using household appliances, moving around the city, language skills, searching for employment, etc.
- Due to the nature of the program, flexibility and availability is required. FCVs must make a 6-month commitment to their Syrian family. During the first few weeks, daily contact with the Syrian family is essential. This will diminish once the family becomes more familiar with our community.

- You can pair up with another Canadian family (s) to jointly support a Syrian family.
- No financial commitment is expected toward the Syrian family.
- Syrian refugees are considered “vulnerable people”. As such, additional precautions must be taken. All FCVs must complete an RCMP Criminal Record Check and a Social Development Record Check.
- Participants must attend an orientation session and a training session that will prepare you for dealing with your family.

## WHAT’S IN IT FOR YOU?

- Participants in the FCV program attest that it is a very enriching and rewarding experience for themselves and their family.
- A chance to learn about a new culture and develop a lasting friendship with another family.
- This is a hands-on opportunity to support those who have escaped an unimaginable situation.
- A sense of pride for responding to an urgent need in the community.

## GETTING READY

- Training and support is provided to ensure volunteers are comfortable in their role.
- A Facebook page specifically for FCV’s has been created to share information and tips.
- To register: [www.volunteergreatermoncton.com](http://www.volunteergreatermoncton.com)
- For information: [welcomerefugees@moncton.ca](mailto:welcomerefugees@moncton.ca)

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## INVITATION:

### Upcoming Family Connection Volunteer Training Sessions

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#### General Orientation Session

DATE: March 29, 2016

TIME: 6-9pm

LOCATION: Oulton's College

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#### Family Connection Volunteer Training

DATE: March 30, 2016

TIME: 6-9pm

LOCATION: Oulton's College

\*Des ateliers en français seront bientôt disponibles.