

What are local employers saying about working with refugees?

"The refugees I have had working for me are the most dependable, hardest working employees I have ever had. We have learned so much from each other and I would never want them to leave. All employers should give these people chance to prove themselves."

*- Ann MacVeigh,
Red Roof Inn, managed by NMS Lodging,
a Division of Nana Management Services
Anchorage, AK*

"I employ 25 individuals as care providers for disabled adults. Many of my employees are cultural minorities. Employing refugees has been an extremely positive experience for both staff and residents of the assisted living home. Refugees I have employed have a sincere interest in performing a quality job and are grateful for the opportunity to work. I strongly encourage other small business owners to employ refugees due to the reciprocal benefits received."

*- Doran Vaughan
Anchor House
Anchorage, AK*

"It has been our great pleasure to have been involved with "employing a refugee" within our company. We hired a refugee 8 months ago and found him to be very honest, eager & hardworking. He sets a good example for all our employees and is definitely an employee that we can count on!"

*- Janette Brown
Allied Alaska Electric
Wasilla, AK*

Refugee Assistance & Immigration Services

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Refugee Assistance & Immigration Services

Employing New Refugees



... Welcomes the Stranger by empowering all refugees, immigrants, and displaced persons to share in the freedom, justice, and equality of our society.

A program of
Catholic Social Services
Anchorage, Alaska

Refugee Assistance & Immigration Services

Refugee Assistance & Immigration Services (RAIS) at Catholic Social Services provides assistance to refugee families and individuals from around the world who are resettling in Alaska.

Refugees have fled their country because of well-founded fear of persecution for reasons of political opinion, race, religion, nationality, or membership in a particular social group.

RAIS Support Services

All support services are free to employers and to our clients! Clients are pre-screened to match their skills to the job opening.

- Referral and placement
- Interpretation services
- English Language Training education
- Mediation between employers/employees
- Photocopies of all necessary documentation
- Employment and post-hire support
- Employment skills education
- Ongoing follow-up



Peter iNyarofí Dut supports himself with a job at Wal-Mart in Olathe, KS. Photo: Dan Wayne, courtesy of Church World Service.

How Does Hiring a Refugee Benefit an Employer?

REFUGEES ARE AUTHORIZED TO WORK

Refugees are fully authorized to work immediately in the United States.

STRONG WORK ETHIC

Having lost their homes, personal property, and careers in their home country, refugees have a strong desire to regain self-sufficiency and economic stability for their families.

POSITIVE ECONOMIC IMPACT

Refugees begin paying taxes upon employment, which helps them make contributions to the economy and indirectly strengthen your business.

AVAILABILITY & RETENTION OF EMPLOYEES

RAIS has many clients with a variety of skills who are eager to work. By working with RAIS, companies avoid advertising costs and take advantage of free referral services. Refugees are often long-term employees, lowering turnover rates.

SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

Most refugees arrive with many useful skills and many years of work ahead of them, which gives U.S. employers access to well trained workers who are looking for long term employment.

PROMOTES COMMUNITY

Hiring refugees helps to get them off public assistance and onto the road to self-sufficiency, strengthening families and the community.

TAX INCENTIVES

Your business could qualify for certain tax credits and training incentives when you employ those receiving public assistance.

Why Should You Hire a Refugee?

- Refugee Assistance & Immigration Services support
- Prescreened by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services
- Dedication and loyalty
- Adaptability
- Resourcefulness
- Strong desire to work
- Work training and experience
- Increase cultural diversity amongst your staff



La Vang prepares a bed as housekeeper at Courtyard By Marriott in Anchorage, AK. Photo courtesy of Refugee Assistance & Immigration Services.

For more information contact:

(907) 276-5590