

# ways to help Ukrainian families in your church

# UKRAINE



**Not everyone will be able to accommodate a family in their own home, but we can all play our part. As a church family, we can provide a strong community ready to welcome those arriving in the local area. [The Welcome Churches](#) website has a lot of great ideas of the information you can start to collect now. It will also help you think about who else in your community you need to be collaborating and working with.**

- **Get a list of the local GPs:** You can get a list of GPs in your area, so when a family arrives you can help them to register quickly.
- **Know how the school system works:** Children and young people coming will be entitled to study in the UK. Get in touch with schools in your area to find out what the application process is, so you are ready. Refugee Education UK is also developing a number of schemes to help those arriving to access education and to support teachers too.
- **Explore work opportunities:** People coming to the UK will want to work. Could you get in touch with local businesses to see what opportunities there are? The Sanctuary Foundation will be running webinars later this month on what employers need to consider if they want to welcome people from Ukraine.
- **Build friendship networks** It's important that those arriving in the UK feel they have friends beyond the family they are living with. Consider forming a friendship group that can work together to offer meals and introduce people to other activities in the community.

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- **What is going on in your community that you can invite people to?** We know that many of those arriving will be women and children so have a list of baby, toddler, and kids' groups and be ready to accompany families to them.
- **Source practical items** Families will probably be coming with very few belongings. Many will have small children, too. Consider how you can mobilise your church family to get these items for families when they arrive.

There are also great organisations like Baby Basics who are ready to provide essentials, such as cots, clothing, feeding equipment, for families when they arrive. You can get in touch with them when families arrive in your community. You can also donate items through the [Baby Basics Amazon Wish List](#) so they are ready and waiting for families when they need them.

## **[Welcome Boxes for the families initiative from Welcome churches](#)**

Get equipped to proactively welcome refugees and asylum seekers arriving in your community. Welcome Boxes is an excellent way for newly-arrived asylum seekers and refugees to meet people from your church and find their way around the local area. Send your trained volunteers to deliver a box filled with small gifts and local information to refugees who have recently arrived in your area and give a warm welcome to them. Your volunteers will continue to welcome the family or individual over the next three months or so, helping them access support available to them and linking them into your community.

**[click here for more details: Run Welcome Boxes - Welcome Churches](#)**

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Congregational  
Federation

## USEFUL WEBSITES

[WELCOME CHURCHES](#) - EXPLORE HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT THOSE ARRIVING FROM THE UK MOST EFFECTIVELY.

[SANCTUARY FOUNDATION](#) - REGISTER TO RECEIVE THE LATEST INFORMATION AND FIND OUT MORE ABOUT WHAT HOSTING A FAMILY WOULD INVOLVE AND WHAT CHURCHES CAN DO.

[BABY BASICS](#) - ACCESS ESSENTIAL EQUIPMENT FOR FAMILIES ARRIVING IN THE UK, OR DONATE TO ENSURE

[REFUGEE EDUCATION UK](#) - FIND OUT MORE ABOUT SUPPORTING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE.

## information sources:



[Cinnamon network connect: How your church can support Ukrainian Refugees - Cinnamon Connect](#)



[Run Welcome Boxes - Welcome Churches](#)