

General Integration Training

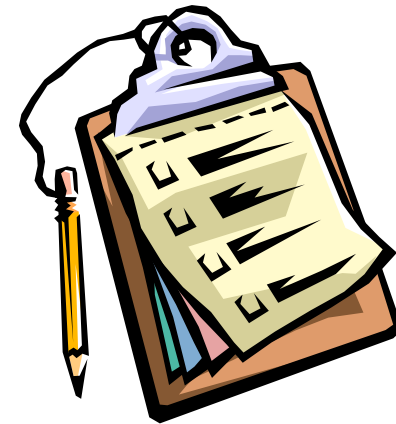
Office for Refugees Archdiocese of Toronto
(ORAT)



ORAT
Office for Refugees
Archdiocese of Toronto

Agenda

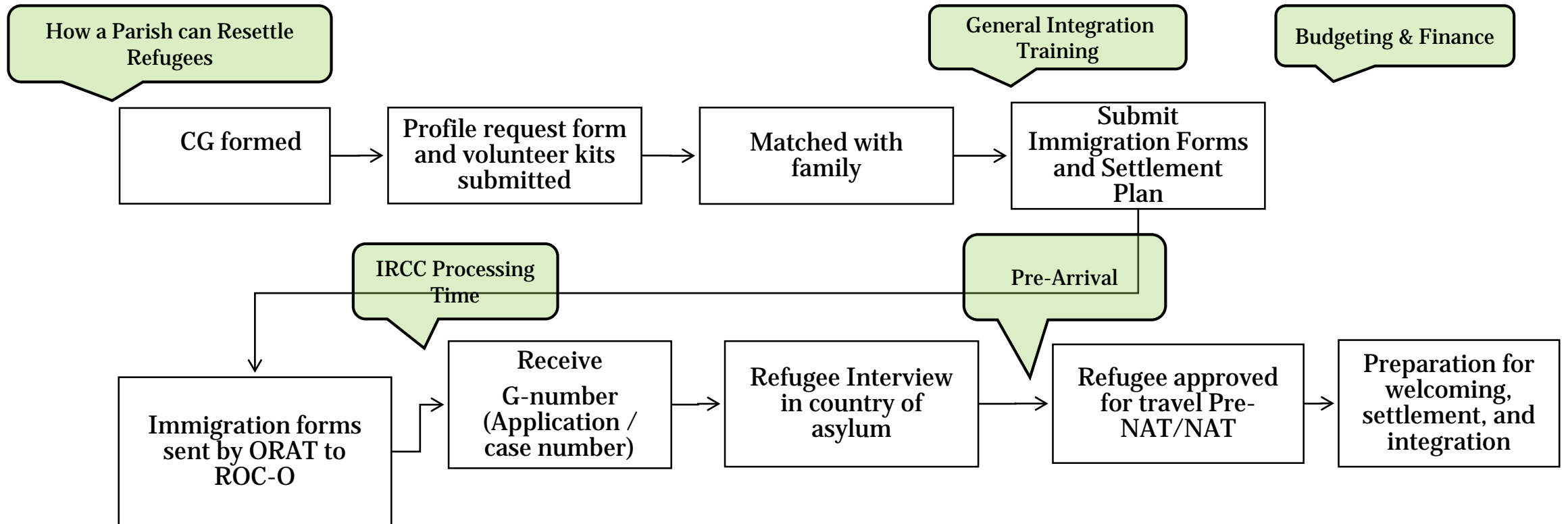
- Overview of settlement process
- What is a Settlement Plan?
- Identifying Constituent Group (CG) roles
- Sections of the Settlement Plan
- Next steps
- Conclusion



Overview of Settlement Process

Training Session

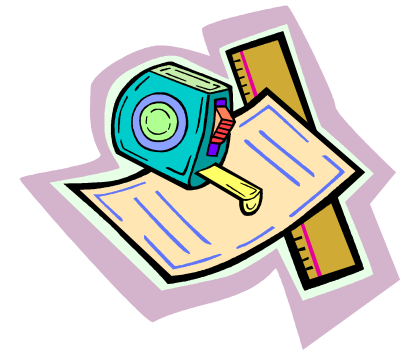
Process Step





What is a Settlement Plan?

- Detailed information on how you will support the newcomer.
- Outlines responsibilities and resources.
- Helps to organize committee.



Recommendation: Because of the length of the immigration process we suggest that a core group (3-4 people) be initially formed to handle the necessary paperwork. Once the refugee receives the notice of interview then the entire committee is engaged.

Principles of the Settlement Plan

1. Establish rules
2. Build trust
3. Show love



Committee roles

- Core Committee 3 to 4 people
- Developing a committee structure:
 - Chairperson;
 - Finance person;
 - “Forms” person; and
 - Interpreter.

Things to Consider

- Frequency of meetings
- Composition of the committee
- Strengths & weaknesses of committee members
- Pre-arrival preparations vs. post-arrival tasks
- Determine member availability (especially during work hours) and access to a vehicle



Key Roles

- Liaison with ORAT
- Liaison with refugee
- Interpreter
- Finances
- Housing
- Newcomer government documents
- Training
- Shopping/Transportation
- Crisis, Medicals, Emergencies



Communication

Stakeholders

ORAT

Refugee

CG

**Parish
Community**

Government

Key Discussion Items

- Immigration and Settlement Process
- Case specifics (e.g. immigration forms, add-dependents)
- Set-up regular communications
- Regularly scheduled meetings
- Consider team building events
- Build interest, involvement, and community support
- Consider the timing of when to engage the parish community
- IRCC Processing Time



Resettlement principles

- Encourage quick integration and financial independence.
- Newcomers should work towards contributing to the cost of their resettlement.
- Use funds in a prudent manner:
 - Funds are to be used to cover basic necessities.
 - Financial transparency and accountability is critical.





Preparing a budget

- No long-term commitments should be made before the arrival of the newcomer (i.e., signing a lease)
- In-kind donations are encouraged. These should be solicited closer to arrival. This will help lower start-up and overall costs.
- Start-up costs vs. monthly expenses.
- Sustainable solution: Newcomer must be able to afford these expenses when the sponsorship period is over.
- Budget must be discussed with the newcomer upon arrival.



Accessing Settlement Funds

Pre-Arrival

- Submit cheque request to ORAT along with a 3-month budget when refugee submits passport for visa.

Ongoing

- Review budget with newcomer at the end of each month
 - Middle of second month of quarter submit cheque request with updated 3-month budget.
 - Adjust budget and money required from ORAT as needed i.e. personal assets, earned income and in-kind deductions.

Notes

- Takes about 4 weeks for cheques to be issued.
- Cheques issued every 3-month.

Finances

- Social Insurance Number (SIN) document
- Banking
- Taxes
- Explain monthly expenses
- Travel loan

Need help: www.Settlement.org (settlement & financial counselling)





Finding Housing

- Determine the amount available for rent and living allowance.
- Look for housing options in the community that are *affordable*.
- Temporary housing.
- Start-up costs
 - Furniture, household effects, linens, bedding, food staples, etc..
 - Consider in-kind donations for these items.

Need Help: Look for housing help centres.



Settlement Services

Required settlement services that should be accessed:

- Language Assessment (ESL, LINC)
- Needs Assessment
- Employment Counselling
- Canada Child Benefit (CCB), if applicable
- Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP), if applicable
- Government Issued Documents (e.g., SIN, OHIP, IFH, Drivers Licence..)

It is important to retain copies of all aforementioned documents and contact information for the settlement worker and agency.



Shopping, Services and Transit

- Value Stores (shop economically)
 - Comparison shopping, price matching
 - National food vs specialty stores
 - Consider using “Flipp” Smartphone app
- HST/GST
- Clothing: Shop in second hand and/or bargain shops
- Library: Free computer usage, internet access, books and DVDs
- Transportation options: Local transit maps & passes, car pooling, ride share etc.



Language, Culture and Faith

- Identify interpreters
- Free language classes
 - English as a Second Language (ESL)
 - Language Instruction for Newcomers (LINC)
- Plan to support the newcomer's cultural adjustment
 - refugee/ethno-cultural groups, and community social support groups
- Teach them about Canadian culture
- Assist with linking newcomer to their faith community





Education and Jobs

- School Registration, if applicable
- Child Care, if applicable
- Employment
 - Temp agencies
 - Leverage personal networks
 - Prepare resume and cover letter
 - Employment counselling

Need help: www.settlement.org, www.211toronto.ca





Health and Recreation

Health

- Health coverage:
 - Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP)
 - Interim Federal Health (IFH)
 - Trillium Drug Program
- Family doctor, dentist, etc.
- Hospitals, walk-in clinics, etc.

Recreation

- Recreation facilities in the area
- Sports leagues
- Canadian Tire Jumpstart





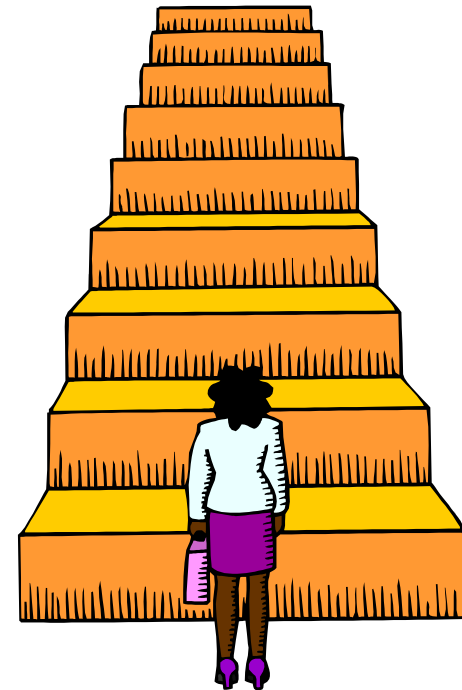
Crisis, Trauma and Emergencies

- Crisis & trauma counselling
 - Canadian Centre for Victims of Torture (CCVT): www.ccvvt.org; 416-363-1066
- Contact person for emergencies
- TeleHealth 1 866-797-0000 (toll free)
- Refugee Health Line 1 866-286-4770 (toll free)
- Mental Health Line 1 866-531-2600 (toll free)
- 911



Next steps

- Prepare the Settlement Plan (required for submission of case)
- Plan how to cooperate with family members here in Canada
- Regularly review the Settlement Plan
- Attend CG Seminars



Conclusion

Thank you 😊

- Important considerations:
 - Respect
 - Confidentiality
 - Communication

The goal is for the newcomer to become self-sufficient.



Inquiries

Office Location:
1220 Yonge Street
Suite 203
Toronto, Ontario

- For any parish inquiries, contact outreach at: oratoutreach@archtoronto.org
- For info about sessions and hosting any, the newsletter or volunteering, contact us at: orateducator@archtoronto.org
- General inquiries: oratrefugeeoffice@archtoronto.org
416.934.3400 ext.804

Please fill out the yellow evaluation form. If you would like to provide additional feedback please email oratrefugeeoffice@archtoronto.org