

Mentors for Refugee Job Seekers



Provide assistance, support, and encouragement to a new refugee in search of employment by: discussing career goals and American work culture; identifying skills and experiences to use in creating résumé; assisting in the job search, application, and interview process; and providing transportation for job-related activities. This is a wonderful opportunity to establish a relationship with a refugee while directly assisting them with a critical task.

Job Description

Responsibilities:

- Discuss short-term and long-term career hopes and goals.
- Discuss American work culture and expectations.
- Help mentee identify skills and experiences to use in creating a résumé.
- Assist in searching for jobs, filling out applications, and preparing for interviews.
- Provide support and transportation for job-related activities.
- Communicate with Employment Counselors and other WRM staff about activities.

Qualifications:

- Willingness and ability to work within the structure of WRM's mission, policies, and procedures.
- Desire to work cross-culturally with refugees who may have limited English skills.
- Cultural sensitivity, flexibility, patience, and a sense of humor.
- Willingness to work in partnership with WRM Employment Services (when applicable) and the WRM Community Engagement Coordinator to ensure best services for the client.

- Access to a vehicle (with a valid driver's license and proof of insurance) or knowledge of the Twin Cities' public transportation systems, and willingness to provide transportation for mentees.

Benefits:

- Befriend a refugee and contribute to a welcoming resettlement experience.
- Engage yourself in a rich, exciting new culture and learn from your mentee.
- Gain knowledge about and experience with local employment resources.
- Share in the excitement of mentee's employment accomplishments.

Time Commitment: Once a week (hours may vary) for a minimum of 3 months. Weekday and weekend opportunities are available.

Location: Location varies based on each task. Employment Mentors may meet with refugees in or near the refugee's home or at the World Relief Minnesota (WRM) office. Mentors are also encouraged to take mentees to local libraries and businesses to search for and apply for jobs, attend job interviews, and attend employment workshops.



How do I become a Job Mentor for a refugee?

1. Complete the volunteer application and background check form. (Both can be found at the WRM website: <http://www.worldreliefmn.org>)
2. Meet with the WRM Community Engagement Coordinator and Employment Counselor.
3. Attend a volunteer orientation.
4. Meet refugee mentee for the first time with WRM staff.
5. Establish a plan with mentee and Employment Counselor for ongoing meetings.
1. Report your hours to the Community Engagement Coordinator once a month.

Contact: For more information, please contact Katie Day, Community Engagement Coordinator, at 612-798-4332, or email us at m volunteers@wr.org.