

# Welcome Messages for Refugee Families

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Lutheran Social Services (LSS), the refugee resettlement agency the Edlavitch DCJCC partners with to set up apartments for families arriving to our area, is collecting messages of hope and love to share with clients and supporters who find themselves isolated at home for weeks.

While millions of people continue to be physically, emotionally, and economically impacted by COVID-19, newly resettled refugee and immigrant families are particularly vulnerable at this time. These individuals are adapting to their new communities, may be limited in English proficiency, and are still on their way to achieving financial self-sufficiency. Getting settled in a completely new and unfamiliar place during a public health emergency is very disorienting.

Help us make newly arrived families feel loved and welcome!

Send in photos, poems, videos, and other forms of messages to share with the refugee community.

## Directions:

1. Write a poem, write a message, take a photo of yourself and/or your family holding welcome signs, or make a video with words of welcome, hope, and love.
2. Submit your messages by sending files directly to Dana Lea, Director of Outreach for Lutheran Social Services, at [dana.anna.lea@gmail.com](mailto:dana.anna.lea@gmail.com)
3. By submitting, you agree to allow Lutheran Social Services to share your video, photo, and/or message on social media and with the families and youth they serve.

## Guidelines for video messages:

1. Please make sure the background for your video is neutral
2. Watch out for windows behind you, which will make the video backlit and your face less visible
3. Test your sound quality and microphone before starting
4. Practice your message at least once before making the recording
5. Remember to enunciate and not to talk too fast!

The **EDCJCC's Refugee Resettlement Team** works with Lutheran Social Services to provide a complete apartment set-up for an incoming refugee family twice a year. If you're interested in joining the EDCJCC's Refugee Resettlement Team, fill out this short [registration form](#) and we will be in touch.

If you have any questions please email Sonya at [sonyaw@edcjcc.org](mailto:sonyaw@edcjcc.org)

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For more information and ways to get involved, visit

[edcjcc.org/volunteer](http://edcjcc.org/volunteer)

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