



# 40 Years

OF WELCOMING REFUGEES

1979 - 2019



**REFUGEE SUNDAY 2019**



**WorldRenew**<sup>™</sup>

LIVING JUSTICE • LOVING MERCY • SERVING CHRIST

[worldrenew.net/refugees](http://worldrenew.net/refugees)

**“They have found a community among us; they’ve experienced the love of our church and consider us friends and family.”**

These are the words of Maggie, the refugee sponsorship coordinator at Langley Immanuel Christian Reformed Church. Recently this church welcomed an Iraqi refugee family to their community. The photo on the front captures the joy of this sponsorship and the newly formed relationships between this church and the refugee family. For refugees, adapting to a new life in Canada presents many challenges. However, the support of a sponsoring church community makes this transition less daunting.

Langley Immanuel CRC is one of many churches across Canada that have welcomed refugees with support and assistance from World Renew’s Refugee Program. 2019 marks the 40th anniversary of the Private Sponsorship of Refugees Program (PSRP) in Canada and World Renew has been a part of the PSRP from the beginning. These 40 years have been filled with evidence of God’s abundant faithfulness as church communities and sponsored newcomers became neighbours to one another.

In 1979, the PSRP was initiated as a response to the Indochinese refugee crisis. The Christian Reformed Church was one of the earliest denominations to commit to assisting in the resettlement of refugees. Over the past 40 years, churches have always been quick to respond in faithfulness and love through refugee sponsorship. Most recently, the Syrian refugee crisis saw 26 churches participate in refugee sponsorship through World Renew for the first time.

**World Renew’s Refugee Program invites you to help celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the sponsorship program and the over 7000 refugee lives that have been touched by sponsoring churches and World Renew. Please visit [www.worldrenew.net/40yearsofwelcome](http://www.worldrenew.net/40yearsofwelcome) for more details about upcoming 40th Anniversary celebrations.**

**On this Refugee Sunday, we ask you to give generously. Your gifts will enable World Renew’s Refugee Program to continue to provide support to churches and to resettle refugee families in urgent need of protection to Canada.**



[worldrenew.net/refugees](http://worldrenew.net/refugees)

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