

Tips for Walking Alongside Sponsored Refugees

Below is a collection of refugee sponsorship good practices gathered from the collective wisdom of the many churches and groups that have sponsored refugees with World Renew over the years. Please use and share them, as is helpful.

1. **Stay humble.** We are all on a learning journey and our worst enemy is thinking we have it all figured out. Ask many questions, share information with each other, and invite in wisdom from others.
2. **Listen deeply.** As you journey with refugees, listen carefully to them. Ask questions, remember that you don't know as much as you think you do, and seek out learning opportunities.
3. **When in doubt, ask.** There is no shame in asking. Please connect with World Renew's Refugee Program staff if you have questions. They are happy to answer any questions you may have and can also connect you with churches and groups who have sponsored refugees in the past, so you can learn from their experiences.
4. **Ensure autonomy.** Refugees are in need, but they want to make decisions for themselves, just as you and I do. Whenever possible, check with the refugees themselves when a decision needs to be made that may impact their lives or future choices.
5. **Invite others in.** Everyone is at a different place in their sponsorship journey. Invite others in to learn from each other and share in the joys and challenges.
6. **Walk alongside.** You are starting a journey that will be a blessing for all involved. It will be in the walking *alongside*, rather than the *leading in front*, that the greatest gifts will be received.
7. **Pray fervently.** Bring all you do to God, for it is through and with Him that great things will be achieved. For some ideas, please see **APPENDIX: "[Devotions](#)," "[Scripture](#)," and "[Prayers](#)."**