

Catholic Charities Diocese of Charlotte is a primary resettlement agency in Charlotte that has been welcoming refugees for over 40 years. The agency works on behalf of the State Department to welcome and resettle refugees from around the world. Over the past four decades, CCDOC has welcomed over 15,000 refugees representing over 27 nationalities. Community support is a key component to ensuring our newly arrived refugee neighbors have the necessary items to build a strong foundation in their new homeland.

Donations listed below are always needed and may be purchased at any time. To organize a donation drop off or pick up contact:

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### **Language**

For many refugees, learning English is an important part of acculturating to their new homeland. Refugees enroll in English Second Language (ESL) classes, however, home study is an important part of the learning process. Picture dictionaries are critical to providing additional aid for communicating and learning.

- The Oxford Picture Dictionary: the Monolingual Edition (the Oxford picture dictionary program). May be purchased on Amazon or other book retailer sites

### **Transportation**

New arrivals rely on the public transportation to travel around Charlotte for employment, doctor appointments and grocery shopping. Bus passes provide them with freedom of movement and in many cases access to ESL classes. These can be purchased at select Harris Teeter customer service counters, as well as the CATs Transport Station in Uptown.

- Bus passes (10 rides)

### **School Supplies**

Refugee students are enrolled in school within 10 days of arrival. Students need new school supplies to properly support their classroom learning. Groups of items can be provided in a new child's backpack.

#### **Backpack (Middle and/or High School Students)**

Calculator	Ruler
Thumbdrive	Pencil box
Paper / notebooks	Blunt scissors
Crayons	Glue sticks
Pencils	Index cards
Pencil sharpener	

#### **Uniforms (all sizes)**

Navy blue pants, shorts and/or skirts  
Khaki pants, short and/or skirts  
Navy blue polo shirts  
White polo shirts

### **Welcome Kits**

Catholic Charities is responsible for furnishing and setting up an apartment home for each newly arrived refugee family. Items below must be placed in each apartment and if not donated, must be purchased by the agency. Donations are a tremendous help in lowering the costs of apartment set-up.

#### **Personal Care Items**

Most refugees arrive with next to nothing. This kit will provide a supply of personal care items for a newly arriving family. Items can be placed in a new bathroom trash can or some other appropriate, reusable container. Some ideas include:

Shampoo	Razors and shave cream
Bath soap	Hair brushes/combs
Hand soap	Feminine supplies
Toothpaste	Toilet paper
Toothbrushes	First aid kit
Deodorant	Tissue

#### **Linens**

Basic linens are provided in the apartment setup; however, it's desirable to have spare sets. Some ideas include:

- Sheets (any size except king)
- Bath and hand towels and washcloths
- Bathmat
- Blankets
- Pillows

#### **Cleaning Products**

Smaller items may be placed in a new mop bucket. Some ideas include:

Broom	Dish drying rack
Dustpan	Dish soap
Mop	Laundry detergent
Sponges	Paper towels
Countertop cleaner	Toilet bowl cleaner and brush (with holder)

#### **Kitchen Essentials**

Items can be collected in a new kitchen garbage can or another appropriately sized reusable containers may also be used. Some ideas include:

Plates	Baking dishes
Bowls	Food storage containers
Glasses	Foil and plastic wrap
Flatware	Trash bags
Pots and pans	Napkins
Rice cooker	

*Thank for all you do to help us welcome our refugee neighbors in Charlotte!*