
JFS SV and Ukrainian Newcomers Frequently Asked Questions

JFS SV helps Ukrainian newcomers of all faiths arriving in Silicon Valley, providing:

- Emergency food
- Help to apply for government benefits and U.S. work authorization cards
- Connections to legal services
- School enrollment and back-to-school supplies
- ESL tutoring, resume assistance, interview training and connections to jobs.



How Can You Help?

- Donate to the [Ruth Perkins Emergency Fund for Refugee Services](#)
- Provide temporary housing! Do you have a spare bedroom, vacant ADU or rental property? Considering housing a Ukrainian newcomer!
- Volunteer to help newcomers by becoming a [JFS SV volunteer](#).
- Donate Safeway grocery store gift cards, bikes, and new technology items, such as laptops and cell phones.

To provide housing, donate items or for more information, contact Azita Eshagh at (408) 806-7225.

Can JFS SV offer resettlement services for arriving Ukrainians?

The federal government has not authorized resettlement agencies, such as JFS SV to provide Ukrainians with resettlement services given to persons who are technically "refugees." Most Ukrainians entering the U.S. do not have this specific "refugee" legal status, so our resettlement options are limited.

If a Ukrainian family enters the U.S. with specific "refugee" status, JFS SV may be able to provide them with comprehensive resettlement assistance (housing, health care, school enrollment and other benefits).

We are able to provide Ukrainian newcomers with helpful information and assistance to set up their new residences.

What is sponsoring a Ukrainian and can I do it through JFS SV?

Sponsoring a Ukrainian means that an individual or group in the U.S. is committing to "receive, maintain, and support" the Ukrainian for two years.

If you are interested in sponsoring and would like more information on what sponsorship entails, please contact our partner agency HIAS regarding their [Welcome Circles](#).

What is the latest update on Ukrainians entering the U.S.?

- March 24, 2022: The Biden Administration announced that the U.S. would welcome up to 100,000 Ukrainians. No implementation details were provided.
- April 21, 2022: Biden announced the "Uniting for Ukraine" program, which allows people and organizations in the U.S. to sponsor Ukrainians for admission to the U.S. in temporary parole status (not as refugees). Under this program, only Ukrainians with "sponsorships" can enter the U.S. and they can only stay for a maximum of two years.

Where can I find more information?

- Department of Homeland Security: [Uniting for Ukraine](#) program info
- Sponsoring Ukrainians through HIAS: [HIAS Welcome Circles](#)
- California Department of Social Services: [California Benefits for Ukrainian Parolees](#)
- AirBnb: [Volunteer to House Ukrainians](#)