

Catholic Charities Refugee Resettlement Program (CCRRP)

Volunteer “Grocery Groups” Information

CCRRP is currently recruiting “Grocery Group” volunteers for our initiative geared towards providing food to newly arriving refugee households.

Grocery Groups volunteer based on a rotating schedule with other community groups and parishes to fundraise and organize grocery shopping trips to supply about a weeks worth of groceries for their designated months’ arrival.

Our arrivals fluctuate depending on the month but CCRRP welcomes on average 1-3 new refugee individuals and/or families every month (though at times we do have more).

For more information please contact
Kristina at 507-287-2047 ext 24.

Where to Begin

Grocery Groups functions through teams of people that work together to procure groceries for a newly arrived refugee family or household.



To join, form a team of people (the larger the group the more cost sharing there is)
Choose one person to be the Main Contact with CCRRP.

How Grocery Groups work:

1. A CCRRP staff member will contact the Team Leader when the resettlement program received notice of a family’s arrival date. You will be told the number of people and their nationality.
2. CCRRP Staff will supply two grocery lists with each arrival notification to the Team Leader, to act as shopping guidelines. One grocery list contains suggestions of bulk food items created by CCRRP staff, and a second list compiled by the non-profit agency World Relief, that includes culture-specific food suggestions.
3. You can deliver the groceries 24-48 hours before the date of arrival to the Catholic Charities office (903 West Center St Suite 220 - Rochester, MN 55902), and CCRRP staff will deliver it to the family’s new home, before they arrive in the USA.
4. Fill out in-kind donation slip when dropping off groceries, including estimated organizational volunteers hours involved.

Sample Notification

Hello, Grocery Group!

We thank you for your continued commitment to help refugees in our community. We have a **family of 5** from Iraq arriving on **April 3rd**. Please assist us in providing them with a weeks' worth of groceries.

A list of suggested groceries from the Refugee Resettlement team:

Cooking Oil (Vegetable)
Sugar
Loose Tea (No bag – Lipton Brand)
Instant Coffee
White Rice
Salt
Fruits and Vegetables (tomatoes, onions, etc)
Milk or Powdered Milk (2%)
Juice (powdered Tang)
Cheese
Eggs
Cereal
Bread (flat bread/dinner rolls- No sliced bread))
Tomato Paste (or sauce)
Spices (black pepper, cumin, turmeric, cinnamon, curry)
Vegetable Cans (green peas, chick peas, white beans)
Pasta
Flour
Dry yeast/baking powder/baking soda
Whole Fish w/ scales (whole or fillet)



Please drop off groceries at **903 West Center Street Suite 220 Rochester, MN 55902** between **8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.** Please fill out an **in-kind donation form** noting your parish meals group.

Thank you!

CCRRP Staff