Volunteer Opportunities for CRS Certificate Students

Certificate students are required to complete 15 hours of volunteer work in total. These 15 hours can be a combination of work inside CRS and outside of York University/Toronto OR 15 hours inside CRS or outside of York University/Toronto (the nature of which must be approved by the CRS Education Coordinator).

i) The following types of activities are some of the acceptable volunteer activities within CRS:
   - Library work in the CRS Resource Centre (contact Resource Centre Coordinator Faida Abu Ghazaleh – faida.a@gmail.com)
   - Student Caucus representation on CRS Committees
   - Participation in the organization of conferences (please note that internships with the CRS Summer Course do not count as volunteering)

ii) The following types of activities are acceptable volunteer activities outside of CRS:
   - Volunteer work with a community organization in Toronto (see the list below)
   - Volunteer work with an I/NGO or UN organization outside of Toronto that is concerned with refugees, IDPs or forced migrants (must be approved by the Education Coordinator)

Volunteer Opportunities with Community Organizations in the Toronto Area

Please Note: These organizations are not affiliated with the Centre for Refugee Studies. This is by no means an exhaustive list. If you come across a refugee-serving NGO with which you would like to volunteer and it is not on the list, please ask the Education Coordinator for approval.

It is the student’s responsibility to call the selected organization prior to volunteering. Volunteer hours must be completed within the time period of the diploma and are not associated with data collection for an MRP, thesis or dissertation.

At the conclusion of the volunteer work, the student should ask the I/NGO for a signed letter confirming the number of hours worked and their duties.

Afghan Women’s Counseling and Integration Community Support Organization
North York (Head Office)
789 Don Mills Rd., # 700, Toronto, ON M3C 1T5
(416) 588-3585 tel
(416) 588-4552 fax
Email: ageneral@afghanwomen.org
Website: www.afghanwomen.org
To volunteer: http://afghanwomen.org/get-involved/volunteer/
Service description: Settlement services for immigrants and refugees * information and referral
* advocacy * orientation * sponsorship * job search training * translation and interpretation *
health workshops * mental health -- support groups, counselling, crisis intervention * escort *
heritage language classes * skills upgrading * adult literacy classes * assistance in finding
housing * seniors program, youth program * participates in LINC (Language Instruction for
Newcomers to Canada * media and overseas projects

Amnesty International
1992 Yonge Street, 3rd Floor, Toronto, ON, M4S 1Z7
Tel: (416) 363-9933
E-mail: toronto@amnesty.ca
Website: www.amnesty.ca
To volunteer: http://www.amnesty.ca/about-us/work-with-us

Anglican United Refugee Alliance (AURA)
2723 St. Clair Ave East, Toronto, ON, M4B 1M8
Tel.: 416-588-1612
Fax: 416-588-1702
E-mail: adminforaura@bellnet.ca
Website: www.auraforrefugees.org
To volunteer: http://www.auraforrefugees.org/index.php/aura-toolbox/become-an-aura-
voluteer/volunteer-form

Arab Community Centre of Toronto
Etobicoke, Ontario M9C 2Y3.
(Head Office)
Tel: (416) 231-7746
Fax: (416) 231-4770
Email: info@arabnewcomers.org
Website: www.arabcommunitycentre.com
To volunteer: http://acctonline.ca/get-involved-form/

Service description: Information and referral * housing and legal assistance * translation and
interpretation * escort * counselling for students, individuals and families, liaises with Children's
Aid Society * youth counselling and parenting sessions * counselling and referral for victims of
family violence * orientation * settlement * refugee services -- referral and assistance with
shelter, attendance at inquiry, employment, social, welfare and legal services * social and
cultural activities * Ontario Community Participation -- volunteer placement program for
Ontario Works recipients

Canadian Centre for Victims of Torture
194 Jarvis St, 2nd Floor, Toronto, Ontario, M5B 2B7
Tel: (416) 363-1066
Fax: (416) 363-2122
Email: mabai@ccvt.org
Website: www.ccvt.org
To volunteer: [http://ccvt.org/how-i-can-help.html](http://ccvt.org/how-i-can-help.html)

**Volunteer Opportunities:** Befriending (providing community support to a survivor of torture), ESL tutoring, interpretation

**Centre for Spanish Speaking Peoples**
2141 Jane St, 2nd Floor, Toronto, Ontario, M3M 1A2
Tel: (416) 533-8545
Fax: (416) 533-5731
Email: cperez@spanishservices.org
Website: www.spanishservices.org

**Volunteer Opportunities:** ESL tutoring, conversation practice, academic tutoring in math and English, research, developing assessment and evaluation tools for program development, identifying funding opportunities, outreach. Spanish speaking an asset but not required.

**Centre francophone**
555, rue Richmond Ouest, bureau 303, Toronto, ON M5V 3B1
Tel: (416) 922-2672
Email: infos@centrefranco.org
Website: www.centrefranco.org

**Volunteer Opportunities:** Interpreting (fluency in French and English a requirement), “Host Program” (providing support, assistance, accompaniment – some fluency in French required).

**Chinese Canadian National Council, Toronto Chapter**
911 Kennedy Road Unit 105, Toronto, ON
Tel: 416.596.0833
Fax: 416.979.3936
Email: info@ccnctoronto.ca
Website: www.ccnctoronto.ca
This agency prefers those who are familiar with the Chinese culture and Mandarin is an asset.
To volunteer: [http://www.ccnctoronto.ca/get-involved/](http://www.ccnctoronto.ca/get-involved/)

**COSTI Immigrant Services**
1710 Dufferin Street, Toronto, Ontario, M6E 3P2
Tel: 416-658-1600
Email: info@costi.org
Website: www.costi.org

**FCJ Refugee Centre**
208 Oakwood Avenue, Toronto, Ontario, M6E 2V4
Tel: (416) 469-9754
Fax: (416) 469-2670
Email: info@fcjrefugeecentre.org
Website: www.fcjrefugeecentre.org
**Description of services**: Shelter for refugee women and children, settlement services, popular education, refugee claimant protection


**JIAS (Jewish Immigrant Aid Services) Toronto**
4600 Bathurst St, Suite 325. Toronto, Ontario, M2R 3V3
Tel: (416) 630-6481
Fax: (416) 630-1376
Email: [national@jias.org](mailto:national@jias.org)
Website: [www.jias.org](http://www.jias.org)

**Description of services**: Resettlement -- counselling, integration, support groups, referrals * assistance in finding housing * immigration and settlement services * assistance with documentation * participates in LINC (Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada)

**To volunteer**: [http://www.jias.org/volunteer.htm](http://www.jias.org/volunteer.htm)

**Mennonite New Life Centre of Toronto**
1774 Queen St East, Toronto, Ontario, M4L 1G7
Tel: (416) 699-4527
Fax: (416) 699-2207
Email: [mnlct@mnlct.org](mailto:mnlct@mnlct.org)
Website: [www.mnlct.org](http://www.mnlct.org)

**Service description**: Immigration counselling * settlement services * translation and interpretation * escort * participates in LINC (Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada) * English conversation classes * computer classes * marital and family counselling * parenting group * doctor available for consultation * legal information * mutual aid groups -- anger management, bereavement, women's issues * art therapy *

Prefer students who are involved in Social Work. Spanish an asset

**To volunteer**: [http://mnlct.org/programs-services/volunteer/](http://mnlct.org/programs-services/volunteer/)

**Office for Refugees – Archdiocese of Toronto (ORAT)**
1220 Yonge Street, Suite 203, Toronto, Ontario, M4T 1W1
Tel: (416) 934-3400 x806
Email: [oratoffice@gmail.com](mailto:oratoffice@gmail.com)
Website: [www.archtoronto.org](http://www.archtoronto.org)

**Volunteer Opportunity**: assisting in processing refugee sponsorship cases

**To volunteer**: [https://www.archtoronto.org/about-us/volunteering](https://www.archtoronto.org/about-us/volunteering)

**Parkdale Intercultural Association**
1257 Queen St W, Toronto, Ontario, M6K 1L5
Tel: (416) 536-4420
Fax: (416) 538-3931
Email: [pia@piaparkdale.com](mailto:pia@piaparkdale.com)
Website: [www.piaparkdale.com](http://www.piaparkdale.com)

**Service description**: Settlement services * educational and cultural activities particularly for new immigrants * access to Internet * anti-racism and access and equity programs * participates
in LINC (Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada * drop-in resource centre * community cultural events, festivals and theme nights * volunteer leadership training programs
To volunteer: http://www.piaparkdale.com/get-involved/volunteer-at-pia/

**Refugee Hearing Program**

*Matthew House*
Tel: (416) 203-7396
Email: rhp@matthewhouse.ca
Website: www.matthewhouse.org

**Volunteer Opportunities:** Matthew House has developed an innovative Refugee Hearing Program (RHP) to assist refugee claimants to prepare for their hearings before the Immigration and Refugee Board (IRB). Volunteers are needed to support these hearing simulations.

**Rexdale Women's Centre**

*Immigrant Settlement and Orientation Services*
21 Panorama Crt., Unit 23, Etobicoke, Ontario, M9V 4E3
Tel: (416) 745-0062
Fax: (416) 745-3995
Email: nhotaki@rexdalewomen.org
Website: www.rexdalewomen.org

**Service description:** Settlement services * information and referral * orientation * translation and interpretation * client accompaniment * client advocacy * assistance in completing forms
To volunteer: http://www.rexdalewomen.org/volunteer.html

**Sojourn House**

101 Ontario Street, Toronto, ON, M5A 2V2
Contact: Debbie Hill-Corrigan, Executive Director
Tel: (416) 864-9136
Email: info@sojournhouse.org
Website: www.sojournhouse.org

**Description of services:** For refugees and refugee claimants, including single persons and families, short term emergency shelter * capacity 50 * meals * information and referral * settlement orientation * assistance with immigration procedures, housing search * life skills * follow up * housing outreach to refugees in shelters
To volunteer: http://www.sojournhouse.org/get-involved/volunteer/

**South Asian Women's Centre**

800 Lansdowne Ave. Unit 1, Toronto, Ontario M6H 4K3
Tel: (416) 537-2276
Fax (416) 537-9472
Email: info@sawc.org
Website: www.sawc.org

**Service description:** Settlement services -- information and referral, translation and interpretation, advocacy, guidance related to family violence, counselling and referral for assaulted women, social assistance, crisis intervention, immigration, citizenship * health education and promotion * wellness support groups for Bengali, Gujarati, Hindi, Punjabi and
Tamil women * life skills support group * seniors group for all South Asian women * youth group for girls * homework club for children * tutoring for grades 3-9 * first language literacy instruction * job search workshops, employment assistance and counselling * English conversation classes * legal clinic -- advice on family law, immigration, custody, child support, abuse * volunteer opportunities

To volunteer: [http://www.sawc.org/get-involved/volunteers/](http://www.sawc.org/get-involved/volunteers/)

York University Syria Response and Refugee Initiative
Contact: John Carlaw, Project Lead, [carlaw@yorku.ca](mailto:carlaw@yorku.ca)
8th Floor Kanef Tower, Centre for Refugee Studies, York University (Keele Campus), Toronto


WoodGreen Community Services
815 Danforth Avenue, Suite 100, Toronto, Ontario, M4J 1L2
Tel: 416-645-6000 x 1100
Email: info@woodgreen.org
Website: [www.woodgreen.org](http://www.woodgreen.org)

Volunteer Opportunities: Host Program offers socio-cultural activities to newcomers for faster adaptation and integration. Settlement and Integration Services. Information and referral services. English Conversation Circles, Support groups, ITP (International Trained Professional) Exchange seminars. Settlement and professional mentorship to make friends and acquire Canadian workplace culture.

To volunteer: [http://www.woodgreen.org/Volunteer.aspx](http://www.woodgreen.org/Volunteer.aspx)

The Peer Project (Youth Assisting Youth)
5734 Yonge St, Suite 401, Toronto, Ontario, M4M 4E7
Tel: (416) 932-1919
Fax: (416) 932-1924
Email: mail@yay.org
Website: [www.yay.org](http://www.yay.org)

Eligibility: Volunteers -- youth 16-29 years

Service description: Matches children and youth with volunteers in one-to-one special friend/mentor relationships * provides support for parents * monthly activities * Host Program -- friendship and emotional support for newly arrived immigrant children and youth * workshops on child abuse, substance abuse, multiculturalism, child behaviour management, mentoring and youth anti-bullying * literature in Chinese, Farsi, Portuguese, Spanish, Tamil * participates in Ministry of Children and Youth Services Toronto Region's coordinated services system.

To become a mentor: [http://thepeerproject.com/become-a-mentor/](http://thepeerproject.com/become-a-mentor/)

For more settlement organizations in Toronto, please visit the [www.settlement.org](http://www.settlement.org) website: