

KINBRACE HOST COMMUNITY MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES AND BENEFITS



Host Community members are vocationally committed to live as neighbours among refugee claimants, providing an attentive, yet spacious, welcome. While maintaining normal, day-to-day lives, hosts create, sustain, and promote a transformative place of hospitality.

The following outlines the responsibilities and benefits for adult host community members.

You align with and commit to upholding, protecting and living into Kinbrace's shared mandate:

Vision

For each refugee claimant
a world of welcome
a community of belonging
a life of opportunity.

Mission

The Kinbrace community welcomes refugee claimants with housing, education, and support.

Core Values

Welcome We are in solidarity: bearing witness to exile, we live with refugee claimants.

Trust We are a community: affirming dignity, we commit to the best in one another.

Mutual Transformation We are diverse: striving to listen well, we learn and grow.

Celebration We are grateful: amidst joy and sorrow, we discover hope.

Prayer We are sojourners: held by grace, we journey into the mystery and love of God.

You possess a good mix of the following qualities:

- Proven community builder
- Experience living communally
- Capacity to thrive in a multicultural environment
- Extremely welcoming and hospitable
- Patient and compassionate
- Open and inquisitive posture to diverse experiences
- Very adaptable and flexible
- Respect for different lifestyles
- Honour and respect for children
- Capacity to set and maintain healthy personal boundaries
- Strong conflict management skills
- Vocational calling to live with refugee claimants
- Ability to manage and mitigate stress
- Well-developed interpersonal skills
- Practical and handy
- Strong volunteer ethic
- A desire to empower others
- Fluency in Spanish, Arabic or Farsi is a significant asset

Time Frames for living in the community:

1. The first three months of life in the Community is called the 'Engagement Period', during which you will experience living in the community, investing fully in the opportunity. At the end of this period a joint decision is made, in consultation and discernment with the Community Coordinator and Director of Operations, as to whether or not you will continue on, entering the 'Commitment Period'.
2. The Commitment Period may be up to a maximum 7 years, with annual reviews and recommitments.

You will meet together regularly with the full Host Community to:

- Nurture Host Community relationships
- Determine and clarify roles and responsibilities
- Ensure the development of a healthy community
- Discuss upcoming events/opportunities
- Problem solve
- Manage conflict

Volunteer Roles:

All Host Community members have both shared and individual responsibilities.

Each Host will:

- Attend Tuesday Dinners a minimum of 3 times per month, helping with the cooking, leading or cleaning
- Provide new residents with a personal introduction to the community
- Extend and receive spacious hospitality with Kinbrace residents, beyond the Tuesday evening meal

- Be available and eager to support residents with their day-to-day needs and help orient them to Canadian and Vancouver culture, customs, and laws
- Invite residents to participate in and contribute to the community with their personal giftings
- Take on community chores as allocated between host community members
- Lead Christmas Eve and New Year's celebrations on rotation with other Host Members
- Attend the Annual Summer Camping Trip
- Attend the Annual Thanksgiving Dinner
- Plan and implement community building events throughout the year
- Offer their own personal and unique contributions to the community
- Respond to emergencies and after hours needs

Accountability and Sustainability:

Kinbrace is committed to personal and family sustainability. To ensure that your commitments remain life-giving and creative for you and your refugee claimant neighbours you will develop a Sustainability Plan.

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- To ensure that your commitments remain life-giving and creative for you and your refugee claimant neighbours, Kinbrace will provide
 - Monthly individual check ins
 - Resources to access counseling
 - A quarterly budget for retreating from Kinbrace for rest and respite
 - Time and space for rest is scheduled into your week, month and year
 - Opportunity to attend weekly staff prayers
 - Encouragement and support for a weekly sabbath time off in coordination with other Host members, where you are not be expected to participate in community activities or respond to needs of residents

Tenancy and Rent:

In Greater Vancouver, it is considered "affordable housing" when rent is 30% of a household's gross income, or less. In gratitude for all that Hosts offer Kinbrace, our rental rate is 20% of the host family's gross income, down to a predetermined minimum (approximately 50% of market rental rates in the area).

The Engagement Agreement, with rental rates, is signed annually and will serve as the binding agreement between the adult Host Community member(s) and Kinbrace Community Society.

Rent will be paid to Kinbrace Community Society on or before the first of the month.

Utilities (electricity, water, gas) and internet are included in the rent.