



Finding Refugees for Gardening Projects

To identify refugees/immigrants who live in close proximity to the church:

- Contact the local schools and ask what refugee/immigrant communities are represented in their district. Sometimes schools have an ESL coordinator or community liaison who can spread the word and connect refugees/immigrants to the community garden resource offered by your church.
- Refugee Life Ministries (RLM) program of Arrive Ministries uses local churches to help resettle and befriend a refugee family for the first year they are in Minnesota. The relationships made with the family provide natural connecting points to the broader community to which that family belongs (Karen, Bhutanese, Somali, Iraqi, etc).
- Many refugee and immigrant populations are represented by larger organizations. The Karen Organization of Minnesota, CAPI, Bhutanese Community Organization of Minnesota, or the International Institute of Minnesota, are a few examples of connecting points into respective communities.
- Visit YardstoGardens.org – a website where you can connect with people, space, supplies and “all things gardening.”