

# Matching Grant

## Program Overview

The Matching Grant Program is an employment-focused alternative to government cash assistance for refugee arrivals and other immigrant populations. The Matching Grant (MG) Program seeks to remove barriers to employment and help clients reach financial self-sufficiency.

## Benefits

During the 240-day service period, MG staff will assist the employable adults in each case to prepare them for work in the United States. They will also help them with the job search and ensure that they obtain gainful employment quickly so that they can pay their bills and meet other household expenses. Up until that point, the Matching Grant Program will provide a full rent and utility subsidy as well as monthly cash assistance.

## Client Responsibilities

Matching Grant participants are responsible for a number of things in order to continue receiving program benefits. First, all employable adults must actively cooperate with their case worker and pursue early employment. They must attend all meetings, job readiness trainings and interviews that their case worker arranges for them (staff can assist with transportation as necessary). Adults will also be expected to attend an ESL class until their involvement conflicts with any commitments at a new job.

## Recording the Match

“Match” is a financial sum of all donations (cash or material) and volunteer time that benefit Matching Grant clients. Raising and tracking this match is a critical component of the Matching Grant Program. As you connect with your new neighbors, please record your involvement with them – this will help our office meet the Match requirement and allow us to continue serving more clients through the Matching Grant Program. Every hour you volunteer brings us \$30 to our Match Goal! Your volunteer coordinator will instruct you separately on recording your volunteerism.

## Concerns

If you are walking alongside a client in the Matching Grant Program and have any concerns, please communicate them with your Volunteer Coordinator. You may also direct your friend to communicate any concerns they have with their MG case worker. Please do not contact the client’s case worker on their behalf. Our staff are not permitted to discuss client details with outside parties. Thank you for your understanding.