

What's the difference between SIV and refugee status?

Take a look at the new [‘learn more’](#) webpage for more information about immigration status and other FAQs.

Where and when will SIVs be resettled?

There are not defined timelines of when individuals will leave bases to be resettled. Both government and NGO partners are involved on bases to process and vet individuals as quickly as possible, so they are able to resettle in their new communities. As CWS and local affiliate offices hear more information about arrivals we will communicate with community members.

Where does CWS have refugee resettlement offices?



How can churches/communities organize together to sponsor families?

Fill out the [“Sponsor a family arriving to your community”](#) form on our CWS webpage and we can assist you in finding local opportunities to support.

For more information on organizing groups to co-sponsor refugees please watch the ‘welcoming refugees’ series of Lunch and Learns recorded earlier in the year.

[Welcoming Refugees in 2021 Week 1: An Introduction to Community Sponsorship](#)

[Welcoming Refugees in 2021 Week 2: Orientation for Thoughtful Volunteering](#)

[Welcoming Refugees in 2021 Week 3: Organizing for Community Sponsorship](#)

[Welcoming Refugees in 2021 Week 4: Welcoming During a Pandemic](#)

[Welcoming Refugees in 2021 Week 5: Reflections on Resettlement](#)

[Welcoming Refugees in 2021 Week 6: Creative Welcoming Initiatives](#)

[List of recorded CWS Lunch and Learn sessions](#) for further learning on a wide range of topics relevant to refugee resettlement.

Are there resources for churches that want to sponsor Afghan families such as cultural backgrounders detailing religious/dietary practices, etc.

Be on the lookout for resources in the coming weeks!

CWS and partners will be working on gathering and disseminating cultural resources to assist both local staff and community members in appropriate and thoughtful welcoming.

How are COVID concerns being handled?

Arriving Afghans are tested for COVID-19 upon arrival to the country. They are tested again on day 5 at a military base and offered the COVID-19 vaccine as a part of the medical processing. Local affiliate office procedures vary depending on community needs and include practices to keep volunteers, clients, and staff safe during the continuing pandemic.

What is the plan for unaccompanied Afghan minors?

For more information on the Office of Refugee Resettlement's Unaccompanied Refugee Minor program [CLICK HERE.](#)

Will the national refugee resettlement cap play any role in how many Afghan nationals can arrive in the US?

Refugee and SIV capacities are separate from one another, we do not expect the refugee cap to impact Afghan arrivals at this time. In addition to the 62,500 refugees approved to be resettled in FY 2021, RAs have been approved to resettle 12,000 SIVs in FY 21. The Afghan Parolee Support Program capacity is separate from the refugee and SIV capacities.