



Short-Term Mission Trip Information

For the Nations: Refugee Outreach

Founded by a PCA couple, the mission of For the Nations Refugee Outreach is to provide education and acculturation services that help meet the practical needs of refugees and to share with them the gospel of Jesus Christ.



FTNRO serves refugees from Africa, Asia, and the Middle East. More than 80,000 refugees and special immigrants are resettled in the United States each year, and Dallas currently hosts more than 200,000 refugees. Many refugees are from non-Christian backgrounds, but most are very open to receiving practical aid and are seeking a message of hope, peace, and good news.

For the Nations incorporates the gospel message into everything we do. Gospel presentations and Bible lessons are a part of almost every program, event, meeting, and class, and we share this news openly and lovingly to refugees—not once, but daily. We believe that kind, consistent repetition of the gospel in both word and deed is what God has called us to for His glory. And we trust in His promise that He will call all of His people faithfully to Himself: from every tribe, tongue, and nation. His message is not just for a few, but for the nations!



Your Mission

Volunteer teams get to help with education, acculturation, and gospel presentation to refugee adults and children. Volunteers develop meaningful relationships with refugees, and are able to share the love of Christ with people who have been through very trying and difficult circumstances. Teams will learn compassion as they meet people who have experienced pain and suffering, and they will experience joy as they take part in sharing the good news of the gospel and the love of Christ with some of our country's newest residents.



Through mission trips with For the Nations, volunteer teams add greatly to our ministry and to the quality of our services by providing more individualized attention, helping immigrants develop relationships with Americans, and showing love through service to some of the neediest people in our midst.

Volunteers will help with educational programs for adults and children, acculturation services, and with sharing the gospel in word and in deed.

Living Arrangements

Teams will sleep in a For the Nations apartment, which is located in a complex hosting many Asian refugees. It is both a cross-cultural experience and a safe place to stay. The apartment has 3 bedrooms and 2 living areas, which can be used for sleeping. Team members bring sleeping bags and pads. There is a full kitchen for your use and two bathrooms with showers.

Meals

Lunch will be provided by For the Nations. There is a full kitchen in the apartment where teams reside so that teams can make breakfasts and dinners. Some teams choose to eat out and others bring pre-made food. The apartment kitchen is stocked with paper goods, pots and pans, and spices.

Group Dynamics

Team size: 15-25 team members (15-20 is ideal)

Age: High school, college age, and adults are encouraged to come for the week.

Leadership: Group leaders must be present with the group at all times. If both young men and young women are on the team, both a male and female leader must accompany the group. A high ratio of adults to youth is desired.

Transportation:

For the Nations Refugee Outreach does not provide transportation for teams. The use of vans is encouraged. If your team is flying in, please check with us for suggested vehicle rental agencies. You may be asked to help transport refugee children to and from various activities.



Typical Schedule

The trip is one week, and teams arrive and depart on the weekend. Days and time of arrival can be adjusted to meet your needs, but is typically Sunday afternoon to Saturday morning. There is an orientation/training with For the Nations on Sunday evening (orientation schedule is subject to change).

A typical day is as follows (schedule is subject to change):

7:30: Breakfast at the apartment.

8:30-12:00: Volunteers help with educational programs (children's programs in the summer, or adult and preschool during the school year) through various English, literacy, reading, Bible, citizenship, and life skills classes for refugees.

12:00-1:00: Lunch on site.

1:30-3:30: Volunteers serve at educational programs and help with acculturation services for refugee children and adults.

3:30-5:30: Volunteers serve at an after school program for children (during the school year), or help with swim lessons (summer) for refugee children.



5:30-7:00: Showers and Dinner at the apartment.

Evening Activities: Teams can choose free time or various evening activities, including a refugee speaker, Understanding Islam training, ethnic meals, or training for cross-cultural ministry from For the Nations leadership. Please let us know before the trip if you would like any of these activities scheduled for your group. Team leaders can also use this time to lead devotionals.

Cost

\$210 fee per person (including leaders) payable to FTNRO for the week.

There is a \$500 reservation fee to secure your spot. Half of the remaining total to FTNRO is due April 1st as a deposit, with a \$300 late fee. The second half of the total is due upon arrival. Team rosters are due May 1st, after which the trip fees cannot be adjusted down if the team size changes. Teams average ~\$150/person extra expenses (not payable to FTN), totaling about **\$360 per person** (travel included in most cases) for the trip.

The \$210 fee to FTNRO covers:

- lodging
- lunches and lunch preparation
- background checks
- supplies, curriculum, and snacks for refugee kids



The \$210 fee to FTN does NOT cover:

- transportation
- breakfasts and dinners (there is a full kitchen for your use)
- entertainment
- medical/emergency costs

Optional additional activities:

- Ethnic Meal (\$250)
- Refugee Speaker (\$100)
- Understanding Islam Training (\$100)
- T-Shirts (\$15 per person)

A short-term mission trip with For the Nations is a GREAT experience, and a wonderful way to learn to meet the needs that exist in our own communities. Through service with FTNRO, teams can consider ways they can reach out to immigrants and refugee communities in their own cities. God has given us a unique and wonderful opportunity to reach out with the gospel to some of the most vulnerable and unreached people in the world.

Please take a moment to check out this short video. www.vimeo.com/ftnro/1

For more information, or to reserve a week, contact Karis Buerger (Volunteer Coordinator) at karis@ftnro.org.