

Imagine

you had to leave your home forever, with nothing, and start your life all over again in a strange country, one with a different language, strange climate and new customs. Our grandparents and great-grandparents might have done it, but chances are we've never even had to consider it.

The truth is

we are surrounded by people in that very situation. From the more than 15 million refugees currently languishing outside their countries of origin, 80,000 refugees are admitted into the U.S. each year — with approximately 250 resettling in Maine, many of them reuniting with family already living here.

All of them find safe communities, good schools and affordable housing, along with welcoming and friendly new neighbors here in Maine

They come here, as so many "from away" do, to experience what we take for granted: "the way life should be." By hiring a refugee, you are not only helping them rebuild their life, you are helping build a stronger community for us all, today and into the future. Thank you for your interest in Catholic Charities Maine Refugee and Immigration Services (RIS).

Refugee & Immigration Services

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RefugeeImmigrationServicesCCM.org



Connecting Maine Businesses and Refugees

*creating a
world of opportunity
right here at home*

Why hire through Catholic Charities Maine Refugee and Immigration Services (RIS)? Because it's smart business — for all of us.

You need hard-working, conscientious employees and probably don't have a lot of time or money to spend sifting through countless applicants. Our clients are eager to find stable employment and rebuild their lives. In doing so, they and their families bring fresh life and new traditions to our communities, embodying the American dream.

Some smart business reasons to hire refugees:

- Skilled, experienced, long-term workers
- Multilingual and culturally competent employees
- Motivated by a drive for stability and a strong work ethic
- Available for work and work-authorized
- Tax credits and training incentives for your business
- Community-building and civically responsible

With candidates arriving in Maine each week, RIS can help fill your job openings quickly. Plus you can avoid advertising costs with our free referral services!

Choose from skills and experience ranging — literally — from A to Z:

With a wide range of different skills and levels of education, from farmers to Ph.D.'s, refugees represent a rich and varied potential work force for businesses looking to hire. From skilled jobs like farming, manufacturing and housekeeping to specialized trades like construction, nursing and more, refugees right here in Portland are quite likely to have the experience and training you are looking so hard to hire!

According to a recent survey:

92% of employers reported they were "satisfied/very satisfied" with employees hired through the RIS program. Some job skills and characteristics evaluated by employers included: punctuality, reliability, ability to communicate effectively, attitude towards work and staff, ability to take initiative, response to instruction, ability to stay on task and overall job performance.

100% of respondents expressed they are "very likely" or "certain" they will use the employment services at Catholic Charities in the future, based on their "positive experiences with refugee employees and with Catholic Charities staff"

We make it our business to help your business hire the best!

Since 1975, RIS has served as Maine's only refugee resettlement program, welcoming 12,000+ refugees from more than 25 countries. Our staff speaks more than 12 languages and our interpreter services program, Language Partners, provides language interpretation in more than 40 languages.

The RIS Employment Case Manager provides support and guidance to job seekers and employers alike. RIS employment support services include:

- Assessment of Vocational Skills
- Pre-Employment Orientation
- Employer Recruitment
- Pre-Screening of Qualified Applicants
- Assistance with Employee Paperwork
- U.S. Work Culture and Employer Expectations Training
- Follow-up with Employers/Employees
- Interpreter Services (as needed)

"The RIS staff did an excellent job referring an employee whose abilities matched our specific request."

— Bagala Window Works

"I have hired a number of employees ... I am very satisfied with the case worker ... she is very in-tune to our needs."

—Aramark Facility

If you are interested in working with us to fill openings at your company, or have questions, please contact us at (207) 871-7437 or RISinfo@ccmaine.org.