



Refugee Empowerment Program

Tutoring Refugee Youth (TRY) Volunteer Job

Purpose and description: Children of refugee families face many challenges when adjusting to their new life in the U.S. From acclimating to a new school to learning a new language, the kids in our *Refugee Empowerment Program* are undergoing a very exciting, but also overwhelming, time. By providing tutoring support, you will be helping refugee youth advance their English skills, build resiliency and coping skills, and succeed in school.

Perhaps most valuable of all, we hope that the volunteers in our program will build a meaningful friendship with the child and their family that promotes mutual social and emotional wellbeing.

Responsibilities:

- Provide small group tutoring support to a refugee student in Grades K-12 (ages 5-18). Training is provided by HIAS staff.
- Assist the student by providing homework assistance, ESL support, and encouragement.
- Tutors will be given materials and supervised by the Program Manager.

Location and Time Commitment:

- Volunteers are asked to commit to tutoring once per week for 6 months with each tutoring session being 2 hours, including time for snack and play.
- Volunteers are asked to travel to JCFS Chicago's Knapp location on Kedzie and Pratt to complete weekly tutoring sessions. In some special cases volunteers can tutor youth at their home or an agreed upon third location, such as a public library or park, if coming to Knapp would not make sense for the student or volunteer.
- Tutoring will take place Monday-Thursday from 3:30/4pm-6pm. Tutoring will take breaks in accordance with the school break schedule, and with JCFS's Jewish holiday schedule.

Traits:

- Must be 18 years old or older
- Enjoys working with children and teens
- Enthusiastic and encouraging toward students
- Comfortable tutoring a variety of subjects at different grade levels
- Respectful of cultural differences and willingness to learn from diverse populations

Eligibility:

Volunteers are required to submit a volunteer application, clear a series of background checks, get fingerprints taken, get a tuberculosis test. Under 18 may volunteer if accompanied by a cleared adult.

Key Interactions

JCFS Chicago Staff	Other volunteers
HIAS Refugee Resettlement Clients	

Email volunteers@jcfs.org with any questions