

Community Sponsorship

DURING COVID-19



Dear Community Members and Sponsors,

We want to thank you for your care and support of refugee newcomers! Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the necessary social distancing measures in place, we recognize that volunteering to welcome and support new arrivals looks drastically different right now. The safety of clients, volunteers, staff and our community members is our top priority. Please take seriously the safety recommendations in your community to slow and prevent the spread of COVID-19.

As co-sponsors, welcome teams, volunteers and mentors there are still ways that you can offer welcome and comfort during this time. We developed this tool kit to provide you with suggestions, activities and educational opportunities that you can do from the safety of your home during this uncertain time. We also encourage you to first check with your local office on available opportunities. If you aren't familiar with your local office you can contact us at refugeewelcome@cwsglobal.org and we can connect you.

Thank you for your continued partnership and support welcoming newcomers to our community. We couldn't do this work without the support of community sponsors like you!

Blessings,

Stacey Clack and Christine Baer
Faith Community Organizers
Church World Service
refugeewelcome@cwsglobal.org
www.cwsglobal.org/community-sponsorship



Photo Credit Paul Jeffrey



Photo Credit Shane Nelson



Photo Credit Sean Hawkey

WELCOMING REFUGEES REMOTELY

Pre-Arrival

How to support refugees during the COVID-19 pandemic

Set-up an Amazon wish list for donations for a newly-arrived family and ask your faith community to ship those items to the office. Contact your local office for a list of items needed for the home.

Collect or make handmade masks to donate to the family upon their arrival.

Order a welcome meal for a newly arrived family from a local restaurant to support local immigrant businesses during the uncertain time. Many restaurants are offering delivery or takeout.

Set up a backpack drive and order backpacks with supplies and send them to your local resettlement office so that when schools open refugee children have the supplies they need.



Have your children make welcome cards to be given to the children of newly arrived families. Mail them to your local resettlement office so the caseworker can give them to clients upon arrival.

Do the schools in your community have uniforms? Consider hosting a school uniform collection drive and send the donations to your local resettlement office for refugee students once they are able to attend school.

Make a donation to your local resettlement office so they can continue to provide services during this difficult time.

Collect grocery store gift cards from community members and donate them to your local resettlement office for newly arrived families.



WELCOMING REFUGEES REMOTELY

Post-Arrival

How to support refugees during the COVID-19 pandemic

Participate in a virtual friendship through Skype, Zoom or WhatsApp with a newly arrived family.

Volunteer to call refugee families with children and read a weekly story to the kids over Zoom.

Set up a porch school where you can tutor the children you are sponsoring outdoors with masks.

Set up a Zoom dinner date with the family you are sponsoring. Order takeout from a local restaurant and have food delivered to both homes and then enjoy a meal over Zoom.

Order fresh groceries and have them delivered to a newly arrived client's home. Some ideas: fruits, vegetables, rice, bread, milk and eggs



Photo Credit Sean Hawkey

Order a culturally appropriate meal from a locally owned immigrant restaurant and have it delivered to the client.

Donate bikes or outdoor equipment (chalk, bubbles, hula hoops, balls) to the children of the family you are sponsoring.

Donate to a client's rent to provide an extra cushion of support.

Donate a computer to a newly arrived family.

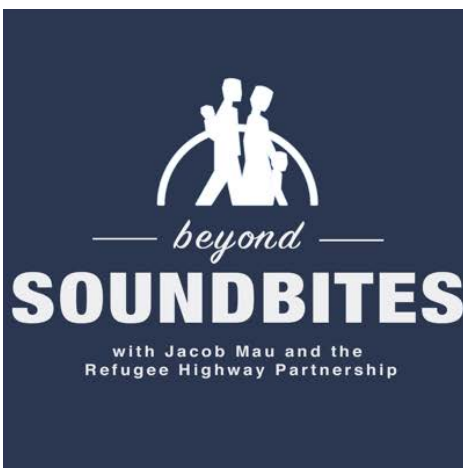
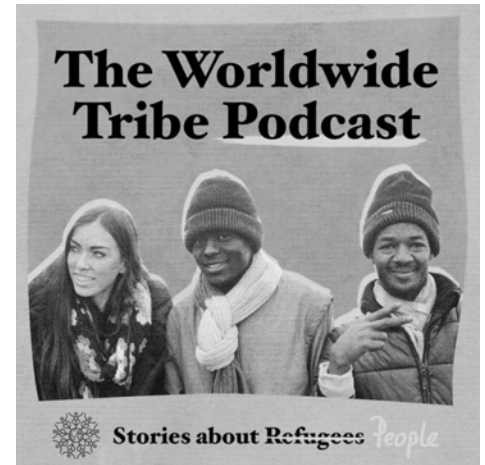
Gift a 3-6 month subscription to Netflix, Disney+, or Hulu to the refugee family so they can watch TV to get familiar with the English language.

WELCOMING REFUGEES REMOTELY

Educate Yourself

How to support refugees during the COVID-19 pandemic

PODCASTS

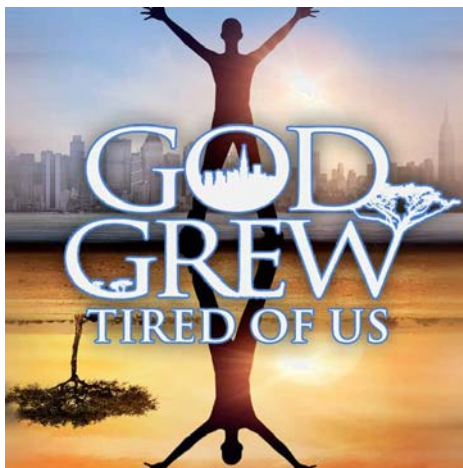
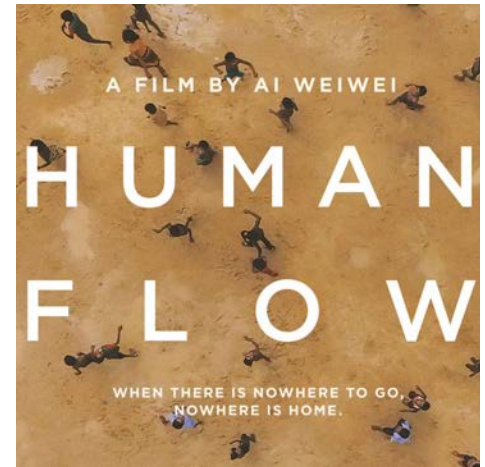
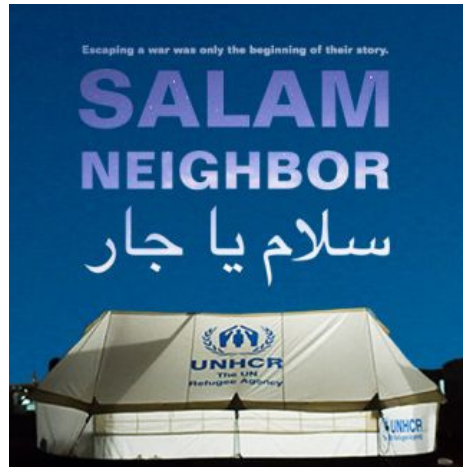
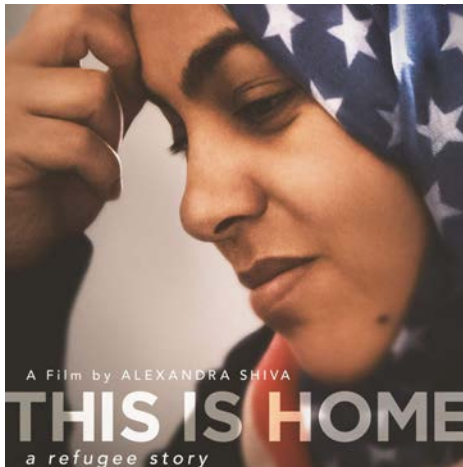
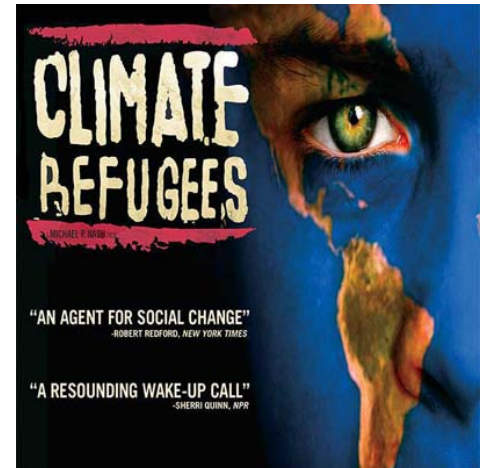


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MOVIES

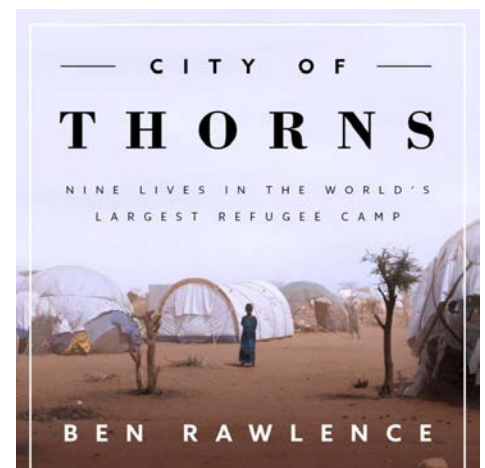
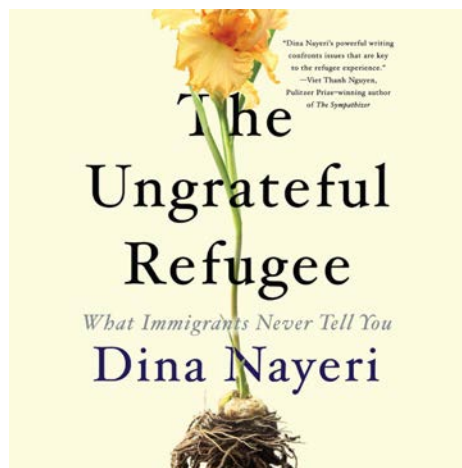
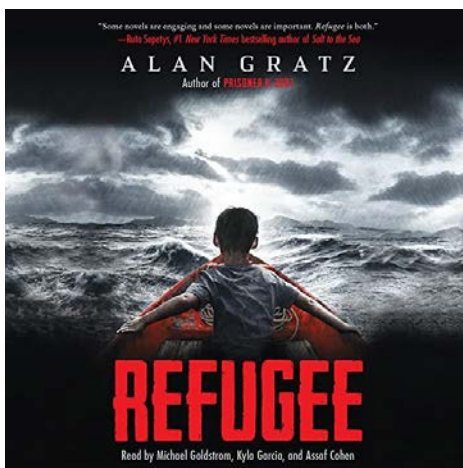
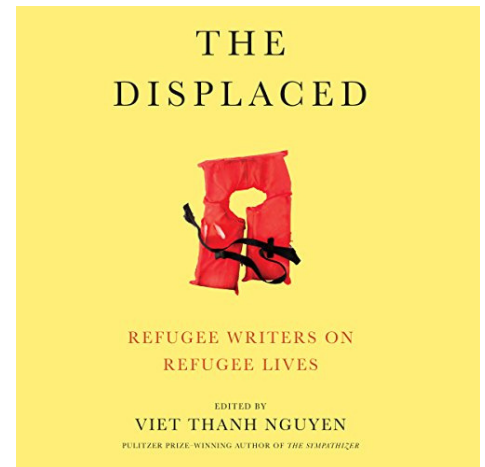
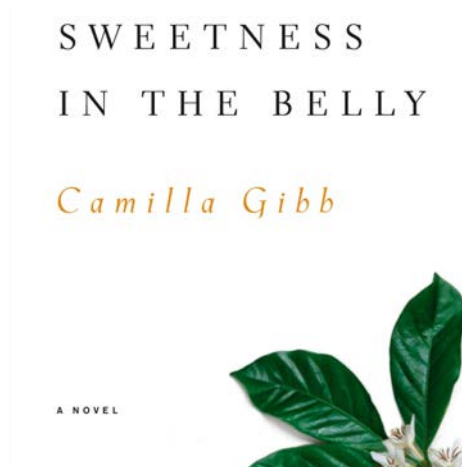
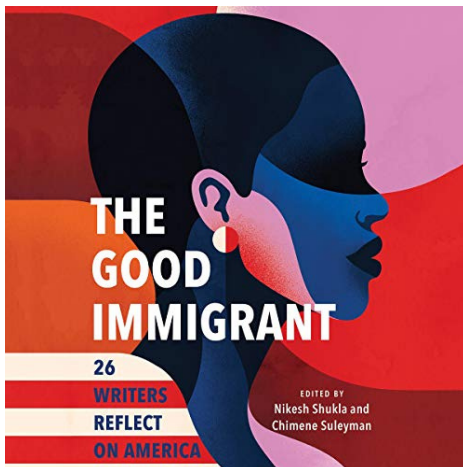
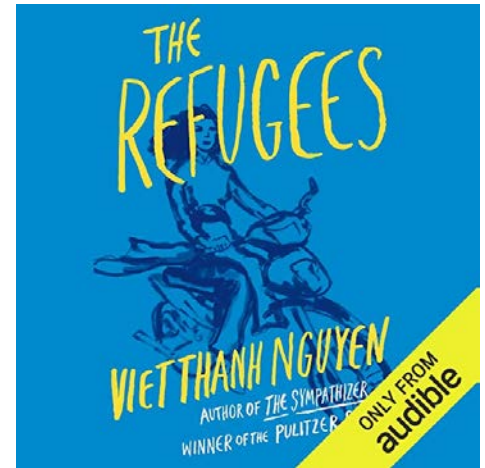
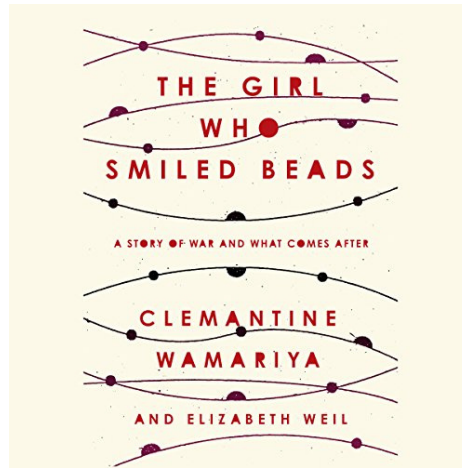
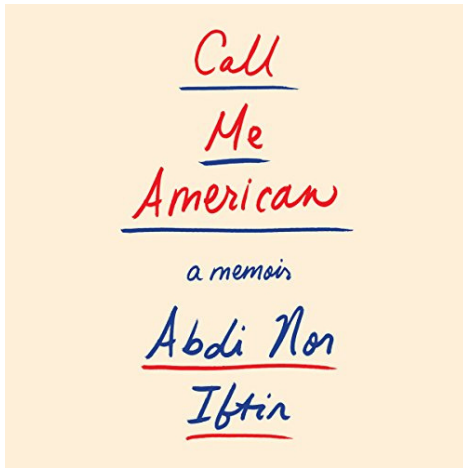


WELCOMING REFUGEES REMOTELY

Educate Yourself

How to support refugees during the COVID-19 pandemic

BOOKS

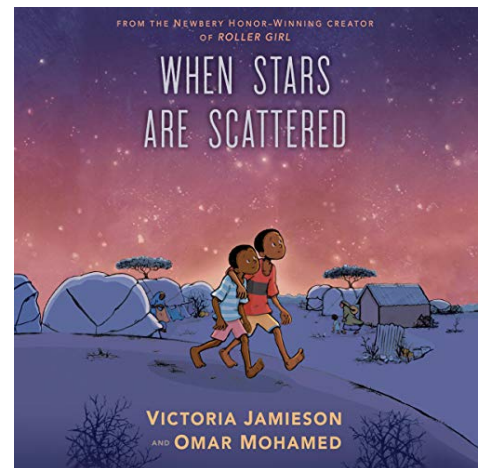
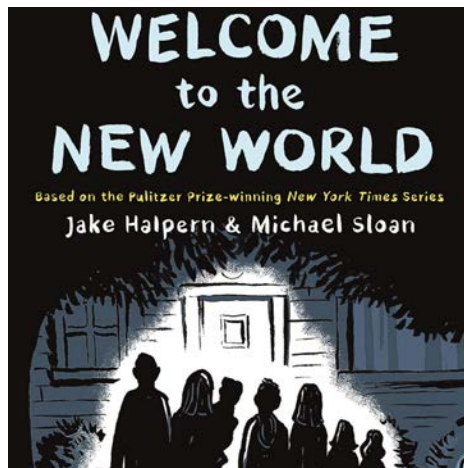
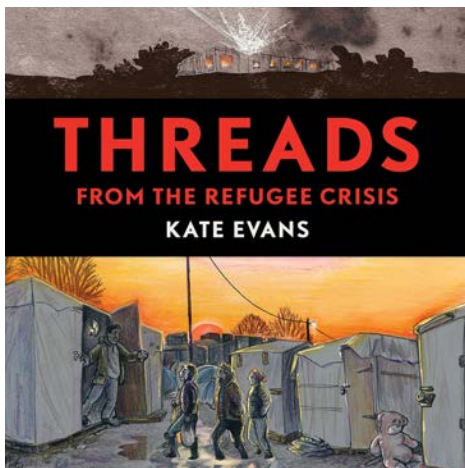
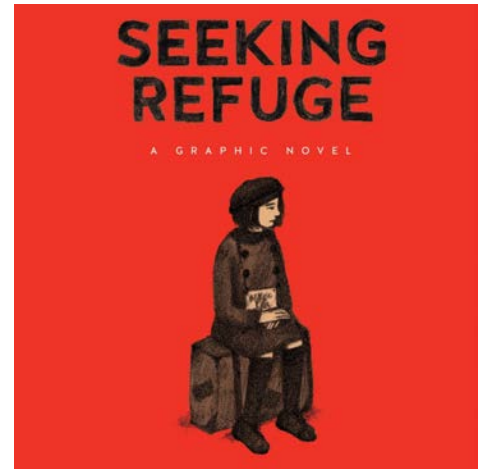
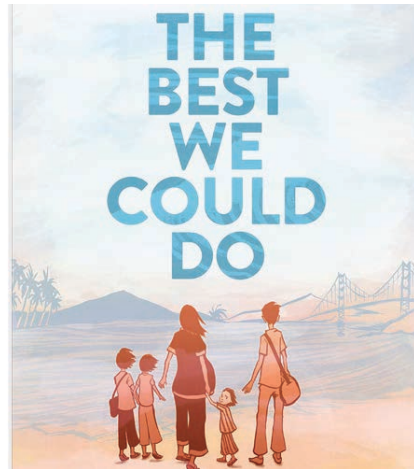
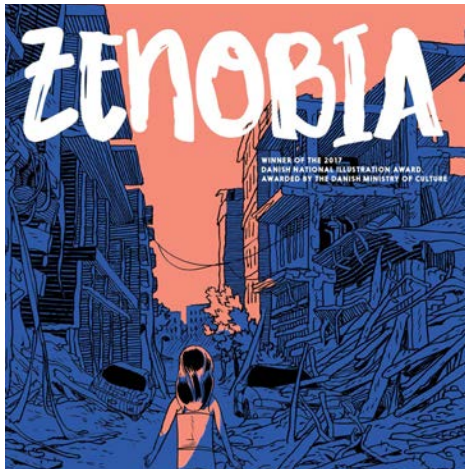
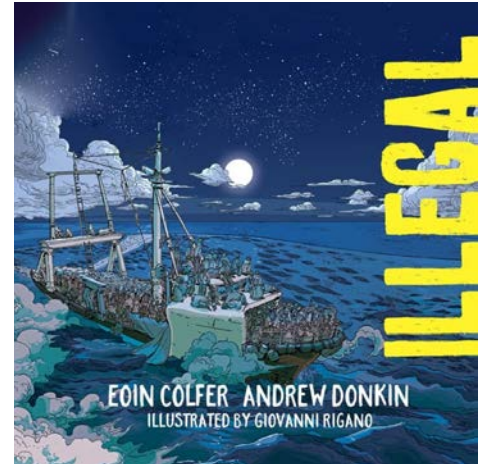
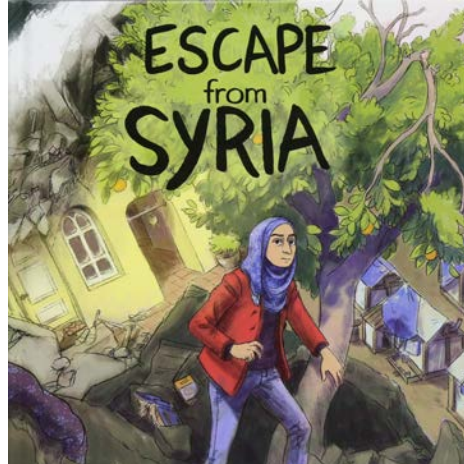
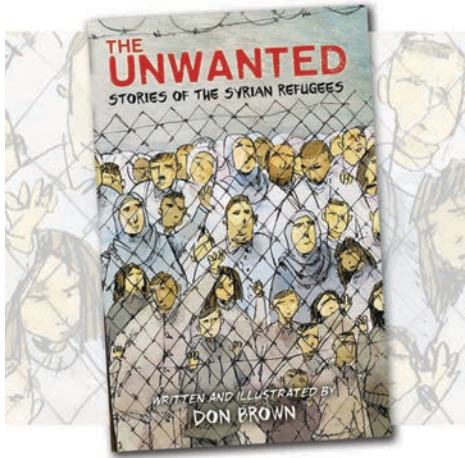


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Educate Yourself

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GRAPHIC NOVELS

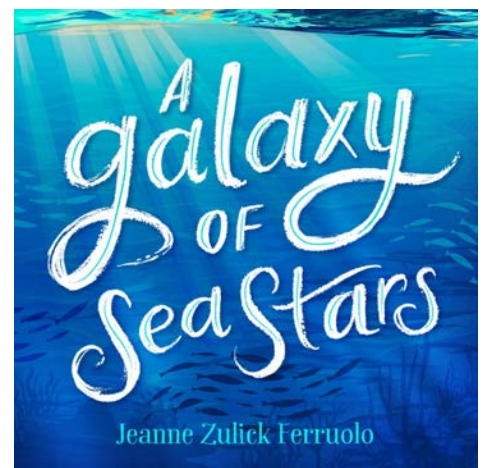
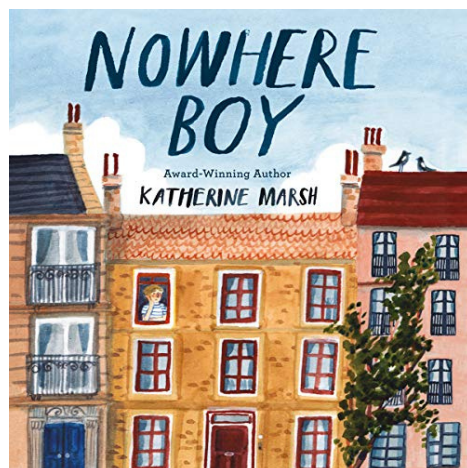
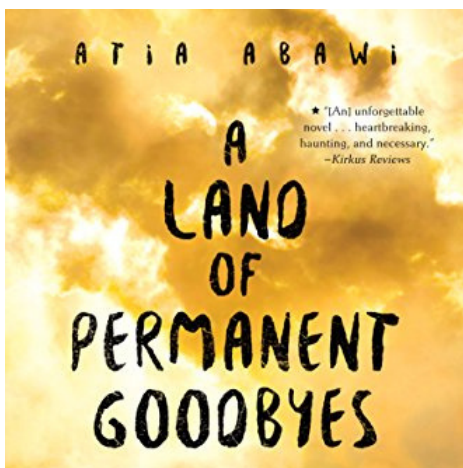
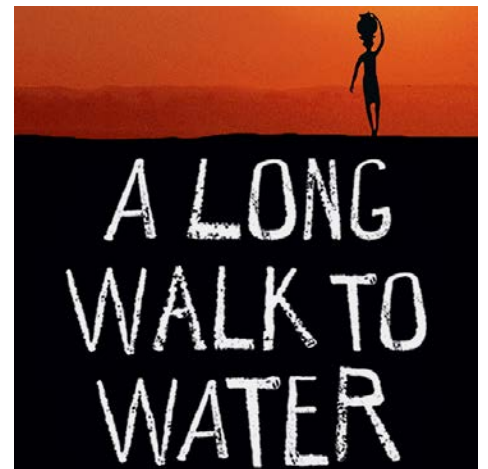
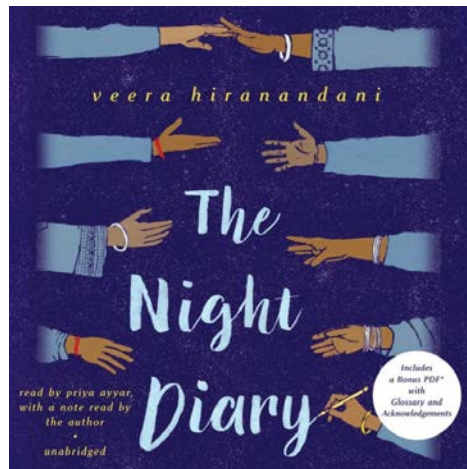
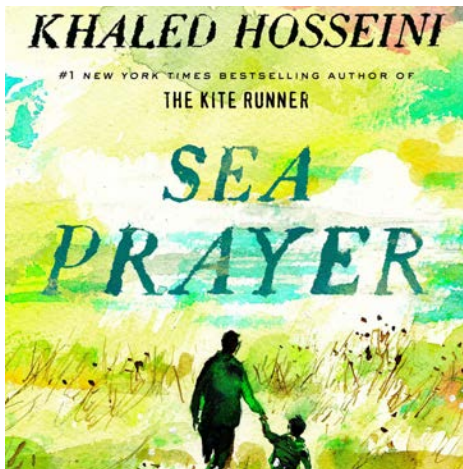
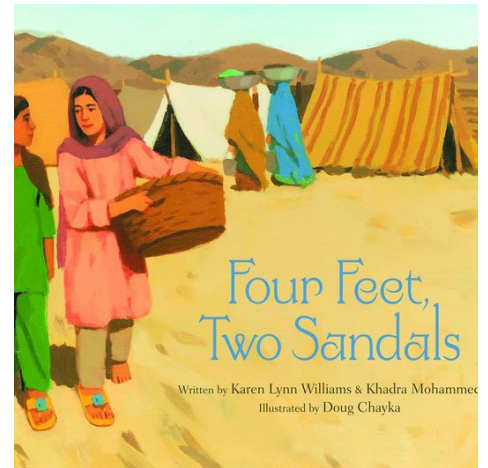
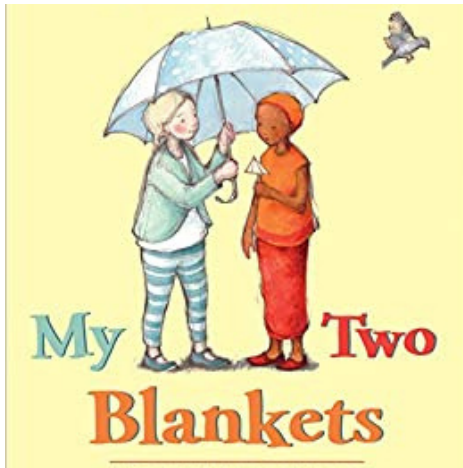


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How to support refugees during the COVID-19 pandemic

YOUNG ADULT/CHILDREN'S BOOKS

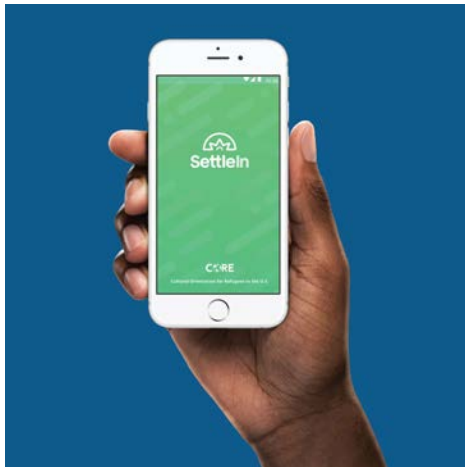
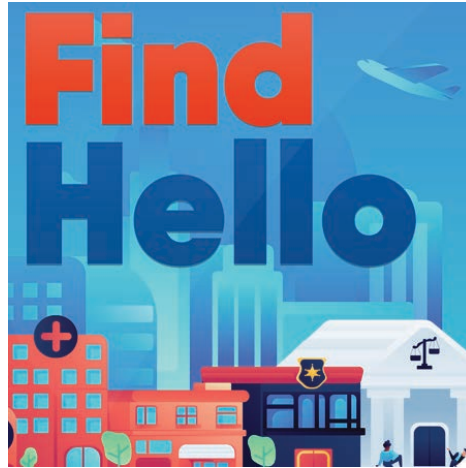


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Educate Yourself

How to support refugees during the COVID-19 pandemic

WEBSITES AND APPS TO EXPLORE



WELCOMING REFUGEES REMOTELY

Educate Yourself

How to support refugees during the COVID-19 pandemic

ATTEND WEEKLY WELCOMING REFUGEES CWS LUNCH AND LEARNS



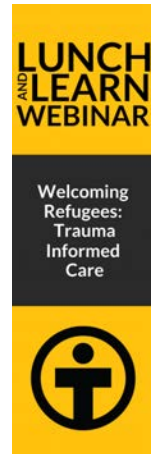
Advocacy &
Education at
the National,
State, & Local
Level



US/Mexico
Border
Update
& Asylum
Seekers



Photo Credit: Sean Hawkey



Welcoming
Refugees:
Trauma
Informed
Care

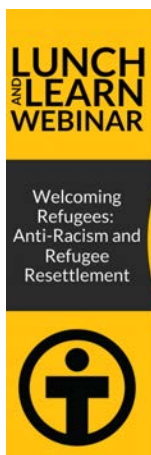


Welcoming
Refugees: An
Introduction to
Community
Sponsorship



 CWS

Photo Credit: Ryan Sharkey



Welcoming
Refugees:
Anti-Racism and
Refugee
Resettlement



 CWS

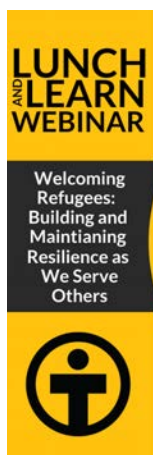
**Registration link in the description
Photo Credit: Stacey Clack



Welcoming
Refugees:
Tutoring Adult
English Language
Learners:
Foundations,
Tips, and
Resources



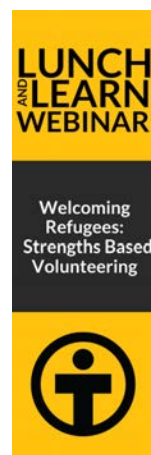
Photo Credit: Paul Jeffrey



Welcoming
Refugees:
Building and
Maintaining
Resilience as
We Serve
Others



Welcoming
Refugees:
Refugee
Mental Health
and
Resilience



Welcoming
Refugees:
Strengths Based
Volunteering



Photo Credit: Paul Jeffrey

Every Monday at Noon EST CWS hosts a weekly Lunch and Learn for community members to learn around migration and resettlement.

Visit www.cwsglobal.org/community-sponsor to register and explore past and upcoming sessions.