

The State of Colorado is in the process of welcoming approximately 2,000 Afghan evacuees and supporting them to rebuild their lives here. There has been incredible collaboration across state, local, and community partners to coordinate the services needed. The emergency nature of this evacuation has meant that we have been welcoming Afghans at an unprecedented pace, which presents several challenges, chief among them housing.

We are extending an invitation to broader partners, faith communities, networks, and individuals to support the long-term housing needs of Afghan newcomers and to do so in a way that complements existing efforts by resettlement agencies.

## Our Ask

We are seeking the support of faith communities, new partners, existing networks, and interested individuals to help identify additional available permanent housing for Afghan newcomers.

## Requirements

- A minimum of a six month to one year rental term
- In existing statewide resettlement areas Metro Denver (preference for North Metro Area and Aurora) and Colorado Springs
- Market rate housing, or below market rate at a level that families could sustainably afford following initial financial supports
- Standalone unit: house, apartment, condo, or unit within a broader home with a separate entrance
- Needs range from studio apartments for 1 adult to 3-4 bedroom apartments/homes for families of 8-10 people.
- Ability to rent to individuals who have initial support from case management, financial assistance, and job search & placement help. However, Afghan renters:
  - Will not have a U.S. credit history
  - May not have secured employment yet
  - May have a pending Social Security Number

## How to Help

- Talk to neighbors, churches, colleagues, civic groups to identify properties meeting the above criteria. This is a grassroots effort to identify properties that may not be widely publicized.
- Identified a housing opportunity that fits the above criteria?
  - Email <u>crsp@state.co.us</u> with property location, lease/rental term, number of bedrooms, monthly cost, required deposit, and additional information

## Support Not Needed

- Temporary housing (less than 6 months)
- U.S. host families we are not looking for shared living opportunities at this time
- Please <u>do not</u> call large apartment buildings/complexes where openings are already posted publicly. The resettlement agencies are already in contact with these facilities and we do not want to overwhelm them with interest