

Distant Partner Model Summary

The Distant Partner Model engages Circle of Welcome teams who are not within the 50 to 100 mile radius of a resettlement agency. This model was specifically designed to engage any team in the refugee resettlement process, regardless of their proximity to a resettlement agency. This model is to be used to provide additional funding to a family in need and to provide additional support to the local resettlement agency. The activities are modified due to the probable distance between teams and the resettlement agency. The model focuses on the education of the volunteer team, advocacy for refugees, and financial support. Teams interested in the Distant Partner Model will be matched with the nearest receiving resettlement agency. Resources for advocacy, team training, engagement and outreach activities, and ongoing training and education for teams are accessible to volunteers through the LIRS communication platform, LIRSConnect.

What do teams do?

Activities

- Outreach and Recruitment
- Financial Contribution
- Education
- Advocacy

Requirements

- Commit to one year of volunteering with the family
- Raise and donate the required funds
- Participate in measuring the impact of the program through surveys and occasional check-ins with the Circle of Welcome Coordinator
- Complete Volunteer Activity Notes to record all activities completed within the context of the program

Financial Contribution*

Model	Overall Cost	Unmet Needs of Refugee Family	Rent Needs of Family	Support for Local Agency	Support for LIRS HQ
Distant Partner	\$3,500-4,500	Up to \$1,000	Up to \$1,250	\$2,000	\$250

*Financial contribution based on the average cost of resettlement across the country.