

PEER-TO-PEER FUNDRAISING FOR REFUGEE FAMILY SPONSORSHIP

Hooray! You've decided to become a sponsor, a welcomer of newcomer families settling here in Minnesota. We are so grateful for you! This is the ultimate act in neighborliness. For one family you'll be making the difference between a bumpy, frustrating start in a new place and beginning again with confidence, support and community.

A Platform For Success

We know there can be a lot of expenses in the early days and weeks after a family arrives, before support from resettlement agencies kicks in. You're already helping so much as an advocate, guide and confidant for your family, so it's nice if you can get financial support from others for providing things like *rent, food, clothing and transportation* for that couple months.

Friends and family – though they may not be able to join you as sponsors – are usually very eager to support your efforts and your newcomer family with **a financial donation**. So Alight has created a platform where you can raise money for all the things your family may need early on.

To Get Started:

- 1) **Visit:** <https://give.wearealight.org/welcomingUkrainians>
 - 2) **Click the 'Become a Fundraiser' button.** The system will then prompt you to setup an account (or login if you already have an account). You'll be asked to set a goal (you can edit this later, too) and create your own custom url for your page. After filling out some more basic information, you can move on to Step 3.
 - 3) **Customize it.** We've tried to make creating your page as easy as possible by pre-loading it with images and messages. So you don't actually need to do anything more but share the link with your friends.
But if you have a little time to customize it with your own story or images of you/your sponsor group, that usually goes a long way in helping your fundraising efforts. You can click **'MANAGE'** in the upper right corner to edit anything on your page that is editable.
 - 4) **Share it with your community.** Tell people that you're sponsoring a family, why your raising money, and give them the custom link to your page. You can see donations come in in real time on your page, see your fundraising total, and post updates –any time!
- * To protect their privacy, please do not mention your family by name.***
- 5) **Once you reach your goal,** contact Steph Koehne at Alight (Steph@WeAreAlight.org). She'll help you get the funds you've raised so you can start using them as your family needs.

We hope this platform is quick and helpful for all your fundraising efforts. With any questions, reach out to Steph at Steph@WeAreAlight.org.

