



The Refugee Response Team – Fraser Valley (RRT-FV) works with local communities to identify, prioritize and address the urgent needs and challenges of refugees who have settled in the Fraser Valley.

Why was it formed?

Recognizing the severity of the crisis in Syria, the Province of British Columbia set up a one-time investment to enhance federal and provincial refugee programs and provide additional resources for communities welcoming refugees. Refugee Response Teams (RRTs) were formed in five regions of the province, including the Fraser Valley.

What is the purpose?

- » To develop and implement a *Community Refugee Response Action Plan*
- » To act as a local resource for information and communications about refugee resettlement in the Fraser Valley

NOTE: *The RRT-FV does not provide direct services to refugees in the Fraser Valley.*

Vision

Fraser Valley service providers, sponsors, stakeholders and refugees have access to the information, services and supports they need in order to facilitate the resettlement of refugees and ensure their successful integration into the community.

Who is involved?

- » The RRT-FV membership is represented by 25+ organizations involved in the resettlement and integration of refugees in the Fraser Valley, including Local Immigration Partnership (LIP) contract holders and community stakeholder representatives from different sectors (settlement, education, healthcare, local government, private sponsorship, business)
- » DIVERSEcity Community Resources Society holds the contract for the RRT-FV, and is responsible for all activities and deliverables outlined in the contract

What communities are included?

The RRT-FV includes the following communities of the Fraser Valley:

- | | |
|---------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Delta | 5. Chilliwack |
| 2. Surrey | 6. Maple Ridge / Pitt Meadows |
| 3. Langley | 7. Mission |
| 4. Abbotsford | |



Community Refugee Response Action Plan

In March 2016, RRT-FV members took part in a community consultation process to identify and prioritize the needs, challenges and issues of refugees settling in the Fraser Valley, and to develop a *Community Refugee Response Action Plan* for implementation over the next year. Twelve issues were identified, and six issues were prioritized for inclusion in the action plan. Three RRT-FV Working / Advisory Groups were also formed to provide input on the priority issues and support the development of new resources.

Priority Issues



Data Collection



Public Education



Healthcare Access



Housing



Language Assessment and Training



Employment and Labour Market Attachment

Resources

The RRT-FV is developing a number of resources for service providers, sponsors and stakeholders in the Fraser Valley, including:

Microsite: Access point for RRT-FV information and resources

Information Sheets: Factsheets on different topics related to refugee resettlement and integration in the Fraser Valley

Reports: Findings from RRT-FV research and projects, such as the quarterly RRT-FV Online Survey

Capacity-Building Events: Learning and information sharing opportunities for service providers, private sponsors, refugees and/or stakeholders

Newsletters: Updates on RRT-FV activities and resources, client stories and more

RRT-FV Membership

Provides guidance and direction to support the development and implementation of the *Community Refugee Response Action Plan*

RRT-FV Healthcare Access Advisory Group

Provides input on healthcare access needs, challenges and issues impacting refugees in the Fraser Valley to Fraser Health Authority

RRT-FV Housing Working Group

Provides input on housing service needs, challenges and issues impacting refugees in the Fraser Valley, and supports the development of RRT-FV resources

RRT-FV Language Working Group

Provides input on language assessment and training needs, challenges and issues impacting refugees in the Fraser Valley, and supports the development of RRT-FV resources