#### <Community Sponsorship Group Name> Risk Assessment

#### A note to Community Sponsorship Groups using this resource: this risk assessment is by no means comprehensive of all possible risks you could face welcoming a family. Risks will vary depending on your location, the family composition and their specific needs. Once you have information about the specific family you will welcome, the risks you will need to consider will become more evident. The below areas will help your Group think through different risks in the abstract. Reset are always here to help you navigate challenges.

#### Outcomes:

* To ensure that the refugee family resettled under the Community Sponsorship resettlement scheme can lead independent lives as quickly as possible including having access to education or employment as appropriate.
* That the Group works together appropriately to fulfil the sponsor obligations.

| **Date of Risk Assessment:** |  | **Risk Assessment Carried out by:** |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Risk** | **Mitigation** | | |
| ***Financial*** | | | |
| Unforeseen costs arise which the group cannot meet. | *Include access to funding for the Local Authority (LA), how you have reached your budget calculations, and fall-back financial arrangements with your Lead Sponsor. Don’t forget your Lead Sponsor can register with the* [*Backstop Fund*](https://resetuk.org/toolkits/for-lead-sponsors-new/community-sponsorship-backstop-fund) *for emergency circumstances.* | | |
| The family don’t get access to cash, benefits or there are delays in receiving these services. | *Reflect on the initial cash payment will be made available, any short term loans for benefit delays, how you’ll work with the family to access the DWP.* | | |
| The family do not have enough funds to live on | *Consider budgeting advice to the family and where you can seek this, accessing discretionary housing payments, Job Centre liaison, explaining to the family that it’s their responsibility to live within their budget, short term loans from the Group etc.* | | |
| ***Operational*** | | | |
| Housing is too expensive | *Consideration given to benefits cap, housing payment top ups, planned costs in advance, and plans to help the family move to affordable, sustainable housing after two years.* | | |
| The available housing is not of an acceptable standard | *Reflect that the LA have been invited to view, thought given to how they will report issues to the landlord, and mention your complaints policy.* | | |
| The resettled family decide to leave the Local Authority area | *Include here what would happen in this scenario, who would you talk to? What would you do with the family to examine why they would like to move, impact on the support offered to them, and any impact on tenancy agreement*. | | |
| Handling of confidential information/breakdown of protecting the privacy and dignity of the family | *Show how you will manage the family arrival data, accessing MoveIT portal, sharing their address, and information about the family and their progress. Consider having agreed lines of communication within your group about sharing their information on social media.* | | |

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| The family become isolated in their new community | *Reflect here on your plans for integration and how you will review how the family is settling in.*  *Community activities:*  *Induction to area – visiting places of interest, shops etc:*  *Signpost to appropriate services and organisations in the area:*  *Plans for informal ESOL* |
| Appropriate health care/social care is not available in the area | *Reflect on relationship with Local Authority, LA and Group approve family based on their needs.* |
| Insufficient school places | *Think about the involvement of LA in approval process, access to education funds for LA, previous research into schools.* |
| The family’s arrival date coincides with a major national holiday and cannot access or sign up for major services | *Think about how you will communicate to the Home Office if the arrival date means the family will not be able to access services, how you will plan a schedule for the first week of arrival and your understanding of required timelines.* |
| ***Safeguarding*** | |
| Family member reports an assault or threat | *Consider how you instruct your group members to notify safeguarding concerns. Does your safeguarding lead have direct contact information for statutory services* |
| Instances of hate crime | *Do your group members know what to do should hate crime happen? does safeguarding policy cover this* |
| Other risks: | *Add and address any Group or location specific risks here and below.*  *Things to think through could include:*   * *How would you manage the situation if a couple within the family you support decides to split up?* * *What plans would you have in place if a family is dissatisfied with your support?* * *What happens if your core group of volunteers reduce over time?* * *How will you handle disagreements within the group?* * *How will you manage conversations relating to family members wishing to travel abroad? Or answer questions on family reunion?* |