

Developing your boundaries

Your Community Sponsorship Group members will be the best placed to decide what boundaries will help to deliver your support, however, we've provided some common boundaries you may wish to consider below. This is by no means exhaustive.

Remember that your boundaries may change over time as the family becomes more independent and your relationships change organically. As friendships develop, do all you can to ensure there is not an over-reliance on one member of your group and that your boundaries don't become blurred.

Boundary	Things to consider
Set timings for refugees to contact Group members in non-emergency situations	<p>Does this encourage independence of refugees?</p> <p>How can this reduce dependence on Group members?</p> <p>Will it allow Group members to manage their time commitment for offering support?</p>
Accepting hospitality when visiting refugees at home	<p>Does it feel rude to not accept food and drink when visiting someone at home?</p> <p>Does accepting hospitality get in the way of what you are hoping to achieve (ie: are you trying to get out for an appointment?)</p> <p>Does providing you with food/drinks mean that the family might be going without? (their budget will be limited whilst they are claiming benefits)</p> <p>How will those in the Group with food allergies or intolerances be able to manage this?</p>
Lone working of Group members	<p>Will your volunteers visit the family on their own?</p> <p>How will you ensure they feel comfortable to do so if the answer to this is yes? How will you ensure safeguarding protocol is in place? (find out more about how to manage your Group safely)</p>

	<p>Will the family you are supporting feel more comfortable receiving this support from one person initially?</p> <p>Will this change over time as you and the family get to know each other better?</p>
Accepting gifts from a refugee family	<p>Does this set the right tone for how you see your support to the family?</p> <p>Will the family be going without to give you a gift?</p>
Individuals in the Group giving money/items/gifts to the family	<p>Will this blur the support you're offering? Will this make the refugees feel differently about your support?</p> <p>Will this affect how the family is learning to budget?</p> <p>Will it encourage dependence on your Group?</p> <p>Is this fair on all members of your Group?</p>
Loaning money to a refugee family for a specific reason	<p>How will your Group establish a process for loaning money to the family?</p> <p>What terms will you put on a loan (the length of time the family will have to pay it back, interest)?</p> <p>How will you ensure the family know that this is a loan and must be paid back?</p> <p>How will your Group decide in what situations it is and is not ok to loan money to the family?</p> <p>Learn about an empowerment approach to loans in our loaning money resource.</p>
Offering lifts to refugee family members	<p>Are there set reasons for which you will offer lifts? (emergencies only, medical appointments, shopping for culturally appropriate food)</p>

	<p>Does offering lifts consistently impede family members from learning/feeling comfortable with the public transport system? Does it create more dependence on your Group than necessary?</p> <p>Does your car insurance cover driving for volunteering?</p> <p>Remember: a Group in a city may have a completely different approach than a rurally-based Group.</p>
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