

- interest-free loans to cover the cost of travel from the country of asylum to Canada
- financial assistance until placed in permanent employment
- language training
- occupational training
- help in finding accommodation
- emergency medical care
- counselling

Refugees are also eligible for a full range of social services (e.g. medical and hospital plans, family allowance) immediately after their arrival in Canada.

To broaden further the range of refugees for resettlement, the Immigration Act makes provision for volunteer groups to sponsor refugees. Any group of at least five Canadian citizens can act as sponsor. The groups sign a legal undertaking to provide support and resettlement assistance for the refugees first year in Canada. This sponsorship program allows Canada to accept refugees who would not otherwise be considered capable of successful establishment. As an additional provision, Immigration officers may identify extra assistance (e.g. pre-arranged employment, day care for children) which, if the sponsor can provide, admission will be approved. All sponsored refugees are admitted over and above the resettlement levels set in the annual plan; thus sponsorship allows individual Canadians to have a direct influence on the scope of Canada's refugee program.

(ii) In past years, Canada responded to each refugee crisis on an ad hoc basis, depending largely on the reallocation of funds and on the support of