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## Refugees Should be Careful of Scammers and Fraudsters Humanity First Canada issues Fraud Alert to Refugees in various countries

Humanity First Canada is warning prospective refugees in various countries that some scammers and fraudsters are using social media and various other means to contact refugees and pretend to offer a sponsorship to Canada. Also, there are some misinformation and rumors circulating about refugee sponsorship.

Humanity First Canada reminds anyone wishing to immigrate to Canada to note the following important information:

- Humanity First will never ask for any money from refugees to sponsor them or to provide resettlement services. To resettle in Canada, a refugee must be referred through the UNHCR or a private sponsorship group in Canada.
- Humanity First will never request documents or payments through social media platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, or WhatsApp. Refugees do not have to pay anyone to process refugee sponsorship application.
- Humanity First will never telephone, or otherwise contact, individuals to offer resettlement services, any kind of sponsorship or immigration to Canada.
- Do **NOT** trust or believe anyone who asks you to pay for a sponsorship. Under the Private Sponsorship of Refugees Program, you do not have to pay for sponsorship. No one can promise your application will be given special treatment or guarantee that it will be approved.
- If your immigration or permanent resident status was obtained as a result of fraud, the Government of Canada may conduct an investigation and may revoke your permanent resident status.
- The Government of Canada does not charge or collect application fees from refugees to be resettled. Any information or notices asking refugees to deposit money that will later be refunded are false. They do not come from Humanity First or the Government of Canada. Any funds required for resettlement of refugees held in trust must not have come from the refugee.

However, as per Canadian laws, after you arrive in Canada, sponsors may expect you to contribute to your own settlement costs from the funds you bring with you. Refugees are expected to contribute to their own settlement costs from funds they bring to Canada or earn during their sponsorship period.

It should be noted that Humanity First has not authorized anyone in any country to ask or collect any money from refugees. People are warned to beware of such fraudsters and should never offer any money to anyone as Humanity First will never entertain any such requests or money from refugees.

While Humanity First Canada endeavors to help as many refugees as possible with the help of cosponsors and constituent groups, it can only sponsor a very limited number of refugees every year, due to quota restrictions in Canada.

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### About Humanity First:

Humanity First is an International Non-Profit Charitable Organization established to promote and safeguard the preservation of human life and dignity. Humanity First is a non-political, non-sectarian international relief and development agency that works with communities around the globe to improve the quality of life for some of the world's poorest and most vulnerable people. Directors, Officers and Aid Workers of Humanity First are unpaid volunteers. Humanity First has been granted a special consultative status with the United Nation's Economic and Social Council ([ECOSOC](#)).

For further information and media inquiries, please visit our website <http://www.humanityfirst.ca> or email to [info@humanityfirst.ca](mailto:info@humanityfirst.ca) or call 416-440-0346.