

When refugees first come to Louisville, they often have no more than a few suitcases. Most have left their country in haste and did not have time to pack more than a few mementos and clothing items. Upon arriving in the city, refugees are given the bare essentials they need to survive such as a plate, a sheet, a towel, etc. However, the MRS Program tries to give them much more. Most of these items are donated and will be given directly to the refugee clients meaning that they are not sold off. A complete list of the most needed contributions is below. Please check your home as well as contact your friends, neighbors, coworkers, and many others in helping to make a difference in a refugee's life in their new home in Louisville.

## Automobiles (Cars, Trucks, and Vans)

All "working" vehicles are accepted at the MRS Program. Such donations are given directly to the client, which means that they are not sold. All refugee clients have to rely on mass transportation (TARC Bus) or simply walking and/or riding a bicycle to get around. It should be noted that such a donation like this is given directly to the client, which means the donor can claim the highest taxable value for such item. Normally, the donor of the automobile will use either the NADA (Blue Book) value or the County Clerk Assessed value for this type of gift.

## Furniture and Large Size Household Goods

Mattresses and box springs (all sizes) along with bed frames, dressers and chest of drawers, kitchen tables and chairs, sofas/couches, love seats, living room chairs, recliners and arm chairs, coffee tables and side/end tables, desks and office chairs, bookshelves, entertainment centers, nightstands, floor lamps and table lamps.

## Housewares and Other Miscellaneous Items

**Kitchen Items:** Forks, spoons, knives, cooking utensils, food storage containers, serving platters and bowls, casserole dishes, baking dishes, plates, bowls, drinking glasses, coffee mugs, cutting boards, potholders, small appliances (coffee makers, blenders, toasters, microwaves, etc.), pots and pans, paper napkins, paper towels, dishcloths, sponges, all purpose cleaner, dish drainer, kitchen towels, dish soap, garbage cans with bags, tablecloths, and cloth napkins.

**Bedroom Items:** Flat and fitted sheets (all sizes), blankets, bedspreads, comforters, pillows and pillowcases, and alarm clocks.

**Bathroom Items:** Bath and hand towels, washcloths, bath mats soap dishes, shower curtains with rings, toilet brushes, bars of soap, liquid hand soap, deodorant, toothbrushes and toothpaste, toilet paper, lotion, shaving crème, razors, shampoo, conditioner, hair spray, hydrogen peroxide and rubbing alcohol, band-aids, Q-tips, cotton balls, hairbrushes, combs, feminine hygiene products.

**Other Important Items:** Brooms, mops, scouring powder and pads, light bulbs, batteries, laundry detergent, throw and area rugs, framed pictures, televisions, VCRs, DVD players, radios and stereos, telephones, dustpans, buckets, scrub brushes, iron and ironing boards, dryer sheets, bleach, throw pillows, and random knickknacks.

## School Clothing (Uniforms) and Supplies

**School Clothing (Uniforms):** Blue and beige/tan colored kakis pants, white and blue colored dress shirts (short and long sleeve), white and blue colored polo shirts.

**School Supplies:** School paper (wide rule and/or college rule), tablets, spiral and non-spiral notebooks, markers, colored pencils, crayons, pens and pencils, rulers, scissors, glue, erasers, pencil sharpeners, binders, folders (pockets and clips), back packs, lunch bags/boxes, protractors, compasses, and calculators.

## Clothing Items

All forms of clothing items for adults, children and babies are taken with special emphasis made on climate seasons (spring, summer, fall and winter). (The most important clothing items that are always needed are underwear/undergarments and socks.)