

Volunteer Position Description

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Position Title: Bus Mentor

Position Description: When refugees arrive in Minnesota, learning how to navigate the Metro Transit system is one of the best ways for them to acquire self-sufficiency and independence. Without a strong understanding of how to ride the bus, refugees can have difficulty finding and keeping jobs, running basic errands, making it to medical appointments, getting to meetings with their case managers and employment counselors, or connecting with their community. MCC Refugee Services' Intensive Cultural Orientation Workshop strives to help refugees overcome transportation barriers and attain self-sufficiency by teaching them how to navigate the Metro Transit system.

Bus Mentors assist their refugee partner(s) in learning how to navigate the Metro Transit system by helping them understand their bus routes and discussing basics of riding the bus including how to pay fares, how to use transfers, and proper etiquette when on the bus. Bus Mentors also practice riding the bus to their partner(s) home from MCC Refugee Service's Intensive Cultural Orientation Workshop in order to reinforce his or her partner(s) understanding of the Metro Transit system and empower them to independently ride the bus.

Training: All Bus Mentors attend MCC Refugee Service's general volunteer orientation and discuss the responsibilities of the position with the Volunteer Coordinator and Intensive Cultural Orientation Coordinator.

Supervision: Bus Mentors are under the supervision of the Volunteer Coordinator.

Time Commitment: Approximately 4-5 hours a month.

Location: MCC Refugee Services offers Intensive Cultural Orientation Workshop at two locations:

District 6 Planning Council
171 Front Ave.
St. Paul, MN 55117

MCC Refugee Services
122 W Franklin Ave.
Minneapolis, MN 55404

Qualifications:

- Flexibility, promptness, and dependability
- Solid knowledge of/experience of the Metro Transit system
- Cultural Sensitivity and the ability to communicate clearly and respectfully with individuals who may have limited English language ability

To apply, please contact rsvolunteers@mnchurches.org.