New homes, new hope
Deloitte uses its skills, relationships to connect refugees with opportunities

The world is facing an unparalleled displacement crisis triggered by dire situations in Syria, Afghanistan, Iraq, Somalia, Sudan and other countries. Refugees have been fleeing their homelands in huge numbers as a result of conflict, human rights violations, or violence. In 2015 alone, more than a million refugees arrived in Europe in search of a better life.

Professionals from throughout the Deloitte network are supporting refugee-integration efforts in multiple ways, including helping individuals and families find housing, employment, education, and counseling.

Deloitte in Germany is driving multiple initiatives across a country faced with the largest influx of refugees in Europe. For example, the German firm has adjusted its hiring policies to provide the refugee community with employment and mentorship opportunities. As a social mentor for a new colleague from Syria, Dalia Chirila says her main role is to “offer support with his integration not only into the firm, but also into the German community so that he can create a bright future for himself, and set an example to other refugees.”

Deloitte in Denmark is working closely with the board of the Danish Agency for International Recruitment and Integration (SIRI) to help refugees suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Deloitte Denmark professionals have developed both a methodology and tool that improve early detection, identification, and screening for PTSD. As a result, SIRI is better equipped to target its refugee-support efforts.

Nearly 30,000 Syrian refugees have resettled across the Atlantic in Canada. Deloitte in Canada has teamed with WoodGreen Community Services and other organizations to create a web portal that connects Syrian refugees with goods and services, in particular, housing.

Deloitte Middle East’s Syrian refugee program aims to help improve the lives of as many refugees as possible in Lebanon, Jordan, and Syria. The firm’s initiatives focus on educating and empowering women and young people through its Digital Youth Program, employability skills workshops, and pro bono support to nonprofits in the region.

Deloitte Global is a member of the Tent Alliance, a platform that connects companies so they can work together and with the public sector to help end the refugee crisis. The Alliance was launched at the World Economic Forum’s 2016 annual meeting in Davos, Switzerland. The Deloitte network is also committed to supporting the global call to help alleviate suffering around the world made at the World Humanitarian Summit held in Istanbul, Turkey, in May 2016.

“Our network has a long history of advancing humanitarian efforts by investing in and delivering solutions in new and innovative ways,” says Amy Fuller, Senior Managing Director, Deloitte Global Brand. “The tremendous scale of the refugee crisis has moved us to use our core business skills and know-how in ways that truly demonstrate our creativity, our capabilities, and our compassion.”

Amy Fuller, Senior Managing Director, Deloitte Global Brand