

# N.E.E.D.S. INC. SERVICES OVERVIEW

N.E.E.D.S. Inc. is a non-profit, charitable organization that provides accessible services and supports to newcomer and refugee children, youth and their families. N.E.E.D.S. Inc. was established in 1999 by an immigrant woman for newcomers to Canada. Programming was based on her own personal experience, need assessment and realistic expectations for resettling in Canada.

Our goal is to enhance the integration of newcomers into Canadian society by providing employment, mentorship, education and social recreational programs as a means to assisting in the development of life skills, confidence and positive social support networks. All of our services are supported by psychosocial educators to ensure the success of our participants.

N.E.E.D.S. Inc. has the capacity to deliver our core services and programs in French, if required by clients (including interpretation).

## **N.E.E.D.S. Inc. provides the following supports to newcomer children and youth:**

- After school homework support to newcomer and refugee children and youth.
- In partnership with Winnipeg school divisions, provide in-school support to newcomer children, youth and their families for the first 12-18 months of settling in Winnipeg, including needs assessments, referrals to community resources and enhanced services to support their education
- Orientation activities that focus on a variety of different topics including but not limiting to: education, health, employment, financial literacy, community services, safety, pro-social skill development and social recreational activities
- Employability skills training to help newcomer and refugee youth ages 16 -29 to enter and successfully participate in the Canadian labour market
- Family Engagement Activities to help connect parents and guardians to their child(ren)'s school
- Psychosocial support to newcomer and refugee children and youth to enhance their success during their participation in activities as well as their general settlement experiences
- Volunteers and practicum students help support participants in all our activities in addition to mentorship opportunities to refugee children and youth during their settlement experience

**Due to COVID-19 our services and activities will be modified to maintain the safety of clients and staff.  
Please contact us directly if you have questions about our services during COVID-19.**

## **FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**

**Phone:** (204) 940-1260 | **Email:** [info@needsinc.ca](mailto:info@needsinc.ca)

**Website:** [www.needsinc.ca](http://www.needsinc.ca)

**251-A Notre Dame Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R3B 1N8**

## Introduction to Canadian Education Program

**FOCUS:** Introduction to Canadian Education (Intro) Program provides FREE educational, school preparedness and orientation programming for newly arrived government assisted and privately sponsored refugee children and youth, 6 to 21 years old.

The Introduction to Canadian Education (Intro) Program has several components, each designed to help refugee youth transition into the Canadian school system and integrate successfully into the greater Winnipeg community.

### ACTIVITIES FOCUS ON THE FOLLOWING FOUR KEY AREAS:

- Education & Employment
- Health & Nutrition
- Safety & Law
- Places & Community
- Welcome to Canada (overview of Canada, rights & freedoms, money, etc.)

### PROGRAM COMPONENTS INCLUDE:

- School preparedness (learning about a 'Canadian classroom', expectations of school/teachers, etc.)
- Orientation to Winnipeg (community services & resources, safety issues, etc.)
- English Language skills development (opportunities for language development, EAL activities, etc.)
- Social recreational activities (team building activities, arts & crafts, movement exercises, etc.)
- Computer skills (structured computer classes, introduction to technology skills, etc.)
- Addressing common settlement issues (culture shock, making new friends, etc.)
- Pro-social skills and integration (decision making, anger management, etc.)
- All classroom supplies and material (pens, paper, scissors, crayons, binders, etc.) needed to participate are provided by NEEDS Centre
- Relevant and timely referrals for participants to community resources

### FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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## SWIS (Settlement Worker In Schools)

**FOCUS:** Provides services and supports for school age newcomer children, youth and families for the first 18-36 months of arriving in Canada as a way of increasing integration into their new school and community. SWIS staff work in partnership with school staff and service providers to deliver additional supports to recently arrived newcomer children and youth within Winnipeg School Division, Louis Riel School Division, Pembina Trails School Division and St. James-Assiniboia School Division.

### SWIS Components Include:

- Supporting with school registration and participating in school intake and orientation meetings with newcomer students and schools to help students gain a better understanding of their school environment and foster self-reliance, confidence building, identity, belonging and integration into the school culture
- Provide ongoing follow up and support to students throughout their first 18 months of being in Canada to ensure successful integration into the school community
- Provide Enhanced SWIS support to refugee and newcomer children/youth over 18 months of being in Canada who experience challenges beyond the commonly experiences and expected settlement needs by collaborating with school staff to support individual programming and activities to enhance school and community integration
- Provide 1/1 and/or group orientation activities to newcomer students on various topics to enhance confidence building and integration, either in school or out of school (topics include: education, safety, health, community, newcomer to Canada guide [transportation, money, etc.], mentorship opportunities)
- Completion of Needs & Assets & Assessment & Referrals (NAARS) followed by a Settlement Plan with children, youth, and their families for the purpose of identifying settlement needs and completing appropriate referrals to existing resources, programs and services
- Pro-social skill development and wellness programming for participants alongside base services
- Enhanced NAARS and Settlement Plans for individual newcomer and refugee children and youth identified as having more complex needs who may require additional support to integrate into the school system or transition to alternative pathways after exiting the school system
- Relevant and timely referrals for participants to community resources

### FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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## Enhanced Wellness Program

**FOCUS:** To provide additional enhanced supports to refugee and newcomer children, youth (6-29) and their families to increase mental health and overall wellbeing through evidence-based interventions.

### Enhanced Wellness Components Include:

- Delivery of a trauma informed and culturally appropriate curriculum in group-based sessions that teach children and youth about identifying big emotions, learning about the brain and survival responses (flight, fight, freeze) as well as self-regulation and coping strategies
- 1-on-1 supports for children and youth to meet the need of challenges they are currently dealing with such as conflicts, school, or work-related stressors, recognizing and responding to big emotions within themselves and coping strategies.
- Increase refugee and newcomer children and youth school connectedness through homework supports
- **FREE** Circle of Security Parenting groups to parents and caregivers with interpretation available
- **FREE** Circle of Security Parenting groups to parents and caregivers delivered in the following first language:
  1. Arabic
  2. Amharic
  3. French
  4. German
  5. Mandarin
  6. Russian
  7. Somali
  8. Swahili
  9. Tigrinya
- Training for service providers and education professionals to meet the needs of refugee and newcomer children and youth in Making Sense of Trauma through webinars

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**

**Jennifer Tomsich**

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## EMPLOYMENT OVERVIEW

**FOCUS:** To help newcomer and refugee youth (ages 16 to 29) develop the employability skills required to enter and successfully participate in the Canadian labour market.

Recognizing that newcomer youth are in various stages of employment readiness, Employment Services offers several streams of programming to meet the specific employment needs of each participant.

### Employment Services Components Include:

- Work Experience Opportunities & On-the-Job Support
  - Youth are matched with partnering employers to provide meaningful and hands-on work placements. In addition, clients receive on the job mentorship and support to increase their chances of success in participating in the Canadian Labour Market.
- Individual Career Coaching & Employment Support
  - Offers one-on-one employment support in the form of resume and cover letter writing, interview preparation and job searching assistance.
- Employment Readiness Training
  - Designed to prepare newcomer youth for the Canadian workplace. Workshops are interactive and hands-on to help youth be engaged in the learning process and build interpersonal skills, communication skills and confidence.
- English for Employment Purposes Training
  - Provides opportunities for youth to build their English language skills specific to the Canadian workplace through sector specific language training with partnering employers.
- Individual or group psychosocial support is provided by social workers on an ongoing, as needed basis to help youth be successful in employment activities

### FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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## PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT OVERVIEW

**FOCUS:** To provide newcomer children and youth with additional support during their participation in N.E.E.D.S. Inc. services to enhance their success and ensure a smoother transition during their settlement and integration into Canadian society.

### Psychosocial Service Components Include:

- Establishing rapport and building relationships with clients
- Helping clients learn the reasons for their behaviours and assist clients in learning new behaviours when appropriate
- Assisting youth in recognizing their abilities, capacities, interests, goals and personality to reach their fullest potential
- Assisting youth in exploring their feelings and emotions and exploring healthy coping strategies
- Helping youth find ways to grow personally and socially
- Providing opportunities for comfort and hope
- Psychosocial support services are provided in either group setting or individual one-on-one sessions, depending on the need
- Connecting children, youth and families to additional resources in the community
- Providing Circle of Security Groups to parents in first language
- Providing consultations and training to the greater Winnipeg community on the challenges and unique needs of newcomer youth

Psychosocial support services are provided in either group setting or individual one-on-one sessions, depending on the need

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**

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## VOLUNTEER SERVICES

Thank you for your interest in volunteering with Newcomers Employment and Education Development Services (N.E.E.D.S.) Inc. Our mission at N.E.E.D.S. Inc. is to provide accessible services and support to newcomer and refugee children and youth. We work to enhance their integration into Canadian society by providing educational, employment, and social recreation activities.

All volunteers will be responsible for getting a Criminal Record Check with Vulnerable Sector Search at their own expense and you will be required to provide identifications so that N.E.E.D.S. Inc. can apply for a Child Abuse Registry Check. All volunteers will undergo an interview with our staff and must participate in required trainings.

Current opportunities are:

### REMOTE AFTER-SCHOOL VOLUNTEER MENTORS:

- Volunteer mentors will *remotely* assist clients in our Remote After-School Mentorship Program for newcomer and refugee children and youth in Grades 1 through 12.
- Volunteer mentors:
  - o Provide tutoring support in various subject areas including but not limited to English, math, science, social studies, health education, etc.
  - o Assist newcomer and refugee children and youth develop and foster positive relationships with adults in a safe environment
  - o Provide support to help develop, practice, and improve English Language Skills
  - o Supervise clients during one-on-one meetings and communicate all issues with staff
- We are looking for English and French speaking volunteers to help clients in both official languages
- Volunteers must commit to a minimum of 3-4 hours per week for three consecutive months

### PRACTICUM PLACEMENTS:

N.E.E.D.S. Inc. accepts various practicum placements from accredited post-secondary institutions. Placements include both in-person and remote opportunities. Please reach out to our volunteer team to find out more about practicum opportunities with our agency.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**

### Volunteer Team

[volunteers@needsinc.ca](mailto:volunteers@needsinc.ca) | (204) 940-1279

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## FUNDERS AND SUPPORTERS

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Immigration, Refugees  
and Citizenship Canada

Immigration, Réfugiés  
et Citoyenneté Canada

Manitoba



Public Health  
Agency of Canada  

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Agence de la santé  
publique du Canada



We would like to acknowledge the individual donors who have contributed to our agency. If you are interested in donating to our agency, please visit our website at: [www.needsinc.ca](http://www.needsinc.ca)

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