

LIFE OF A REFUGEE FARMER



LEAVE HOMELAND

Many refugees come to Kansas City from Bhutan, Burundi, the DRC, Burma, Somalia, and South Sudan.



RESETTLEMENT

After an extensive process, refugees are admitted to the United States.

APPLICATION

Most refugees hear about New Roots through Catholic Charities' employment services. They are interviewed to determine if their family is a good fit for the program.



TRAINING CLASSES

The program begins in the winter with English classes. In February, farming lessons begin and farmers learn how to use a greenhouse.

Refugees learn how to work with Kansas weather and soil conditions, how to grow food for both their native cuisine and Midwestern tastes, and how to sell in American markets.



Most refugees bring very little, but many do bring agricultural experience from their home countries.



YEAR 1

Each farmer is given a $\frac{1}{4}$ acre plot of land at Juniper Gardens. New Roots staff provide significant financial and managerial support in their first year.

YEAR 2

By the second year, the farmers are growing in expertise and becoming self-sufficient. They develop their plots and sell regularly at farmers' markets, wholesale programs, and CSAs.



YEAR 3

New Roots works with farmers to develop their long-term goals. They develop a business plan and begin the process of land acquisition.



GRADUATION

After four years, farmers receive a certificate, branding for their new business, and ongoing support such as infrastructure development.



WAYS TO ENGAGE

- Host a tool or seed drive
- Mentor a farmer
- Host a pop-up market
- Arrange for CSA delivery
- Volunteer to build infrastructure
- Help with transport to markets
- Teach English classes
- Shop at local farmers' markets