

U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants 2231 Crystal Drive Suite 350 Arlington, VA 22202 refugees.org

PRS Case Worker Name

Phone Number

Email

USCRI'S MISSION

To protect the rights and address the needs of persons in forced or voluntary migration worldwide and support their transition to a dignified life.



WHAT ARE POST RELEASE SERVICES (PRS)?

Post Release Services (PRS) are virtual and in-home case management services provided to unaccompanied children who are released from the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) care facilities. Children are referred to PRS by ORR to benefit from support and guidance while they integrate into their new homes and communities. PRS also helps children and their families identify resources and navigate the various systems in the U.S. Families who are referred for PRS are provided with a PRS case worker, who assists them through this journey.

UNACCOMPANIED CHILDREN AND SPONSORS

Unaccompanied children have many interrelated reasons for undertaking the difficult journey to the United States, which may include rejoining family already here, or escaping poverty, violent communities, or abusive family relationships in their home country. Their age, their separation from parents and relatives, and the hazardous journey make unaccompanied children especially vulnerable to human trafficking, exploitation, and abuse. After an unaccompanied child is released from an ORR care facility, they are placed with an ORR-vetted and approved sponsor in the U.S. The sponsor is the adult that is responsible to provide for the physical and mental well-being of the child, including but not limited to food, shelter, clothing, education, medical care, and other services as needed.

If you know an unaccompanied child who needs support and they are not already connected to a PRS case worker, please contact the ORR Hotline at 1-800-203-7001 to request Post Release Services for the family. PRS are available to children nationwide. Note that referrals must come from ORR; we cannot take community referrals.



The role of the PRS case worker is to monitor and ensure child safety and work as a team with the family to ensure that the child has a positive integration into their new home and community. The PRS case worker helps the child and the family identify services and resources based on their goals and needs, and assists and empowers sponsors and children to achieve their goals. The PRS case worker provides information and referrals for local free or low-cost community resources in these areas:

- Legal Services
- School and Other Education
- Legal Guardianship
- Medical and Dental Services
- Mental Health Services
- Substance Abuse Prevention
- Parenting Classes
- Gang Prevention Programs
- Independent Living Skills
- Community Integration
- Youth Programming
- Child Trafficking
- Special Needs Services

(Note that PRS does not provide direct services in the above areas.)