

[www.inasmuch.ca](http://www.inasmuch.ca)

# inasmuch

*Helping Refugee Claimants in  
the Fraser Valley*



# Introduction

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# About Inasmuch Community Society

“Compelled by god’s love, we advocate for and empower refugee claimants by providing physical, emotional, and community support, as they seek to rebuild their lives in Canada.”

- Our office is located here in Abbotsford
- We operate 3 transition houses for refugee claimants (residents)
- We provide Housing search support for **all** refugee claimants in the Fraser Valley (community clients)

(Langley, Mission, Abbotsford, & Chilliwack)



## Why do Refugee Claimants Need Our Help?

- They had little time to prepare to come to Canada
- Many have been on the run for a long time
- Many are out of money when they arrive and have no access to assets from their home country
- They receive the least amount of government help upon arrival



- Can't work right away like other types of refugees, they must await their work permit which can take months to obtain
- Have limited access to limited services, employment programs and ESL instruction
- Deal with added stress of awaiting a hearing which can take up to 18 months.
- The immigration system is very difficult to navigate



## VISION

To empower as many Refugee Claimants as possible to launch lives of meaning and impact in Canada.

## MISSION

Compelled by God's love, we advocate for Refugee Claimants by providing physical, emotional and community support while empowering them as they seek to rebuild their lives in Canada.







Our  
Transition  
Homes



# Residents

(Those who stay in an inasmuch transition house)

We offer

- A private room or suite in a house with a host (everything else is shared)
- Settlement services and housing support
- Referrals for counselling and employment support
- Rides to Vancouver for check-ins
- Weekly food baskets and seasonal clothing
- ESL and other classes
- Community events
- Furniture to set up their next house

# Community Clients

(Refugee claimants who are living in the Fraser Valley)

We offer

- Personal housing support consultations
- Identify housing needs – emergency shelter, transition homes, long-term rentals
- Identifying barriers to accessing housing
- Referrals to BC charms, subsidized housing applications, and other partner organizations
- Education on housing options and support as they navigate the rental market (monthly)



# Nadia: The Power of Community



- Backpacks for the kids
- Baby supplies from many organizations and churches
- Safe family for the older kids to stay with
- Specialized healthcare for mom and baby
- Meals made and given
- In home nurse caring for the family

