When a refugee arrives in Iowa, they typically only bring a suitcase or two. USCRI Des Moines relies on donations from community members to ensure that each refugee is provided with the items that are essential to daily life.

We have provided here a list of the items most needed to set up a house for newly arriving families.

We accept new, gently used and good condition items and cannot make repairs or launder items. **All items must be clean!**

Please drop off your donation at our office, (Mon-Fri 9:30–4:30). A pick up may also be available within the city of Des Moines for furniture items but may take a week or more to arrange. Monetary contributions and donated gift cards are also greatly appreciated by refugee families. Most helpful are $25 gift cards for Price Chopper or Walmart. Donations to USCRI, a 501(c) 3 nonprofit, are tax-deductible.

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**We graciously cannot accept:**
- Used mattresses, box springs and bed frames
- TVs, VCRs
- Washing machines/dryers
- Microwaves, Stoves
- Glass picture frames and mirrors
- Clothing except for winter wear
- Books except for dictionaries
- Non-essential items (baskets, etc.)

### Kitchen
- Dishes, Glasses
- Silverware
- Pots and Pans
- Rice Cookers
- Cooking Utensils
- Mixing Bowls
- Can Openers
- Cutting boards
- Dish drying racks
- Kitchen towels/pot holders/dish cloths

### Bathroom
- Bath Towels
- Bathmats
- Shower Curtain & Rings Toilet Paper

### Household
- Paper, Notebooks
- Pens, Pencils
- School Supplies
- Scissors
- Light Bulbs, Lamps
- Flashlights

### Personal Hygiene
- Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste
- Soap, Shampoo
- Deodorant
- Disposable Razors
- Sanitary Napkins
- Diapers
- Other Baby Items

### Bedroom
- Sheet Sets: Twin, Double
- Comforters/Blankets
- Pillowcases
- Alarm Clocks
- Clothing Hangers

### Furniture
- Coffee tables
- End tables
- Couches
- Dining tables/chairs
- Living room chairs
- Dressers
- Lamps

### Cleaning Supplies
- Mops, Buckets
- Brooms, Dustpans
- Toilet Brush/ Holders
- Wastebaskets
- Dish Soap, Sponges
- Kitchen Cleanser
- All-Purpose Cleaner
- Laundry Detergent
- Paper Towels
- Trash Bags

### Winter Wear
- Coats
- Boots
- Gloves, Mittens
- Hats, Scarves

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