

**Task****Help a Refugee Family****Sample Solution**

1. Citizen and Immigration Canada's Matching Centre helps government-assisted refugees find a community to live in and make social connections that can help them adjust to life in Canada.

When deciding which city is best for each refugee's needs, the Matching Centre considers:

- the refugee's spoken language
- the refugee's education and work experience
- the location of any friends and family the refugee has in Canada
- the ethnic, cultural, and religious communities in the area
- the refugee's medical history
- the availability of settlement services in the area

The Matching Centre has operated for over twenty years and places refugees in 23 cities across Canada (not including Quebec, which has its own resettlement program). Most government assisted refugees settle in Ontario, Quebec, or Alberta.

2. They must be Ontario residents who have valid refugee status and income or assets below a certain amount. Ontario Works will provide a monthly allowance based on their family size, housing costs, and income. They will also get drug plan benefits and assistance with training, education, and employment services. There is a maximum allowance amount and certain types of income will be deducted from the allowance amount.

3. Here is a sample budget, in dollars, for the Sarohans.

<b>INCOME</b>	
Ontario Social Assistance (basic needs)	619.00
Ontario Social Assistance (shelter)	647.00
<b>Total Monthly INCOME</b>	<b>1266.00</b>
<b>HOME EXPENSES</b>	
Rent (includes utilities)	800.00
Rental Insurance	20.00
Phone	27.00
Cable/Satellite	
Internet	
Furnishings/Appliances	
Maintenance/Supplies	
Other	
<b>Total HOME EXPENSES</b>	<b>847.00</b>
<b>TRANSPORTATION</b>	
Bus/Taxi/Train Fare	
Other	
<b>Total TRANSPORTATION</b>	
<b>HEALTH</b>	
Health Insurance	
Doctor/Dentist	
Medicine/Drugs	
Life Insurance	
Other	
<b>Total HEALTH</b>	
<b>DAILY LIVING</b>	
Groceries/Personal Supplies	400.00
Clothing	19.00
Other	

<b>Total DAILY LIVING</b>	<b>419.00</b>
<b>SAVINGS</b>	
Emergency Fund	
Savings	
Retirement (RRSP)	
Education (RESP)	
Other	
<b>Total SAVINGS</b>	
<b>OBLIGATIONS</b>	
Loans	
Credit Card Debt	
Other	
<b>Total OBLIGATIONS</b>	
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>	
Bank Fees	
Postage	
Subscriptions	
Entertainment	
Other	
<b>Total MISCELLANEOUS</b>	

4. With this level of income, the Sarohans cannot afford much. They can barely pay for an apartment and food. There is no money left for transportation or savings. They may have to get food from a food bank and apply for a rent subsidy.

5. Mrs Sarohan is earning an additional \$100 per week, or approximately \$433 per month. The Sarohans should think about their goals. Perhaps they hope to purchase a vehicle, in which case they need to compare the costs involved with buying and maintaining a vehicle to the cost of public transportation. They also need to determine how this income (and any other income earned) will affect the amount of social assistance they receive.