

Action Réfugiés Montréal (ARM) is a strong voice for refugeed people in Montreal and beyond. As a not-for-profit, faith-inspired organization they seek justice for asylum-seekers and refugeed people. They promote partnerships among people in refugee and faith communities and society at large for mutual empowerment.

Through their programs they provide hope and assistance while raising awareness of refugee rights. ARM's Detention Program provides support to people detained for immigration reasons at the Laval Immigration Holding Centre. They are the only organization to visit the Laval IHC on a weekly basis to provide support to the men, women, and children who are detained there. Their private Sponsorship Program provides an avenue for family reunification: people in the Montreal region sponsor family members who are living in a refugee situation overseas. In addition, their Twinning Program creates social connection for women who have recently arrived in Montréal with women who are already living there. Through regular meetings and group activities, the "twins" create bonds of friendship and solidarity.

Besides the programs that ARM runs, they work for refugeed people in other ways. They work continually to raise awareness of refugee rights. Their staff speak at conferences, give guest lectures and visit congregations to address refugee issues. They are also consulted and interviewed on a regular basis by the media to educate the general public about the refugee situation.

ARM's strong voice is heard; it is the classic "punch above its weight" kind of organization. The United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) has recognized ARM's expertise in refugee protection and their understanding of Canada's overseas selection and inland determination processes. ARM staff members often meet with, or write to, politicians and other influential parties. ARM also regularly raises concerns directly with government ministries or agencies. ARM welcomes newcomers in your name.

TOGETHER with WMS groups, congregations, and mission-minded people WE CAN make a difference.