How to Help a Refugee Feel at home and better integrate into their new community?

You can volunteer. The following are different ways that you can volunteer to help refugees feel at home, integrate into their neighborhood, and support themselves. Don’t be surprised if you find your own life greatly enriched through your volunteer experience.

Set Up Their Home
Gather and store furniture and household items. Before they arrive in the United States, help set up their apartment. Arranging furniture, and unpacking items into their kitchen, bedrooms, and bathrooms will help them feel at home when arriving.

Be a Friend
Refugees leave a lot of things when they immigrate. They leave their jobs, homes, friends, and members of their family. They are adjusting to a new country, culture, and often a new language. They are in great need of friends. Commit to spending some time helping them to learn how to use public transportation and explore their community, locating important places such as the post office, library, grocery store, and parks. Above all be their friend and help them know that someone cares about them.

Teach English
Do you like to help others learn? Tutor children, practice conversational English or help teach English as a Second Language (ESL). Helping a refugee learn English helps that person and his/her family be better able to find a job, navigate tasks like shopping and talking to a doctor, and in general begin to feel more comfortable in their new community.