# HOUSING IN THE U.S. (PROVIDER VERSION)

The following worksheet can be used to guide participants' understanding of the Housing in the U.S. fact sheet, podcast, or **video**. You may add additional statements or discussion questions based on participant needs.

### **PART I: AGREE OR DISAGREE**

Ask participants to answer the following questions. You may first ask them to answer without the fact sheet, podcast, or video, and then provide them with the fact sheet, podcast, or video to check themselves. You may give them the statements to complete independently, or in groups, or read them out loud. You may provide additional information as necessary after each statement.

- 1. Resettlement Agencies will make sure you have housing during your first month in the U.S. and they will look for housing that is clean, affordable, and in a safe neighborhood. (Agree)
- 2. In the U.S., it is common for people to rent a house or an apartment. (Agree)
- 3. Housing in the U.S. is not expensive, and the Resettlement Agency will cover your housing for the duration of your time in the U.S. (Disagree)
- 4.As a tenant in a home or apartment in the U.S., you have rights and responsibilities that are outlined in an agreement called a lease. (Agree)
- 5. You cannot leave your home or apartment once you've signed a lease. (Disagree)
- 6. Landlords cannot refuse to rent to people because of their race, nationality, religion, sex, family situation, or physical or mental condition. (Agree)

## **PART II: DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

Depending on the group, ask participants the following discussion questions after they have reviewed the fact sheet, podcast, or video. They may generate responses in pairs or groups and report back, or you can have them respond directly to you. The answers provided are based on the fact sheet, podcast, or video, but you may add to the lists and/or adapt answer as needed to your local context.

1. What are some reasons your first home in the U.S. may not be your ideal choice?

**Follow-up question**, what can you do to secure your ideal home?

### **Answers:** • Limited income.

- Housing in the U.S. is often expensive, and finding a suitable place to live can be difficult. It is common for people to rent a house or apartment.
- Securing a steady income will allow you to choose a home that suites your income, needs, and preferences.
- 2. What are items you can expect the Resettlement Agency will provide for your home?

### **Answers:**

- The items will include furniture, linens, kitchen supplies, and personal care items.
- The agency is not required to provide you with new items. The items must be in good condition, but they do not have to be new.
- 3. What are some responsibilities of a tenant? What are some responsibilities of a landlord?

- **Answers:** Tenant: Rent the property for a certain amount of time, pay the rent and utilities on time, and maintain the property.
  - Landlord: Housing meets standards of safety and sanitation for rental property, ensure electrical, plumbing and heating systems are in good condition, and provide smoke detectors and make sure there aren't any rodents or insects.
- 4. In what ways can you be a good neighbor in the U.S.?

- **Answers:** Be considerate of people who live near your apartment or house.
  - Keep common areas in apartment buildings clean.
  - If you own a home, keep your lawn neat and only put out trash on trash collection days.
  - Keey noise levels at a minimum at night so that you do not disturb your neighbors.