



# The Road Ahead

## Session 1: Welcome to Our Community

### Session Planning Guide

#### About this Session

This session is built around the theme of **partnership**. This session covers the following topics from the [Cultural Orientation Objectives and Indicators](#): *The Role of the Resettlement Agency, Housing, Your New Community*, and *Cultural Adjustment*.

#### Guiding Principles:

- Establish a [positive learning environment](#). Build rapport with participants and create an environment where the voices and experiences of participants are valued.
- Use visuals and labels to support participants in accessing content.
- Utilize [Settle In](#) resources to provide essential content in the home languages of clients.

#### Options for Using Materials:

- *Minimal Editing*: Use the slide deck and activities as offered with minor revisions on designated slides to reflect local services and information.
- *Moderate Editing*: Personalize speaker notes and slide content to reflect local services. Substitute or add activities to support the needs of a specific group of clients. See related resources on page 2.
- *High Editing*: Incorporate these slides and activities in designing/revising your current CO curriculum. Select slides and activities to supplement or enhance your current CO curriculum.

#### Pre-Session Planning

1. Review the Session Overview on page 2.
2. Download a copy of the Session 1 slide deck to view and personalize.
  - Read the **Say, Notes, Modifications**, and **CO Topics** in the notes section of each slide.
  - Modify the slide deck as needed by adding, deleting, or revising slides and speaker notes.
3. Preview the [Resettlement Services](#) video and the *Housing* lesson on the [Settle In app](#).
4. Review Related Resources and Activities on page 2.
5. Print and prepare needed participant materials.
  - [Home Care Sorting Activity](#)
  - **Optional Resources**: Fact sheets on [Housing](#) and [The Resettlement Agency](#). Select the language at the top of the page. Then scroll down and click *Download this Page*. Additional materials that may support learning objectives in this session include real-world materials such as a smoke detector, a fire extinguisher, a lease, cleaning supplies, a 911 magnet, or a library card.

#### Post-Session Reflection

Reflecting is a practice that supports our learning and continuous improvement. After delivering the CO session, reflect using the following questions:

- What topics/activities went well? Why?
- What topics/activities were challenging? Why? What modifications could I make?
- What questions arose from participants that I need to follow up on? Follow-up as needed.
- What topics/activities should I revisit in future CO sessions?

## Session Overview

| Sections   | Content  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>Welcome</b></p> <p><b>Estimated Time:</b><br/>10-15 minutes</p> <p><b>Materials:</b> Slides 4-10</p>   | <p><b>Key Message:</b> Cultural Orientation is an opportunity to learn about topics relevant to resettling in this community.</p> <p><b>Activities:</b> 1) Introductions, 2) Overview of session topics</p>  |
| <p><b>Our Partnership</b></p> <p><b>Estimated Time:</b><br/>30-40 minutes</p> <p><b>Materials:</b> Slides 11-34</p>  | <p><b>Key Message:</b> The Resettlement Agency partners with newcomers to meet initial needs, access services, and adjust to living in this community.</p> <p><b>Activities:</b> 1) Essential content presented through a video from the Settle In website and facilitator comments, 2) Review game, 3) Scenarios for group dialogue</p>   |
| <p><b>A New Place to Live</b></p> <p><b>Estimated Time:</b><br/>30-40 minutes</p> <p><b>Materials:</b> Slides 36-61</p> <p><a href="#">Sorting Activity</a><br/>(prepare for participants)</p> | <p><b>Key Message:</b> Housing comes with rights, responsibilities, restrictions, and regulations. Newcomers will partner with the resettlement agency, a landlord, and neighbors to maintain a comfortable and safe place to live.</p> <p><b>Activities:</b> 1) Essential content presented through a lesson from the Settle In app and images/facilitator comments, 2) Sorting activity, 3) Scenarios for group dialogue</p> |
| <p><b>Your New Community</b></p> <p><b>Estimated Time:</b><br/>15-20 minutes</p> <p><b>Materials:</b> Slides 62-74</p>   | <p><b>Key Message:</b> Community and public services are available to support residents, and the RA can help residents become acquainted with the community.</p> <p><b>Activities:</b> 1) Essential content presented through images and facilitator comments, 2) Group dialogue</p>   |

Estimated Time includes time allotted for interpretation.

📄 Download a copy of the [Session 1 Slide Deck](#) to review and personalize.

## Related Resources/Activities

Consider utilizing the following resources to deepen, extend, or personalize learning. Activities can be used before, within, or following the CO session.

1. [CORE's Housing Activity Bank](#) (scroll down to view all activities.)
  - *What's in My House Scavenger Hunt:* Identify home safety features in the home
  - *Calling 911:* Learn when and how to call 911
2. [Working with the RA Scenarios:](#) Additional scenarios for discussion.
3. Consider inviting community guests with knowledge and experience in housing and the local community to participate in the session or follow-up sessions. Read [CORE's guidance](#) on working with community guests in CO.



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