



Request for Tender to conduct research on integration outcomes for family members of refugees

Duration: February 2019 to December 2019

Nasc, the Migrant and Refugee Rights Centre is inviting tenders from suitably qualified applicants to conduct research and produce a publishable report on **“Refugee family reunification – identifying gaps in integration outcomes and supports for refugee families”**.

Background:

Several recent research reports including ‘The right to family reunification for beneficiaries of international protection’ (IHREC, June 2018), ‘A Family Belongs Together’ (Hinds, March 2018), ‘Family Reunification of non-EU nationals in Ireland’ (Arnold & Quinn, June 2017), and ‘Resettlement of Refugees and Private Sponsorship in Ireland’ (Arnold & Quinn, December 2016) provide detailed examinations of family reunification law and the processes as well as the impact of separation on the refugee. To date no comprehensive research has yet been conducted on the integration needs and outcomes of reunited family members, and this project seeks to fill that gap.

Currently, refugees arriving through the refugee resettlement programme are offered an array of services and supports to support their integration into Irish society. However, families who arrive through refugee family reunification are offered none of these services and supports. This means that families arriving through family reunification may be at higher risk of experiencing difficulties accessing services such as social welfare and housing (Crosscare Refugee Service, ‘Reunified Families and Homelessness’, July 2018), and may face additional barriers to accessing language supports thereby impacting people’s ability to access education and employment, resulting in a greater risk of social exclusion. This research will identify the needs of families arriving under family reunification, explore how these needs are being met, highlight good practice and identify the gaps in the current provision of supports and services. It will explore the impact these gaps have on the families’ capacity to integrate effectively into Irish society.

Aim:

The aim of this project is to promote the greater integration and inclusion of refugees and their families into Irish society, by making a strong evidence-based argument for the need to provide additional supports and services to families arriving through family reunification. We hope that the research will also provide greater understanding amongst the host community of what helps beneficiaries of international protection and their families to integrate into communities, and a stronger understanding of and respect for human rights, equality and diversity in Irish society.

Key Actions and Outputs:

In addition to desk research on current integration policy for beneficiaries of international protection and their family members, the researcher will conduct interviews with families who have arrived through family reunification to identify key themes in their integration. The researcher will write a report to publishable standard which documents the research findings. The report will also make recommendations relating to

immigration and integration policy as to how to improve supports provided to families arriving through family reunification.

Nasc will establish a steering committee of 2 staff members and 3 external experts to support the researcher in developing a research plan and methodology; identifying areas of research and potential interviewees; and determining final recommendations and best practice based on the research findings. The researcher will be expected to communicate regularly with the Steering Committee on progress and work plan.

When completed, the report will be published and launched to be used as a tool for lobbying and advocacy for a best practice integration model for refugee families.

Requirements:

- Primary or Postgraduate degree in a relevant discipline;
- Demonstrated knowledge of the Irish protection system and refugee resettlement;
- Experience in utilisation of a range of qualitative and quantitative research methods, including interviews and desk-based research;
- Demonstrated experience in producing similar research to publication standard;
- Exceptional attention to detail and ability to adhere to strict reporting, budgetary and time-recording requirements.

Project Finance

This is a fixed price evaluation contract costing no more than €15,000 inclusive of VAT and all expenses. Tenders should clearly and individually cost each element of the work outlined in the proposal and the sum should include travel, subsistence, word and data processing, printing and all overhead expenses and VAT.

The project must be completed within a ten-month period. Payment will be phased and linked to progress.

Ownership:

Ownership of the data, material and report produced related to this study remains with Nasc, the Migrant and Refugee Rights Centre.

Selection Criteria:

Tendering organisations or individuals must submit a written proposal. Each tender should include

- A profile or CV of the individual making the proposal;
- Details and evidence of previous relevant work in the project area;
- Experience in using methodologies outlined in the project description;
- Costing and timeline with respect to each element of the proposed work;
- Contact details of two recent professional referees who can be contacted.

Lowest tender is not a guarantee of success. Each tender received will be assessed on the basis of Criteria/Score in the following (out of 100):

- Demonstrated knowledge and understanding of the brief: 40
- Track record in relevant work: 20
- Experience in using methodologies outlined in the project description: 20
- Availability to carry out the project within the stated timeframe: 10
- Price: 10

To note:

Additional information may be sought at the assessment phase:

- Before final decision, a number of the most competitive tenders may be invited for further discussions/interview on their proposals for the purpose of elaboration, clarification and/or aiding mutual understanding;
- Nasc shall not be liable for any costs and/or expenses incurred in respect of the preparation or the submission of any tender documents or associated material.

How to Apply:

Written proposals should be submitted by e-mail to jennifer@nascireland.org.

Closing Date: Friday 1st February at 5.30 pm.

This project is funded by the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission.



An Choimisiún na hÉireann um Chearta
an Duine agus Comhionannas
Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission