



December 17, 2015

Dear Health System Partners:

As you know, Saskatchewan is preparing to welcome refugees from Syria. Our government and the Ministry of Health are committed to ensuring that all refugees who settle in our province receive access to the healthcare services that they need. The Ministry is working closely with federal partners, other provincial Ministries, health regions, and a variety of community partners to ensure that we support refugees as they adjust to life in our province.

Government-assisted refugees coming to Saskatchewan will initially settle in Moose Jaw, Saskatoon, Prince Albert or Regina. Privately-sponsored refugees may settle in these centres or other areas of the province. Health regions are closely involved in planning and preparations. The Ministry of Health is coordinating information and will share these resources with health system partners as they become available.

A variety of national and local resources are available online for those involved in refugee resettlement. To supplement these resources, the Ministry has gathered some information that may be of particular interest to health providers in Saskatchewan. We expect to provide updates as information and processes become more clear; relevant documents and links will be posted in due course at [www.saskatchewan.ca](http://www.saskatchewan.ca).

In the meantime, health care providers are encouraged to review this information and to register online for the Provider Portal under the Interim Federal Health Program to ensure they are prepared to provide support to refugees as needed. The following is a link to IFHP Blue Cross Medavie Provider Portal: <https://provider.medavie.bluecross.ca/>. Please note that the federal program covers supplementary services for a period of one year for refugees coming to Saskatchewan. Provincial coverage for basic services will be provided to all refugees through a Saskatchewan health card. If you have questions after reviewing this package of materials, please refer to question 21 in the Q&A document for specific contact information.

Thank you for your dedication to providing timely, high-quality services to all residents of the province, and for your interest in contributing to refugee resettlement efforts. You will be a key part of helping our new residents successfully transition to life in Saskatchewan.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tracey L. Smith".

Tracey L. Smith  
Assistant Deputy Minister