Friends of the Family offers recently arrived newcomer families the opportunity to make new friends, learn about the community and life in Ottawa and attend fun family-oriented social and recreational events.

Your family will be matched with a local family or group of friends who will welcome you, help you navigate the city and enjoy social and recreational time together.

For Families Who:
- Have arrived in Ottawa in the last 6-12 months.
- Would like to meet new friends.
- Would like to improve English skills.
- Would like to learn more about Canadian culture and traditions.

How it Works
You and your family will meet with your Group of Friends once a week. You will decide together which of the following activities to do:
- Engage in conversation to learn about each other and practice English
- Explore your community (library, community centre, local parks etc)
- Share friendship (sharing a meal together, recreational, social and cultural activities)
- Understand Canada’s traditions and customs (holiday celebrations, multicultural events)

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Who is Your Group of Friends?
The Volunteer Group of Friends are Canadians who know the local community well. They enjoy making friends and learning about new cultures. Many are newcomers as well and understand the experience of creating a new life in Canada.