



Host a PRERNA4REFUGEES Holiday Party Ideas and Resources

Join PRERNA and support new refugee families by hosting a holiday party at your home or place of business. Here are some resources and ideas to assist you with planning and inviting guests to your event. Let us know how we can help to make your party a success. Once you are ready to start your party, fill out the planning form at http://bit.ly/2ipSLo6 and submit it to PRERNA. (Refer to page 14 for an example.)

1. PRERNA4REFUGEES Holiday Party Themes

a. Purpose: To help you choose an event theme that interests you and your guests

2. PRERNA4REFUGEES Party Invite Template

- a. Purpose: For party hosts to easily customize and send an attractive invite to their guests
- b. Audience: Party hosts can fill in their event date, time, location, RSVP link
- c. Suggested Timing: No later than four (4) weeks prior to the event

3. PRERNA4REFUGEES Party Invite Letter Template

- a. Purpose: Provide a customizable letter for party hosts to invite special guests, including high-level donors and/or strategic partners
- b. Audience: Party hosts can fill in their event date, time, location, RSVP link
- c. Suggested Timing: No later than four (4) weeks prior to the event
- d. Recommend follow up phone calls after letters are sent out

4. Suggested Party Agenda

- a. Purpose: An internal document to help party hosts plan their event
- b. Audience: Party hosts can adjust as needed, depending on goals and timing

5. Holiday Party Planning Tips

a. Purpose: A guide with tips for planning, budgeting, food selection and setting a friendly environment at your party to engage guests in fun and conversation

6. Photography/Videography Release Form

- a. Purpose: A photographer and/or videographer may be available to document your event; Images may be used by PRERNA for publicity purposes
- b. Audience: Guests must sign release forms to give PRERNA approval to use their names and any photos or videos taken of their likeness during the event

OTHER RESOURCES

- 7. Confirmation Email to Guest Template: Send within 24 hours after guest response
- 8. Sample RSVP Tracking Document
- 9. Event Sign-In Form: For guests to sign in when arriving at your holiday party
- **10.Name Tag Template:** To identify your guests and encourage conversations at your event; Distribute when guests sign in
- **11.PRERNA Collateral Materials** A limited supply of materials are available for your event upon request. See PDFs at: www.prerna4refugees.org/media-resources.
- 12. Holiday Party Getting Started and Planning Form

1. PRERNA4REFUGEES Holiday Party Themes - Spring

Here are some national, international and just fun themes to consider for your holiday party from February through May 2018. Depending on the theme you choose, decorations, food and drinks as well as any special activities can be tailored to your personal preferences.

February 2018

Feb. 1 (Th) - National Freedom Day

Feb. 14 (W) - Valentine's Day

Feb. 16 (F) - Chinese New Year

Feb. 19 (M) - President's Day



Mar. 2 (F) - Holi Festival

Mar. 8 (Th) - Women's Day

Mar. 17 (Sat) - St. Patrick's Day

Mar. 21 (W) - Nowruz

April 2018

Apr. 1 (Sun) - Easter Sunday

Apr. 7 (Sat) - World Health Day

Apr. 12 (Th) - Grilled Cheese Day

Apr. 22 (Sun) - Earth Day

Apr. 23 (M) - English Language Day

May 2018

May 5 (Sat) - Cinco De Mayo

May 13 (Sun) - Mother's Day

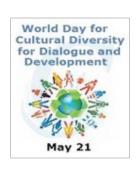
May 15 (T) - Intl Day of Families

May 16 (W) - Ramadan Begins

May 21 (M) - World Cultural Diversity Day

May 28 (M) - Memorial Day

























1. PRERNA4REFUGEES Holiday Party Themes - Fall/Winter

Here are some national, international and just fun themes to consider for your holiday party from through October 2Jan. 2018. Depending on the theme you choose, decorations, food and drinks as well as any special activities can be tailored to your event to entertain your guests.

October 2017

Oct. 18 (W) - Diwali Festival of Lights Oct. 24 (Tu) - United Nations Day Oct. 28 (Sat) - Make a Difference Day

Oct. 31 (Tu) - Halloween





November 2017

Nov. 13 (M) - World Kindness Day

Nov. 16 (Th) - International Day for Tolerance

Nov. 20 (M) - Universal Children's Day

Nov. 23 (Th) - Thanksgiving Nov. 28 (Tu) - Giving Tuesday



Dec. 1 (F) - Mawlid

Dec. 4 (Tu) - National Cookie Day

Dec. 8 (F) - Bodhi Day

Dec. 10 (Sun) - Human Rights Day

Dec. 13 (W) - Hanukkah

Dec. 18 (M) - International Migrants Day

Dec. 19 (Tu) - Ugly Sweater Day

Dec. 20 (W) - Human Solidarity Day Dec. 21 (Th) - Winter Solstice

Dec. 23 (Sat) - Festivus Day
Dec. 25 (M) - Christmas
Dec. 26 (Tu) - Kwanzaa

January 2018

Jan. 1-31 - Happy New Year

Jan. 4 (Th) - National Spaghetti Day Jan. 5 (M) - Martin Luther King's Day

Jan. 15 (M) - National Hat Day Jan. 23 (Tu) - National Pie Day













2. PRERNA4REFUGEES Party Invite Template



YOU'RE INVITED

PRERNA4REFUGEES HOLIDAY PARTY

CO-HOSTED BY PRERNA

WHEN: INSERT DATE
TIME: INSERT TIME
WHERE: INSERT LOCATION
RSVP: INSERT LINK



QUESTIONS?

CONTACT: EVENTS@PRERNA4REFUGEES.ORG

WWW,PRERNA4REFUGEES.ORG



3. PRERNA4REFUGEES Party Invite Letter Template

If you prefer to send or email a letter to your guest(s), use this letter template by customizing the text that is shown in parentheses (xxx). This may be used for special guests, including strategic partners and high-level donors.

(Date)

Dear (Name),

I am writing to invite you to a PRERNA4REFUGEES (add the type of party you plan to host) Party which will be held on (date) at (time) at (location/address/city/state). This event is part of a winter campaign that I am co-hosting with PRERNA to support refugee resettlement in the Bay Area. PRERNA is a non-profit organization that helps refugees across all ethnicities and faiths become independent with continuum care and services in our local community. Learn more about PRERNA and understand how every dollar can make a difference at www.prerna4refugees.org.

As our world continues to struggle with multiple conflicts which have tragically produced more refugees than ever before, our community has become a new home for many refugee families. Since 2015, PRERNA has helped refugees from Afghanistan, Zambia and Ukraine. Its all-volunteer team works with resettlement agencies, community groups as well as many partners to provide goods and services so families can start rebuilding their lives. In addition to finding affordable housing, PRERNA guides refugees to appropriate education and employment opportunities. Cultural assimilation activities teach newcomers about hygiene and health, social customs, and the wealth of resources available in the Bay Area.

It would be our great pleasure if you would accept our invitation to be our special guest. We will have a (add a brief description of your program agenda: e.g. potluck which will include cultural foods you may be planning, i.e. Middle Eastern, Indian as well as American dishes) and a special guest speaker from PRERNA. We anticipate our event to conclude shortly after (name time your program will conclude).

We would be most honored if you are able to accept our invitation. Please respond by no later than (*insert desired response date*). Together, we can strengthen unity in our community and offer healing to refugees seeking to find hope and safety. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

(Your Name) (Your contact email) (Your phone) Customize this agenda as you wish to match the needs of your holiday party. Anticipate two to three (2-3) hours for the suggested agenda below. If a photographer and/or a videographer will be taking images, be sure that release forms are signed during registration when guests arrive. These forms are available from PRERNA.

- 1. Registration, Sign-In and Networking (15-30 min.)
 - a. Ask guests to sign in their names and emails
 - b. If photos or videos will be taken at your event, be sure to use release forms
 - c. Distribute name tags
 - d. Offer drinks to guests, if available
 - e. Be sure to give all signed forms to PRERNA
- 2. Host: Welcome and Introductions (15-30 min.)
 - a. Welcome all guests and especially any VIP guests, speakers and/or refugees who are attending
 - b. Introduce the photographer and/or videographer, if available
 - c. Set the expectation that this is a fundraiser to support refugees
 - d. Food, drinks and/or snacks may be offered during this time, if available, prior to the beginning of the guest speaker's presentation
- 3. PRERNA Guest Speaker: Meena Sankaran, Founder and Executive Director, PRERNA (45-60 min.)
 - a. Overview of PRERNA (history, programs, vision, needs)
 - b. Share refugee stories/challenges/successes/needs
 - c. Reveal PRERNA resources available on website, social media, newsletter
 - d. Answer questions
- 4. Break (10-15 min.)
 - a. Dessert and coffee/tea may be offered at this time, if available
- 2. PRERNA Co-Host: Review of Refugee Needs and How to Get Involved (30 min.)
 - a. Volunteer
 - b. Donate
 - c. Host a PRERNA4REFUGEES Holiday Party
 - d. Make an in-kind donation
 - e. Stay connected and share (email list, social media)
- 6. Closing and Thanks (10-15 min.)
 - a. Distribute volunteer flyers and donate forms and/or envelopes
 - b. PRERNA to pick up any donate checks and/or envelopes
 - c. Provide all sign-up sheets, release forms and any extra collateral to PRERNA

5. Holiday Party Planning Tips

- 1. Plan at least 4 weeks in advance of your event. This will give you enough time to invite your guests, informing them to save the date and letting you know if they plan to attend. We recommend an invitation list of 25-30 guests.
- 2. Consider funding your holiday party by planning a potluck and encouraging participants to bring a variety of dishes and drinks. Anticipate a budget of \$5-10 per person if you plan to purchase cultural foods. An afternoon tea or coffee gathering with snacks and/or desserts will require a lower budget than a full dinner buffet. If you are hosting the event at your home or a friend's residence, the cost of your venue will be minimal.
- 3. Avoid food that may not be permitted by some of your guests due to dietary or faith-based restrictions. Given that many people are more health-conscious and prefer lighter meals, be sure to offer several vegetarian and/or vegan options. Also, be careful to avoid pork or any pork-based ingredients such as gelatin as well as items containing alcohol for those unable to consume those items.
- 4. Include foods that come from the different traditions of refugees who may be attending. A potluck inviting refugee guests to bring dishes from their homeland is ideal for introducing international foods. If you are planning to purchase food, consider going to a local refugee-led business or talk to ethnic community groups to find refugee caterers for the event.
- 5. **Be sensitive about taking photos.** Take pictures only after asking for permission and getting a release form signed. Not everyone is comfortable having their photos taken. If you wish, PRERNA may be able to provide you with a photographer and/or videographer. We will designate no more than two volunteers and can share those images with you after the event. If refugees are attending, check with them about their comfort with any anticipated media presence.
- 6. Focus conversations among refugee and non-refugee guests on common interests. Create an enjoyable event by welcoming all participants and talking about food, sports, music, films, television shows or even celebrities. These conversations can create a shared space where guests feel connected.
- 7. Plan opportunities for cultural learning and sharing between refugee and non-refugee guests. Give time for refugees to speak and share in ways they feel comfortable. Depending on the theme that you have chosen for your holiday party, find ways to incorporate examples of the special day. For example, recipes could be shared for a Thanksgiving holiday party.
- 8. Make your commitment to welcoming refugees visible throughout your event space. Have messages of "Welcome" in various languages and/or "Refugees Welcome" on tables and/or walls, if possible. Sign-in guests and pass out name tags when they arrive.

6. Photography/Videography Release Form



General Release Form

I give PRERNA and its representatives acting for and with PRERNA (aka PRERNA2Inspire and PRERNA4Refugees) permission to interview, photograph, video and/or audio record me to use and to edit, without compensation to me, the items listed below in any medium, including print and electronic (web-based) material for educational, promotional and marketing purposes:

- 1. Photographs or video footage of me;
- 2. Interviews of me and quotes from me (written or recorded);
- 3. My full name in connection with the photographs, video footage, interviews, or quotes; and
- 4. My position or title in connection with the photograph(s), video footage, interviews or quotes.

I have crossed out and initialed any points above to which I do not agree.

I will make no monetary or other claim in connection with the authorized use of my name or photos, video, interviews and quotes. I release PRERNA and their volunteers, employees and/or partners in education, promotion, publicity and marketing interviews from any claims, demands and liabilities in connection with the use. I authorize and agree to adhere to this general release form.

Date (Month, Day, Year)		_
Printed name	Email Address	
Signature (if over age 18)		
IF SUBJECT IS UNDER AGE 18:		
Printed name of a parent or responsible adult	Email Address	
Signature of a parent or responsible adult		

Updated 8.1.17

7. Confirmation Email to Guest Template

(Date)

Dear (Name),

Thank you for indicating interest to attend the PRERNA4REFUGEES Holiday Party on *(insert date)*.

As a reminder, the party will begin at (insert time) at (insert location and address/city/state). We will be co-hosting the event with PRERNA, a non-profit organization that provides essential services to refugees resettling in the Bay Area. In addition to learning more about refugees in our community, we hope you will consider giving to PRERNA to expand its services in 2018. PRERNA plans to double the number of refugee families they support next year.

For those who would like some ideas on how you can best help refugees, gift cards are ideal and you are welcome to bring these to the party. Donations can also be made by check to PRERNA2Inspire, Inc. Please enter "PRERNA Holiday Party" in the "for" line at the bottom of your check and bring it to the Holiday Party.

You may also mail your check to PRERNA's business address at: 1400 Coleman Avenue, Suite A21, Santa Clara, CA 95050. If you prefer to donate online, please visit PRERNA's website at https://donorbox.org/prerna4refugees. You will receive a receipt for your generosity from PRERNA. As PRERNA is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization (EIN 47-4883492), your donation may be tax deductible.

As we still have a few spaces available at the PRERNA4REFUGEES Holiday Party, please feel free to invite and encourage your friends and/or family to join you. Ask them to register and RSVP if they plan to attend.

We look forward to seeing you soon. Please let me know if you have any additional questions I can answer.

Sincerely,

(Your Name) (Your contact email) (Your phone)

8. Sample RSVP Tracking Form

Print copies of this form and fill in as needed to track your guests, who is attending and the number of guests that are attending.

PRERNA PSVP Tracker for F	PRERNA4Refugees Holiday Part	av.	XX	PRERN Rebuilding Refu	JA gee Lives
DATE:	EVENT NAME:	.y			
CITY:	STREET ADDRESS:		Check as re	esponses a	re returned.
Please print or write l	egibly.		Gue	sts Atten	ding?
Guest Name	Email	Phone Number	NO	YES	Number Attending

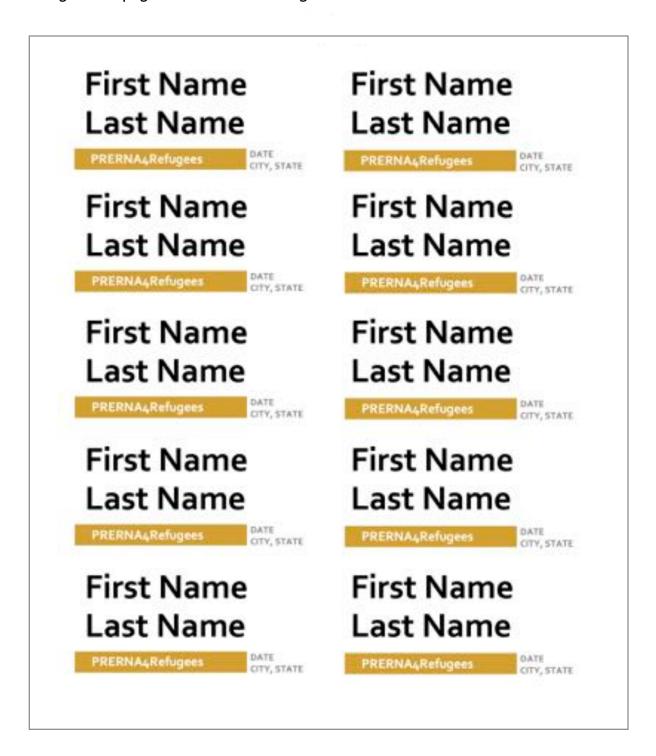
9. Event Sign-In Form

Print copies of this PDF form (5 pages) and bring them to your event for your guests to register when they arrive. Ask if they are interested in volunteering at PRERNA, signing up for the email list and/or hosting an event in the future. Be sure to email a PDF of the final sign-sheets to PRERNA.

PRERNA Sign-up for opp DATE:	ortunities to support PRERNA EVENT NAME:			PRERN.	e Clims
Please write legible	y.		0	Opportunites	
Name	Email	Phone Number	Volunteer	Sign Up for Email List	Event/ Sponsor/ Donor
-					
	1				
		-			
				- 11	

10. Name Tag Template

The name tags template is available as a MS Word document so that you can easily customize name tags for your guests. Open the file and enter: FIRST NAME, LAST NAME, DATE, CITY, STATE. After filling in the information, print each page on a sheet of paper and cut out your name tags. Each page creates 10 name tags.



11. PRERNA Collateral Materials

Here are some printed materials that may be requested to provide information to your guests about PRERNA. We recommend you order about 20 copies for each item.

A. PRERNA Overview



B. Founder's Story



C1. Volunteer Opportunities



C2. Volunteer Opportunities



12. Holiday Party Getting Started and Planning Form



HOST A HOLIDAY PARTY Getting Started and Planning Form

Please complete this form by entering the information requested and selecting the options available. When you have answered all the questions in Sections 1 and 2, submit the form by no later than four (4) weeks before your event date to to PRERNA at events@prerna4refugees.org. Sections 3 and 4 of this form will help you with budgeting and planning. We will respond to you within 48 hours.

Host Name:		Today's Date		_
Email:		Phone:		
Party Theme:				
Type of Party:	Dinner / Reception /	Lunch / Tea/Coffee with Desserts / Po	otluck	
Location:	•	Other Date: Time:		
Party Address:				
Estimated Guests:	(recommend	d 20-25 guests)		
2. REQUESTS				
-	n Support: Yes / N	lo b. PRERNA Speaker: Yes / No		
c. Photographer:	* *	d. Videographer: Yes / No		
e. Collateral:	Yes / No	f. Other:		
3. BUDGET TOTAL: \$ Food Drinl 4. CHECKLIST		Decorations Location C	Other	
Food Drini 4. CHECKLIST a. Complete plan	ks Tableware	nd 2) with PRERNA? Yes, on	(date)	(data)
Food Drini 4. CHECKLIST a. Complete plan b. Discuss party p	ks Tableware nning form (Sections 1 an olans with PRERNA and so	nd 2) with PRERNA? Yes, on chedule on PRERNA calendar? Yes, on	(date)	_ (date)
Food Drini 4. CHECKLIST a. Complete plan b. Discuss party p c. Send out invita	ks Tableware nning form (Sections 1 and plans with PRERNA and so ations with a due date fo	nd 2) with PRERNA? Yes, on chedule on PRERNA calendar? Yes, on or RSVPs to you? Yes, on	(date)	, ,
Food Drini 4. CHECKLIST a. Complete plan b. Discuss party p c. Send out invita d. Check RSVPs a	ks Tableware nning form (Sections 1 an olans with PRERNA and so ations with a due date fo and send a reminder to th	nd 2) with PRERNA? Yes, on chedule on PRERNA calendar? Yes, on or RSVPs to you? Yes, on hose who have not responded? Yes, on _	(date) (date)	, ,
Food Drind 4. CHECKLIST a. Complete plan b. Discuss party p c. Send out invita d. Check RSVPs a e. Send confirma	ks Tableware nning form (Sections 1 and plans with PRERNA and so ations with a due date fo and send a reminder to the tion emails to guests the	nd 2) with PRERNA? Yes, on chedule on PRERNA calendar? Yes, on or RSVPs to you? Yes, on	(date) (date) (date)	, ,
Food Drink 4. CHECKLIST a. Complete plan b. Discuss party p c. Send out invita d. Check RSVPs a e. Send confirma f. If hosting a pot	nning form (Sections 1 and plans with PRERNA and so ations with a due date found send a reminder to the tion emails to guests the bluck, check to see if guests.	nd 2) with PRERNA? Yes, on chedule on PRERNA calendar? Yes, on or RSVPs to you? Yes, on hose who have not responded? Yes, on _ o are attending? Yes, on	(date) (date) (date) (date)	, ,
Food Drini 4. CHECKLIST a. Complete plan b. Discuss party p c. Send out invita d. Check RSVPs a e. Send confirma f. If hosting a pot g. Prepare and co	nning form (Sections 1 and plans with PRERNA and so ations with a due date found send a reminder to the tion emails to guests the tluck, check to see if guestifirm your program age	ond 2) with PRERNA? Yes, on	(date) (date) (date) (date) (date)	, ,
Food Drini 4. CHECKLIST a. Complete plan b. Discuss party p c. Send out invite d. Check RSVPs a e. Send confirma f. If hosting a pot g. Prepare and co h. Request collat	nning form (Sections 1 and plans with PRERNA and so ations with a due date found send a reminder to the tion emails to guests the tluck, check to see if guest on firm your program age eral from PRERNA to brit	nd 2) with PRERNA? Yes, on chedule on PRERNA calendar? Yes, on or RSVPs to you? Yes, on hose who have not responded? Yes, on o are attending? Yes, on ests have signed up? Yes, on enda with PRERNA? Yes, on	(date) (date) (date) (date) (date)	, ,
Food Drink 4. CHECKLIST a. Complete plane b. Discuss party pc. Send out invited d. Check RSVPs action e. Send confirmate. If hosting a potential potential potential properties and confirmate. Request collate it. If using, print confirmate.	nning form (Sections 1 and plans with PRERNA and so ations with a due date found send a reminder to the tion emails to guests the tluck, check to see if guest onfirm your program age eral from PRERNA to bring out name tags for guests.	nd 2) with PRERNA? Yes, on chedule on PRERNA calendar? Yes, on or RSVPs to you? Yes, on hose who have not responded? Yes, on o are attending? Yes, on ests have signed up? Yes, on enda with PRERNA? Yes, on ng to your event? Yes, on	(date) (date) (date) (date) (date) (date) (date)	, ,
Food Drini 4. CHECKLIST a. Complete plan b. Discuss party p c. Send out invita d. Check RSVPs a e. Send confirma f. If hosting a pot g. Prepare and co h. Request collat i. If using, print o j. Order food, dri k. Decorate and s	aning form (Sections 1 and plans with PRERNA and seations with a due date found send a reminder to the tion emails to guests the thick, check to see if guest on firm your program age eral from PRERNA to bring out name tags for guests inks and other supplies foset up your event? Yes, o	and 2) with PRERNA? Yes, on	(date) (date) (date) (date) (date) (date) (date)	_ (date)