

## **Help Us Resettle an Afghan Family of Seven**

This delightful family – a mother, father, three adult sons, a 14-year-old daughter and an 8-year-old son – arrived May 19 in Northeast Philadelphia to stay with relatives. But that was just the beginning of their journey in the United States.

Because one of the adults worked with U.S. forces prior to the Taliban's return, all members of the family hold special immigrant visas and are therefore legal permanent residents entitled to green cards and Social Security numbers.

Currently living in temporary housing in Manayunk, these newcomers need long-term housing – preferably in the Northeast, where they can be with those who know and love them and amid the neighborhood's thriving community of Afghans.

St. Martin's Refugee Resettlement Ministry, together with other partners, is working with the family to help them secure health and social benefits, ESL tutoring, health care, work training and other necessities. Most importantly, we are leading a project to help them find a suitable house or apartment, and to assist them with living expenses to ease them into American society.

To that end, we are:

- Raising funds to help support them over the next six to 12 months, working side by side with the family members as they move toward self-sufficiency.
- Seeking donations of new or gently used home furnishings, such as furniture, towels and linens, kitchenware and cleaning supplies.
- Seeking volunteers to join us in assisting the family with everyday tasks, from shopping trips to rides to doctor's appointments, and more.

Financially, we are setting an ambitious goal of \$22,000. That might sound like a lot, but bear in mind that not all that long ago, this parish raised \$23,000 to help another Afghan family purchase a used minivan. And in very short order, at that. We know that with your help, we can achieve that goal.

### **You can contribute by:**

- scanning the QR code to access our secure online giving page. Please select "Refugee Fund" from the drop down menu and write "Afghan Sponsorship Project" in the memo line.
- sending a check to the Church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields with "Afghan Sponsorship Project" in the memo line. Our mailing address is 8000 St. Martin's Lane, Philadelphia, PA 19118



To contribute home furnishings – everything this family needs to turn a house into a home – please contact Jeff Meade at 215-806-8028 or email [irishphilly@gmail.com](mailto:irishphilly@gmail.com). You can use the same contact information to join our project as volunteers.

No matter how you help support this family, also know that we will, of course, continually support them with our prayers – as a parish and as individuals.

Thank you.

Jeff Meade

Co-chair

Refugee Resettlement Ministry