

Refugee Resettlement Ministry Updates on Welcoming the Afghan Family

Thank you so much, St. Martin's, for your initial generous support for this Afghan family of seven. The need is great, and the goal is high: \$22,000. The QR code included in this notice will take you to the parish giving page where you can choose the Refugee Fund from the dropdown. If you would rather, you can send a check to the Church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields with "Afghan Sponsorship Project" in the memo line. Mailing address is 8000 St. Martin's Lane, Philadelphia, PA 19118.

These funds will help subsidize rent for the family's housing, groceries, and day-to-day necessities. As a welcoming team we are formally committed to support the family for six months. But since the goal is to help them become self-sufficient, our commitment and financial support will likely be needed beyond that time. They will need our help securing health and social benefits, health care, ESL tutoring, work training, school registration for the children, and other necessities.

The search for suitable housing continues. Locating them in the Northeast would be most comfortable for them since relatives and other Afghans live in that area. That is our hope. At the moment, a relative is serving as interpreter.

Beyond monetary donations, we urgently need volunteers for both large and small commitments:

- Volunteers (or perhaps one) interested in fundraising who would join our core team
- Volunteers willing to drive family members to appointments and grocery shopping
- Volunteers able to deliver donations of goods and furniture to the family's new accommodation when they move.

Concerning donations of furniture and other goods: We are presently working with the family to develop a detailed list of items needed, but in the meantime, we are looking for these items:

- three twin bed frames,
- a bunk bed (or two twin beds) for the younger members of the family,
- dressers for three bedrooms,
- a dining room table and chairs,
- 2 couches
- and a coffee table

Some things will need to be purchased new, such as mattresses. Kitchen items (dishes, flatware, and cookware) must be halal (designated as permissible under Islamic law, which would mean new and uncontaminated by nonhalal foods). Monetary donations will help with these purchases.

Anyone able to volunteer time for any of the tasks, or furniture, please contact Jeff Meade at 215-806-8028 or email irishphilly@gmail.com.

As you can imagine, this is an overwhelming time for the family, but gradually the core team is getting to know them. They are amazed that the people helping them are volunteers and are enormously grateful.



Scan to donate. Thank you!