

AFGHAN REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT TEAM

APRIL, 2024, REPORT TO THE CONGREGATION

PROGRESS ALONG THE LONG AND WINDING ROAD

The men received texts from U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) notifying them that their applications have been received, their fingerprints are on file, fees have been waived, and additional paperwork must be submitted.

One man passed his Behind-the-Wheel DMV road test on March 22nd! This changes a lot for the Afghans, and for the Team. They will now be able to transport themselves to appointments, work, ELL classes, the bank, etc. This will provide much more independence and brings them that much closer to assimilation. The second man will have his Behind-the-Wheel DMV road test in April. Team members (and, spouses) have spent hours helping the men practice driving to ready them for their road tests.

The continuing support from the members of SMLC has been crucial in providing the services needed for the men. From English books to learn the language, to bus tokens to teach the men how to get around Kenosha, to driving school for Behind-the-Wheel lessons, to auto insurance to actually get the men on the road, SMLC members have shared their resources to help the Afghans. This commitment from members of our congregation has helped defray costs that would have been challenging for the men to cover on their own. The Holy Spirit continues to work in, with, and through SMLC to provide clothing, food, shelter, and safety to those in our community, our nation, and our world.

SMLC TEAM

Many thanks to Team members (and, spouses) for the extra efforts to get the men where they have needed to be over the past 19 months. This has been an even bigger challenge when Team members have been out of town. Team members have demonstrated dedication and commitment to this endeavor--and to the men--in their journey toward assimilation.

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PRAYER

Please pray for the Afghan men, our resettlement Team, and our congregation, as well as, asylum-seekers, immigrants, refugees, and unaccompanied children in our country and around the World.

- + Pray for those who remain in Afghanistan and fear what the future holds. Pray for peace and safety for all people.
- + Pray that the international community will welcome more refugees and asylum seekers fleeing danger, persecution, and violence.
- + Pray for the women and girls of Afghanistan. Pray for their safety and comfort, and pray for their futures.
- + Pray for those who are hungry and those living in makeshift camps. Pray they will have access to food to sustain them, adequate shelter and sufficient healthcare.
- + Pray for the many who have served in strengthening the Afghan community, many of whom have been waiting for years for promised resettlement options. Pray for their safety and also for their families' safety, as families are in danger of being targeted.
- + Pray for Christians in the country who may face rising persecution. Pray for their safety and community as followers of Christ.
- + Pray for those who are causing pain and suffering that they would know the transformative love of God.

Source: Nazarene Compassionate Ministries

