

## **REFUGEE UPDATE: October 2023**

### **Murad Family**

Over the summer lots of exciting things have happened to the Murad family. The mother (Halima), son (Hafiz, his wife (Sangita), their infant son (Ebraheem), Hafiz's brother Karim and sister Sina, all reside in the townhouse on Watson.

Halima's son, Zaman, along with his wife Habiba, daughter Benafsha, and young son Mustafa, have moved into their own home in the Davidson Bexley Apartments. Zaman has also purchased a vehicle for their families' use. His family is very close to moving from parole to asylum status, which is great news.

You may remember that Zaman's 18-year-old son, Imram, had been residing alone in Istanbul awaiting emigration. Zaman, was able to facilitate Imram's emigration to Frankfurt, Germany, where he is in a much safer situation. Zaman continues to explore avenues of emigration for Imram to the U.S.

Finally, Halima's other adult children, Ramazan and Ruhya, have been allowed to emigrate to the U.S. from the refugee camp in Abu Dabhi, and have been in Charlotte since July. With this move, only one married daughter remains in Kabul by choice.

Financially, the Murad's can maintain both households as all adult members, except for Halima, are either working or awaiting their papers which will allow them to be employed. DCPC has also provided them with some transitional financial assistance during the first 6 months of their Watson townhouse lease. This assistance allows the family to bridge a portion of the lease payment prior to the newly arrived family members being employed.

**Going forward, the Refugee Support Team will assist the family with language skill development. This will be both in the form of 1-1 training, and social engagements. If you wish to participate in this effort, please reach out to Harriet Regen at [haregen@gmail.com](mailto:haregen@gmail.com). No expertise or materials are required. This is a great way to also connect with the family and become enriched by the experience.**

**Plans are also being made for a November 19<sup>th</sup> event from 12 – 2, to allow the congregation to meet with the Murad family. More information regarding the lunch will be forthcoming.**

### **Gharzai Family**

On the last update, we reported that the Gharzai's were residing in Canada, with the hope of more easily enabling the emigration of their ill father from France. This has not worked out as well as they had planned, and they are currently in the process of reassessing their situation. Haseeb (son) has returned to Davidson, and he is working full-time as an Asst. Manager at CVS in Davidson and continuing his education at CPCC. In addition, Hila (Shama's daughter) now has U.S. citizenship, which may facilitate the emigration of her father to the U.S. Members of the DCPC Refugee Support Team are staying in contact with the family and are mentoring Haseeb.