

We have some good news!

The Danville Church of Later-day Saints has found temporary housing for the family in Danville/Alamo while we work with Catholic Charities to find long term housing in Antioch. The Church of Later-day Saints is also reaching out to see if they have church members in Antioch.

Additionally Heather Hammer of Lynnewood has a member of her church who is a Veteran and is checking to see if he can locate housing for family through Veteran housing. We have found that the father of the new family worked with the US military in some capacity (checking to see what that is) and is coming here under a Special Immigrant Visa (SIV).

The Church of Later-day Saints has secured car seats for the kids and Castro Valley United Methodist has secured booster seats for the kids.

The 1st Ward Relief organization is putting together welcome packets for the family (toiletries, toys for the children, snacks) to tie the family over for the first several days while we get all situated.

We will work with Church of Later -day Saints to stock temporary home with food.

Arrival Date

The family arrives January 24th. We are still awaiting an arrival time so we can put together a welcome group.

Money

Realistically it takes about \$20k to support a newly arrived family, in order to support expensive rent costs while family looks for work. We currently have around \$10k available for new family

- • SRVUMC currently has raised \$5400.00 which has not been used and can be used for this family
- • Lynnewood paid the bulk of costs for Abeer and boys and Asbury paid a smaller portion of supporting Abeer
- • Lynnewood has raised another \$2400 and is doing fund raisers right now to collect more money
- • Asbury currently has raised \$3k and is doing fund raisers right now to collect more money

I believe SRVUMC should raise additional monies through offerings or some other means to help support and sustain new family

About the family

As you know, we have a family of 7 from Afghanistan with 5 children ranging in ages from 17 months up to 8 years, all boys. Their primary language is Pashto, however the father speaks English. Being Pashto speaking the family is most likely from Southern Afghanistan and could be more conservative. Dad has a BA in Management and served in some type of capacity for the US government. He and his family are coming here under a Special Immigrant Visa (SIV).

Their US tie is a friend who lives in Antioch would like for them to be close to him and rents are more affordable there, but locating them there may necessitate providing transportation to and from appointments for a while. The US tie does not have the capacity to help them financially due to supporting his large family of 4 or 5 children.