**Khalid Family (i.e. Refugee Family) Update**

**January 1, 2023**



The Facts:

* The **Khalid Family** of four arrived in Calgary on October 28, 2022. **The Parish committed to sponsorship of the Family at a total projected maximum cost of $36,000 for the family’s first year in Calgary**.
* **Khalid** (the father) has been accepted into a “Warehouse Operator Training Program” put on by the Women in Need Society (“WINS”) at their warehouse in Calgary commencing in January, 2023 and ending at the end of February, 2023, following which he will be employed on a temporary basis for three months at minimum wage. Part of the training is learning to operate a forklift, which should open up employment opportunities for **Khalid** after his training and three months of temporary employment are over, roughly at the end of May, 2023. He will need to purchase steel boots, safety vests, etc. in order to train and work. In March, 2023 he is hoping to register in English classes to improve his English, which may cut into his availability to work and earn money.
* **Tehmina (Tina)** (the mother) is currently working as a cashier at Walmart in Westbrook at the rate of $15.50/hour for 20 hours/week. Most days she gets to and from work by Calgary Transit via a 2-bus trip, but when she works late she has to take an Uber home from work. At $310 per week, her earnings are currently very modest.
* **Tina** worked as a nurse in Pakistan and is applying for early childhood certification, which will permit her to commence working in daycares at minimum wage, with certification expected to be received by March, 2023. Her primary goal at this time is to be certified as a “Health Care Aid”, which will likely involve English language classes for 20 hours/week over a four (4) month period, followed by eight (8) months of health care aid certification training before she graduates. Tuition fees can be up to $7,500, but some government funding may be available to assist. During **Tina’s** studies, she will have little opportunity to earn much money.
* Neither **Khalid** nor **Tina** have ever had driver’s licenses. Once they get learner’s permits, there is currently a one-year waiting period for them to obtain driver’s licenses. The ability to drive would enhance their employment opportunities, but would of course add the expense of a car.
* **Maryum** and **Aman** (the two daughters) are enrolled in grades 8 and 9, respectively, at St. Gregory School and are loving it after years of not attending school and isolation in Thailand.

The Request:

As you will appreciate from the description of the current activities of the Khalid Family outlined above, there is little opportunity for the Khalid’s to make significant money from employment in 2023. To date the Parish has raised $21,670.00 for the Khalid Family, of which the sum of $10,993.10 has been spent on Khalid Family expenses to and including January 31, 2023, leaving current surplus cash on hand of $10,676.90. **To reach our funding goal of $36,000.00 for the year, an additional $14,330.00 will need to be contributed by parishioners in 2023.** With the total cash sum of $25,006.90 (i.e. $10,676.90 + $14,330.00) and assuming that Khalid Family expenses in 2023 average approximately $2,800.00/month, we will be able to continue to support the Khalid Family for the nine month period from February 1, 2023 to October 31, 2023 in order for the Parish to meet its funding commitment of $14,330.00 in 2023.

Concluding Comments:

Let me conclude by stating that The Khalid Family are eternally grateful to our Parish for making their new life in Canada possible. They are great people, with a great desire for doing all they can to make themselves self-sustaining moving forward. We need to help them to achieve that goal.

Please continue to make your donations to support our Refugee Family through the envelopes provided in the pews for that purpose, by e-transfer donations or by the pre-authorized donation pad on the Parish website.

A copy of today’s presentation is available today at the front entrance of the Church. Please take a copy with you as a reference sheet as you consider your donations for 2023.

Thank you.



David W. Rowbotham

Refugee Sponsorship Committee

January 1, 2023