



MET Refugee Sponsorship – Newsletter #4

We know it's only been a few weeks since our last update; however, we thought you would like to know about some key developments in our refugee sponsorship process!

Updates

All Application Forms Sent Overseas

As mentioned in the last newsletter, we received notification from the Department of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship that the application of one of the two families passed the first approval process and was sent overseas to be vetted by the local VISA office in Jordan. This family also received a phone call from the VISA office requesting their official immigration interview. We were initially concerned about the grandmother in this family as her application had not yet been forwarded overseas. We are happy to announce that the grandmother's application has since been forwarded overseas and that she is waiting on an invitation to her interview! Praise God! Furthermore, the application of the second family currently located in Beirut, has also been sent overseas and they are also waiting for an invitation to their immigration interview.

As exciting as these new developments are, it is important to remember that many steps remain in the immigration process for these families. Once their immigration interview is complete, both families will need to complete a detailed full health and security screening. As outlined in the CBC news earlier this week, the post-interview screening process can take 3-6 months. Great things come to those who wait!

Support for Churches in Lebanon and Jordan

Thanks to the generosity of our MET church family, we have met our budget goal! In the proposed budget to the church board, we allocated funds above and beyond the amount of funds required for each refugee family to support local churches in Beirut, Lebanon and Amman, Jordan. We have connections with two churches in these areas that have been going above and beyond to love, house, feed and provide care to local refugees. In June The MET sent the first set of funds to support the ministry of these two faith families. Thank you again for your giving!

In-Kind Donations

Thanks to the more than generous MET church family, many of the major household items that were needed for the families have been donated! We are currently storing these items until our families arrive. When we have a need for more in-kind donations we will post a list of needed items in our newsletter.

Prayer Requests

Please join with us as we pray for God's provision and wisdom as we navigate the sponsorship process. Below are a few specific prayer requests:

Please pray for:

- The safety, health and daily needs of our two Iraqi families, and other persecuted Christians in the Middle East.
- The immigration interviews of both families as the interview process is the most important step in the immigration process and can be very nerve wrecking.
- Protection and strength for all churches in Syria, Lebanon, Jordan and surrounding countries that are working hard to support and protect refugees.
- Peace in Syria and surrounding countries.
- The speedy processing of paperwork at the VISA offices in Amman and Beirut.

Get Involved

There are several ways to get involved in giving of your time and your resources in support of these two refugee families:

1. Pray. Your prayers for the two Iraqi families and for the entire sponsorship process are much needed. There are many different factors at play in the sponsorship process, and we need to pray for God to pave the way for our families to make it to Canada.
2. Join a Refugee Sponsorship Action Group in an area of refugee sponsorship that you are passionate about, experienced with or simply interested in learning more about. Your skills/knowledge can play an important role in assisting the sponsored families upon their arrival.

Thank you for your interest in The MET's refugee sponsorship. We appreciate your prayers and support as we move closer to welcoming these families to Canada. If you have any questions or if you would like to be involved, please do not hesitate to contact the Refugee Sponsorship Team through Anne McGregor at amcgregor@metbiblechurch.ca.