

March 8, 2017

Greetings Everyone,

In the past year or so you had indicated an interest in the efforts of the Kanata Stittsville Refugee Sponsorship Group to sponsor refugees from Syria. Here is an update on our sponsorship of refugees from Syria and elsewhere.

It was a year ago that the KSRSG submitted two applications to sponsor refugees from Syria. One was a young man in Jordan and the other a young woman in Lebanon. You may recall that the young man arrived last June, and I am pleased to say he is employed and doing well. We have just received word that the young woman will be arriving next week and we are making all of the appropriate arrangements. In November 2016 we also submitted an application for a family from Syria, and we hope to receive a positive response to their application as well. In 2016 we also welcomed two related families from Afghanistan who were in Tajikistan, and submitted two other applications for families from Afghanistan in Dubai and Pakistan. We are in the process of submitting an application for a family from Iran in Turkey, and a family from Afghanistan in Tajikistan. We are not able to submit any further applications at this time due to the limit on the number of refugees the Canadian Government will accept in 2017, which is 14,000 individuals.

The situation of refugees from Syria and other locations around the world continues to be desperate and we are doing what we can to help a few of those who are in need. With the limits on our ability to submit more applications of refugees from Syria or elsewhere, I suspect I will have little information to share with you in the coming days. So this will be my last message to the group of email addresses I had collected of those interested in our work with refugees from Syria. If you do want to continue to receive updates on our work, please let me know and I will keep you on our list.

Thank you for your interest in the past. May we all continue to work in our own way to help those who are in unimaginable situations around the world.

Yours In Common Purpose,

Rev. Grant Dillenbeck.  
Stittsville United Church