

Minutes for May 12, 2016
Meeting of the Working Group for Sponsoring a Refugee Family
2nd Meeting

Chalice Lighting: While every refugee's story is different and their anguish personal, they all share a common thread of uncommon courage – the courage not only to survive, but to persevere and rebuild their shattered lives. ~ Antonio Guterres, U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees

1. Review of last meeting and objectives for this meeting
 - A. Last meeting
 - 1) Reviewed the four levels of support; plan for levels 1 and 2
 - 2) Gained a notion of the monetary requirements of each level
 - 3) Reviewed the functional teams
 - 4) Outlined the steps and sources of approval and support
 - B. Objectives of this meeting
 - 1) Review and selection of “Additional Core Areas of Support” [page 8 of *Co-Sponsor Description & Responsibilities*].
 - 2) **Assignments of team leaders**
 - 3) Assignment of team members

2. Review and selection of Basic and Core Areas of Support
 - A. Basic (the are required for levels 1 and 2 support)
 1. General Coordinator
 2. Food & Clothing
 3. Housing & Furnishings

 - B. Core Areas Selected
 1. Welcome & Guidance
 2. Transportation

3. Volunteer assignment of team leaders and team members

Team Function	Team Leader	Team Members
General Coordinator	Rod Paolini; Roshan Chaddha (UU-Sterling)	
Food & Clothing	Catherine Woehrle	Linnea Nelson Jeffrey Mizell (UU-Sterling)
Housing & Furnishings	Ann King	Ann Marquis Nancy Meidenbauer
Welcome & Guidance	Sue Kenney-Pfalzer	
Transportation	Mary Lareau	

6. Consideration of partnerships

Roshan Chaddha and Jeffrey Mizell of UU-Sterling were in attendance. Roshan expressed the eagerness of UU-Sterling to support a refugee family. However, with their smaller membership, they wished to join our larger congregation in a cooperative endeavor. Jeffrey brings expertise and resources for providing emergency food plus having contacts at the ADAMS mosque in Sterling. We/UUCF welcomed them to join our team (as indicated above in the team assignments).

Jeffrey and Rod will continue to seek to establish a relationship with mosques that may wish to join as team members, but especially to provide translators as it is likely that a refugee family will not be fluent in English. Mehmet Ayaz of Ezher Mosque in Fairfax expressed willingness to help as he and others speak Arabic, Kurdish, and Farsi as well as English.

7. Review the timeline

Rod thought that the budget would be released shortly after the start of the UUCF fiscal year, but Mary Laurea informed us that the budget would be published this coming Monday (May 16) in order for it to be reviewed and approved at the annual meeting on June 5. She thought that we should submit our proposal and budget request as soon as possible.

In order to speed up the process, the group decided to meet twice a month in order in order to:

- a. Recruit team members
- b. Determine exact requirements of Lutheran Social Services
- c. Determine sources for lower cost items, particularly furniture
- d. Write the proposal

LSS is receiving about 4 to 6 families per month and expects a sharp increase before the end of the Federal fiscal year of September 30. The higher percentage of refugees in descending order are Afghans, Iraqis and Iranians with an increasing percentage of Syrians.

8. Assumptions for estimating tasks and budgets, e.g., size of family: We will budget for a family of six.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 26 at 7:30pm in the Program Building.

Extinguishing the chalice: The presence of brothers and sisters from different cultures should be celebrated as a gift.