**UUCF/UUCS Refugee Resettlement Project Update**

***June 13, 2017***

The Refugee Resettlement Project (RRP), co-sponsored by UUCF and the UU Congregation of Sterling, has worked with Marzia and her family to make the following progress in the last two months:

Purchased a pool pass for Munib that will enable him to swim at any of the Reston Association pools this summer. Marzia declined to provide a pool pass for Sahra as she doesn’t approve of Sahra swimming in a pool with boys.

Bob McCarthy donated bicycles for both Munib and Sahra. The RRP purchased helmets for both Munib and Sahra. Both have been registered for a course on bike safety at the Reston Community Center on Jul. 1.

Mazia expressed a desire to apply for a child care position at the Reston Children’s Center as the center is within walking distance of her home. Rod Paolini is assisting her in completing and submitting the application.

Marzia and the children attended the UUCF Year-End Picnic on June 4.

Ann King, Nancy Meidenbauer, Karen Monroe, Zubair Suri and Rod Paolini made a presentation to the UUCF Coordinating Team about the refugee family’s status. The lease of the their apartment is held by UUCF, and it expires Oct. 20, 2017. Project leaders recommended the lease be renewed. Funds raised this year are almost sufficient to cover next year’s rent, as Marzia Popal is now paying almost half the monthly rent.

The RRP, represented by Ann King, is now working with Cornerstones, Inc., to provide guidance to Mariza in obtaining low-cost housing and child care for Sahra for the coming summer vacation period.

The plan for Sahra’s care is in place: She will go to SACC at Terraset for most of the summer. Malaika Walton will provide transportation to and from Terraset for Sahra. There are days and a few weeks when child care is not provided by SACC; in some instances, Sahra will attend classes at the Reston Community Center: Her four classes are House of Cards, Magic, Community Service and Digital Photography (a camera will be provided by RCC). There are still gaps late is summer thay need to be filled. Volunteers may be needed to transport or provide care for Sahra. Contact Ann King, alwking@verizon.net, if you are interested in helping.