

Refugee Sponsorship Update

May 2026

1Peter 1:1

I Peter am an apostle on assignment by Jesus, the Messiah writing to the exiles...scattered to the four winds. Not one is missing, not one forgotten. God the Father has his eye on each of you.

EXCITING NEWS! ([link](#))

Maryam and Shahzad, along with their three children, Jason-15, Genelia-12, and Shiggaion-6, have been refugees for nearly 9 years. Originally from Pakistan, they fled to Baku, Azerbaijan and are without status, rights, steady employment or educational opportunities.

They recently received their visas and are now waiting for flight arrangements for their travel here. Praise God! Please continue to pray for this to go quickly and smoothly. We have been working with their church in Baku, which has contributed financial support towards our sponsorship of them.

Let's reach out and give these brothers and sisters a joyous welcome!

WATCH FOR AN ANNOUNCEMENT OF THEIR ARRIVAL DATE!

For donations please check the B-Informed and/or this webpage ([link](#)).

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Praise God that with your generous hearts and support, since its inception, the Refugee Sponsorship ministry has successfully seen the arrival of 16 people to Calgary where we enjoy and take for granted our life of peace, beauty and surety of our daily bread. These include full sponsorships and some partnerships for 4 families and an individual, and now there are two beautiful Canadian babies born since arrival!

BVCC has completed our financial commitment to these families but continue to support, encourage, and offer love and friendship in any way we can, especially to those who have integrated into our church family. There are so many challenges to overcome in such big transition!

The Refugee Sponsorship Team, on your behalf, continues to move forward. The need is so great, the requests so many, the situations so desperate, that sometimes it is overwhelming. Yet God is leading and opening doors for us to do our part in his service.

UPDATES ON OUR SPONSORED FAMILIES

Abde, Rangin, Jala, Esther

Abde and Jala are now Canadian citizens! Rangin has completed her required English levels and has applied for a Childcare Worker course.

Aleena, Bobby, Zaina and Musa

Bobby continues to work and Aleena has completed English Language upgrading and is waitlisted for a Medical Unit Clerk course at SAIT.

Jamal

BVCC's first refugee sponsorship arrival, Jamal, has recently welcomed his cousin to Canada after a long, 4.5-year wait! In addition to Jamal, BVCC has co-sponsored with their family to bring over his mom, dad, brother, sister and finally his cousin.

Wassim, Reem, Melanie & Mariam

The persecuted Syrian family that we co-sponsored with Diala Rizk (sister to Reem) and CCIS, has moved to Edmonton where Wassim has found a position as a priest in an Orthodox congregation. In this family there is another sister and her husband, who we have also co-sponsored with Diala to bring to Canada.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

Please ask the Spirit to show you how to be involved in one or more of the following ways:

Prayer.

Anyone and everyone can join with us to pray for the family as they wait, for the process to be smooth and expedited, and for us as a team and decisions at this end. Please let us know that you are supporting this ministry on a regular basis and check in with us for news and updates.

Join our team.

God gives a diversity of gifts to build up the church and as each of us contributes their part it comes together as a beautiful whole. We welcome you and your enthusiasm. The team meets monthly in a 1.5 hour Zoom to update, plan problem solve and pray. Of course, there is more commitment around arrival and settlement, but that is the fun and exciting part! You can be an answer to prayer!

Financial Support.

We have been humbled as God has generously provided for his plan of bringing people out of distress through your giving. We trust that you will continue to ask guidance from the Holy Spirit and act on his urging. Can you consider partnering with a monthly donation? Even small amounts together become significant. Ongoing supports helps us plan for the future. One time gifts are welcome anytime! We are required by Immigration to guarantee monies for settlement and monthly support for the first year to give refugees time to do language studies and find work.

Short term help around arrival and settlement.

We will need donations of household goods, clothing, pick up of donated items, shopping and even joining the welcoming committee at the airport! Can you offer rides to appointments? Let us know of your interest and availability so we can touch base with you when the time comes.

Questions? Donations? Volunteering?

Contact us by Registering through our Church Center App ([link](#)).

God bless you for your compassion and support.