

Interfaith Refugee Ministry

St. John's is involved in an interfaith effort involving 16 local congregations including Episcopalians, Lutherans, Catholics, Jews, and Quakers, assisting 17+ refugee families living in our community.

How You Can Help:

- ***Provide Transportation:*** Drivers are needed to help families get to healthcare appointments, shopping, sports and school activities, English classes, career training, and jobs.
- ***Donate household supplies, personal items, and food staples. (*see current list below)***
- ***Make a financial contribution*** to help defray the cost of rent, utilities, medical, food, gas, tuition, and other expenses. No amount is too small or too large. ***Donations may be made to Christ Episcopal Church, with “Refugee Ministry” in the memo, and mailed to 6800 Oakland Mills Rd. Columbia MD 21045***
- ***Become an English tutor or conversation partner***
- ***Assist with the job search and applications***

For more information, contact: Susan Fedors ensemble@stjohnsec.org

Food staples list for Afghan (and other) families (10/24/26)

- Basmati rice (white)
- Pasta (such as fusilli or small shells, regular size spaghetti)
- Lentils (all kinds) and dried pinto beans
- Garbanzo beans (canned)
- Dried fruits (dates, apricots, golden and regular raisins, figs)
- Nuts (pistachios, almonds, cashews, walnuts)
- Canned tomatoes, tomato sauce, tomato paste
- Flour (all purpose)
- Sugar
- Herbs and spices: Cumin, cinnamon, nutmeg, turmeric, ginger, garlic powder, black pepper, cardamon and cardamon pods, garam masala, bay leaves, mint, coriander

Food staples (cont.)

- Potatoes
- Onions
- Cooking oil (basic oil such as canola or safflower, not olive oil)
- Green tea, black tea, cardamon tea (loose preferred but bags are fine)
- Canned fruits (or in jars)
- Peanut butter (chunky and smooth)
- Mango juice, apple juice
- Pumpkin seeds, sunflower seeds, sesame seeds
- Canned tuna, sardines

Household items

- Cleaning supplies (kitchen, bathroom, other rooms)
- Dishwasher detergent
- Dish washing liquid
- Laundry detergent
- Toilet paper, paper towels, napkins, tissues
- Sponges

Personal care items

- Toothpaste, toothbrushes, dental floss
- Shampoo (woman's, men's, children's)
- Bar soap and liquid hand soap
- Deodorant – unscented (men's and women's)
- Men's razors and shaving cream
- Women's razors and shaving cream
- Lotions and hand cream
- Women's feminine products (pads, not tampons)

Infants and toddlers

- Diapers – the sizes needed constantly change; please email for an update
- Wipes

Contact Susan Fedors to arrange pickup and delivery of donated items: ensemble@stjohnsec.org