

St. Francis Church Afghan Family Drive – Jan 2022 – FAQs

Thank you for thinking of joining the St. Francis effort to welcome a needy family evacuated by the United States! These are families, many of whom actively supported our country's interests in Afghanistan over past years, who were forced to flee by the Taliban takeover of the country. Unlike many others, these families were fortunate to have found a way to successfully flee to safe harbor. Let us welcome them with open arms and help them to get established in their new home.

Family Details: at this time, we have not been assigned a specific family. We were told to assume a family of five (2 parents, 3 children), living in a small 2- or 3-bedroom apartment (1 bath, kitchen, living room). When we are provided specific information about the apartment and the family (e.g., age of children) we will update our needs list. We should know this by Jan 28.

Items: needed are listed on our SignUpGenius page (<https://bit.ly/3G0j6Pl>). All items must either be new or be in excellent condition. Some items must be new (see each item description for specific requirements). **We also need financial donations.** Please see the item description to determine whether we need a physical item or a monetary contribution to cover the cost of purchasing those items. You can sign up to contribute as many items as you wish.

Financial donations: some items on our list show a dollar amount in the item description. We will need to purchase them, so if you sign up for that we need a financial donation to cover the purchase cost instead of a physical donation of the item. In addition, we need to raise extra funds to cover moving and other expenses, and to provide the family with items they need which either are not on the list or were not donated. Funds needed are listed as an item on our SignUpGenius webpage. We are asking for commitments of financial donations to be in increments of \$50.

TO DONATE TO THIS EFFORT:

FIRST, sign up on SignUpGenius (<https://bit.ly/3G0j6Pl>) for the item(s) and/or financial contribution you want to make so that we have a clear record and avoid having multiple people contribute the same item. You can sign up for as many items as you wish.

SECOND, make your financial donation (if there is one). There are two ways to make your donation payment:

- **ONLINE** – access the St. Francis PayPal portal at: <https://bit.ly/3HDL17Y>
Please make sure you select the “Outreach” drop down, and later, on the payment screen “Comments” section, please type in “AFD” (for Afghan Family Drive) and the item(s) you signed up for which your payment is for. When asked, please consider a small incremental contribution to cover credit card costs.
- **CHECK** – send your check to St. Francis Afghan Family, 9220 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls VA 22066. Make your check out to St. Francis Episcopal Church. Please note the same information on your check as for the online donation above so that we can assure it is applied properly (i.e., add “AFD” and the items donated to the memo line, or include a note with the check). **We need to have all checks in hand ASAP, and not later than Jan 26.**

THIRD, deliver your contributed items:

- **Drop off at St. Francis:** **we will accept small items at St. Francis from Jan 31 – Feb 4.** This will be for kitchen and cleaning items, bedding, toiletries, and other small items – but NOT for furniture or heavy or bulky items. Drop your items off at the Office during working hours: ring the doorbell, and church staff will receive and store your items. If you have multiple items please bundle them together in bags or boxes for ease of handling.
- **Drop off day:** **we will accept furniture and remaining items on Sunday Feb 6 from 1-5 p.m. at the Mathews' home garage, 644 Walker Rd Great Falls** (close to the Village). Please bundle small items together in bags or boxes for ease of handling.
- **Alternatives:** if neither of these options will work for you, please contact Leslie Siegmund or Phil Pifer to make alternative arrangements.

Updates will be posted here in the future. With questions or for more information, please feel free to contact either Leslie Siegmund (LESiegmund@aol.com | 703.435.9739) or Phil Pifer (philippifer@mac.com | 703.462.0759).

Revised/Updated: 18 Jan 2022