

Refugee Newsletter Third Quarter 2022



"For the Lord is good; his steadfast
love endures forever, and his
faithfulness to all generations"
Psalm 100:5

The summer months have been filled with many activities and abundant blessings in the refugee community. There have been new ways to serve, to interact with, and to mentor our new neighbors. We continue to collaborate with other churches and organizations as we seek to serve the ongoing needs of the refugee and asylum-seeker community.

Summer Camp: We were able to help with Gateway Church's Middle and High School Summer Camp at Highland Lakes Camp in June. We brought 10 refugee teens to the camp. They were able to join in activities, meals, prayer, and worship, as well as interacting with other teens. A great time was had by all!



Speaking of teens, Alliance has been able to mentor several refugee teens over the summer months. Several teens have given their lives to Christ, and he is able to mentor their walk with the Lord. Their parents have expressed gratitude and hope as many of these teens are at-risk as they try to find belongingness and positive relationships in their new neighborhoods. We were also able to bring these teens, along with Gateway Middle School students, to San Antonio to partner with Agora Ministries to serve the homeless community.





We were able to have a very productive day sorting out our storage shed and distributing furniture items to several families on Saturday, July 16th. We are so very grateful for the help of hardworking volunteers on this hot summer morning. Thank you! Thank you!

Gateway also sponsored a School Supply Drive during the month of July. Backpacks were assembled with school supplies and distributed to 144 refugee students prior to the start of the school year. Volunteers helped assemble the backpacks at Gateway North and Gateway South campuses. New volunteers were able to deliver the backpacks to the families, see the grateful faces of our new friends, and have important interactions with the families.



In late July, Gateway partnered with Wayside Community Church in Austin for an outreach day with the refugee community. Approximately 40-50 refugees from the Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Burundi, Iran, Iraq, and Afghanistan were brought together at a local park. They shared a meal, competed in games, prayed, and found community with one another. It was a beautiful day to see unity among God's people.



Our current efforts with the Gateway Refugee Network are focused on launching our “family matching” program which will match refugee families with Gateway families.

Our hope is for the Gateway families and the refugees/asylum seekers to form a unifying relationship where they mutually learn about each other’s culture, seek to better understand each other, develop trust, and to have their needs met in a more personal manner. We will begin training and matching several families over the next few weeks. Please reach out here [Link](#) if you are interested in being matched with a refugee family. Here is the full video [Video Link](#).

We continue to be humbled by God’s great provision in blessing this community and ministry so abundantly, and we cannot wait to see His continued work as we enter the new school year and fall months.



Prayer Requests:

- Pray for strength and rejuvenation as we wrap up a very busy summer.
- Pray for our family-matching project as we seek to provide a more intimate community for the refugees to feel welcomed and cared for.
- Pray that the Lord will grow the mentorship program and provide needed volunteers.
- Pray for our upcoming conference for refugees and the pastors that serve them September 3-4 at Gateway. We are expecting 350-400 people. Pray that the Lord will bless these attendees and provide for the details of this event.

Praise to God for providing so many ways to serve the refugee community, through summer camp, mentorship opportunities, collaboration with other churches and organizations, the school supply drive, and the family-matching program.

Thank you so much for being a part of this Journey and thank you for your wonderful support.