



# Levin Family Newsletter

March 2018

*He...loves the sojourner, giving him food and clothing. Love the sojourner, therefore...  
Deuteronomy 10:18-19*



## Come all who are heavy laden...

He spoke intently, his eyes piercing the laptop screen, to the interpreter meeting with us via Skype. Here was a man burdened for the well-being of his family whom he hasn't seen in years, separated by an ocean, while navigating the daunting process of seeking asylum in the United States. We meet regularly with each resident of the Jonathan House, and in this particular meeting, he put all his troubles on the table. Trembling turned to sobbing as the tears rolled down his cheeks. I sat beside him and placed my hand on his shoulder. Sarah, the Jonathan House director, asked if she could pray. He nodded and softly said yes.

And there, in an upstairs conference room of a coffee shop in St. Paul, MN, two Christians prayed with a distraught Muslim man from the Middle East, that he may experience the God who sees him, hears his cry, and cares for him. All this was made possible by the simple act of welcoming a foreigner.



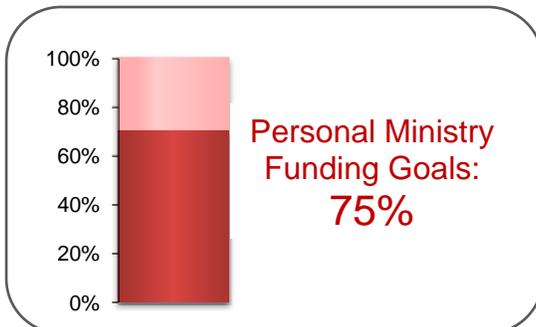
Refugees are more than people in need. They are resourceful and have much to contribute. One way our residents do so is through the delicious Mediterranean cuisine they prepare and share with us!

## When can we go camping?

Creating an outdoor adventure based ministry is one of the coolest things we did while we worked at YWAM Ozarks. We've wondered what it might look like to apply that skill set to our current work.

Then I read a blog from an organization in Minnesota that works with people who have experienced trauma, including many asylum seekers. They partnered with an outdoor guiding company to offer their clients an opportunity to canoe the "Mighty Mississippi." One participant expressed that the night following the trip, she experienced the best night of sleep of her life.

It confirms our belief that nature and wilderness can have a therapeutic affect on people, and it is an element of our ministry that we hope to incorporate into Jonathan House. On top of that, one resident tells me every time he sees me that he wants to go camping. Alright, let's do it! Maybe after the snow melts though!



When we set out last September to expand our Go Team and reach full funding for ministry, we were below 40%. A huge thank you to all of you who are helping us reach our goal!

*All staff members at International Association for Refugees (IAFR) are responsible for raising their own finances. We are incredibly grateful for each person, family, and church that gives sacrificially to the Lord so that we can work in full-time ministry. Thank you!*

### Prayer Requests

- Please pray for us to reach full-funding this spring, so we can work full-time to help people survive and recover from forced displacement!
- Continue to ask God to make a way for us to buy a house. So far we have made three offers on three houses, but none were accepted.
- Jen is recovering her strength after the birth, and Evelyn is healthy. Praise the Lord for that!



Donations can be made online at [IAFR.org/donate](http://IAFR.org/donate).  
Write checks out to IAFR and mail to:  
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(Include a note indicating your donation is for us)

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