

HOME FROM HOME HALLAM

Refugee Family Welcome – a Community Sponsorship project

NEWSLETTER NO. 4

May 2022

One year since our group first met, and we have the exciting news that a Syrian family will be arriving in Sheffield in June - and we need more help from the parishes, please! See the end of this newsletter....

Housing

South Yorkshire Housing Association were very quick to find us a suitable house, and let us have it rent free for several weeks. It is a three-bedroom house, and has facilities for a disabled person, which makes it particularly suitable for our purposes, as we knew that the family we welcome will be in particular need.



Once SYHA had passed the house as fit to let, our housing group organised refurbishing and furniture. We have to say particular thanks, here, to Pyramid Carpets, who supplied and fitted all-new floor coverings; and to St Vincent de Paul, who most generously donated most of the furniture. We have had private donations of a new fridge, freezer and washing machine. So, the house is now clean, furnished, and in good

order.

The only outstanding item that we are still looking for is a laptop computer in good working order.

Health and Education

Our health team has made contact with a local GP who has said he will refer the family for specialist treatment as soon as possible. It is proving more difficult to find an NHS dentist who is willing to help out.

The schools liaison team have been in touch with the Sheffield City Council Resettlement Officer now that we know the ages of the children, to start the process of getting them registered in suitable schools. We have also identified suitable formal ESOL (English as a Second or Other Language) provision for the adults, and a team of us have undergone SAVTE (Sheffield Association for the Voluntary Teaching of English) training, so that we can offer informal reinforcement of their language skills. SAVTE have also offered a volunteer to visit



the house for two hours per week for one of the adults who may be unable to leave the house.

Other volunteer activity

In the next few weeks, the benefits team will be meeting with local Job Centre staff to get appointments booked.



And behind the scenes, volunteers have been busy training (safeguarding, training on Syrian culture and traditions etc) and preparing fact sheets, to help the family become acquainted with our group, and to become familiar with UK money etc. These have been translated into Arabic.

Can you help?

There are two things that are outstanding at the moment:

A laptop computer in good working order. Please contact Anosh Malik: phone number: 07762070201; e-mail: anoshmalik.am@gmail.com.

An NHS dentist who would be able and willing to take this needy family onto their list.

Our contact details:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/389758399307749>

The [Diocesan website](#) will have a copy of this newsletter.

Anyone who would like to get involved, or just to know more about what we are doing, please contact Eva Kaltenthaler (ekaltenthaler@hallam-diocese.com)

Please continue to remember us in your prayers as we get ready to welcome 'our' family.