

Committee Update

Looking for a Way to Help?

Consider a (Christmas) Gift of Time for Refugee Families

Catholic Charities has alerted us to the need for tutoring/mentoring help for some refugee children. There is a family from Congo that arrived nearly a year ago. The kids need help with homework, improving their English, general mentoring. Some high school students from Loyola Prep have been working with them but the demands of their school work has made their schedules with the refugee kids pretty spotty. And the refugee kids need a bit more consistency.

Aside from the trauma of being a refugee and learning a new language and culture, the two girls—11 and 9—might have learning disabilities. The 13 year old boy is withdrawn and finds it difficult to engage.

There are three other teenaged boys who, like the Congolese teen,



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— Cardinal Cupich

basically need an adult male presence in their lives. There would be some tutoring involved—primarily as an “entry point”—but these kids need a father figure to interact with, one who could help guide them about the challenges of growing up in the U.S. All the kids live in East Rogers Park, near Sheridan and Howard.

We realize this sounds like a difficult “ask” but Cardinal Cupich has reminded us that not only was the baby Jesus Himself a refugee but that “what we do in response to those in need—the stranger who has suffered great loss—is not just about what happens to them now, but what happens to us now.”

If you would like to learn more about any of these kids, please contact Betty Woodward at betdmiowa@gmail.com.