



The Latest On Our Refugee Families

Introducing Our Newest Family

Arrived July 13. Like our third family (whom we lovingly call “The girls” as the Mom has twin daughters in their early 20s), the newest arrivals are Rohingya, originally from Myanmar.

Prior to arriving in Chicago, they had spent a number of years in exile in Malaysia.

The family—father, mother and three young kids ages 3, 5 and 7—speaks very little English, though the father is putting a lot of effort into learning. The parents are both registered at Refugee One’s ESL classes but it is difficult for them to get there with the three young kids. **This is where we could really use some ESL volunteer help!**

We are co-sponsoring our latest family with one of our “sister” Parishes, St Teresa of Avila.

Initially that means sharing the financial responsibilities but hopefully, down the line, volunteer opportunities.

We have met with St Teresa’s refugee coordinator and, once the family is all settled, (they are in an apartment in West Rogers Park) will begin planning some activities. Since the family arrived mid-summer, the three youngsters have had no opportunity to meet kids, so anyone interested in relaxed family visits and/or taking the kids to the park or local spots would be greatly appreciated.

Mark Your Calendars – Sunday, August 12th

Join the ICSJ Refugee Group for our *Sunday Funday* Event !

In August, our refugee group is planning a day of activities for both the refugee kids and those in our Parish. This is a great opportunity for those families who have been so supportive of our efforts to meet the families we are sponsoring. *Sunday-Funday* is August 12th from 2:00-5:00pm. It will begin with soccer, frisbee and other games, followed by a pizza party. **More information on this Day will follow!** Please email marco.oropeza.gomez@gmail.com for more info or with any questions/thoughts you may have.

— Betty Woodward, ICSJ Refugee Effort volunteer