



Donor Spotlight: August 2016

Keith Ketcher – Refugee Resettlement Services

Keith Ketcher, a Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services (SFBFS) board member for more than five years, first learned about SFBFS from his neighbor, Bob Scarlett, who had recently joined the board. Keith says, “As I was introduced to SFBFS and became aware of the breadth of services provided to our community, I was in awe. Having lived in Sacramento for ten years at the time, I was seeking a way to better connect with my community to help make a positive difference. SFBFS was a perfect fit.” Keith works in the management and technology consulting field and has been married to his wonderful wife, Gina, for 17 years. In addition to Keith’s board service, he and his wife regularly contribute funds to SFBFS and their children practice community involvement as well – Clayton, a 14-year-old and Sam, a 12-year-old, have hosted food and sock donation drives for SFBFS.



One program Keith thinks is particularly unique is SFBFS’ Refugee Resettlement Services. SFBFS, in partnership with the Diocese of Sacramento, began offering Refugee Resettlement Services in February 2015. Under a contract and close collaboration with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), Migration and Refugee Services (MRS Office), SFBFS welcomed, oriented and resettled close to 100 newcomers to our community since the start of the program. Many refugees and their families have fled their countries of origin and meet the United Nations’ criteria of having a well-founded fear of persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group or political opinion.

SFBFS plans each family’s first 90 days after arrival including furnishing appropriate housing, receiving the family at the airport and providing all of the essentials for the family such as food, clothing and household needs. SFBFS also assists each family with signing up for all applicable benefits including [CalFresh](#), enrolling in English as a Second Language classes, job placement and training programs, scheduling medical appointments, adjusting to life in the US, registering children for school and much more.

SFBFS’ Refugee Resettlement Services would not be possible without the support of community members like Keith. “I believe we’re all on this planet together and those who have the capacity and desire to assist those in need should do so,” says Keith. “We love Sacramento and Sacramento has been good to me and my family. Giving back is the right thing to do.” Keith’s support is an example of how together, we can support families on their journey to self-sufficiency and financial independence.