

# SAFE JOURNEY وندى سفر

## *Helping Afghan Families settle in Campbell River/Comox Valley*

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: Afghan Family Refugee Sponsorship - Live and Silent Auction Event Feb. 18

We are a team from Comox Valley and Campbell River working to support an Afghan Refugee family to come to our community. Our team is currently fundraising in order to raise the necessary funds to sponsor the approved family of ten from Afghanistan. We are working hard to raise the additional \$36,000 needed out of the \$69,000 to sponsor the family for their year long refugee sponsorship.

The family we are assisting was targeted by the taliban after the head of the family refused to hand over his 16 year old daughter to be a bride for a member of the taliban. After refusing, her father was shot and killed by the taliban. The horror continued as they decided they still wanted the girl and began threatening to kill more family members. The family went into hiding, moving from house to house, leaving everything behind. The new head of the family was shot and thankfully survived. We managed to get them across the border into Pakistan where they are slightly safer. We are currently financially supporting them and another group of their family for up to a year while we wait on the paperwork to bring them safely to the North Island.

This is a family who qualifies for the Canadian special Afghan project as they worked with Canadian forces and their brother was an interpreter, however the family will be sponsored under the refugee sponsorship which will hopefully expedite the process. The eldest son is in charge of the entire family of 10, taking care of his wife and five young daughters, his widowed mother and his teenage brother and sister. They are a very courageous family who have been through many trials this past year.

Our sponsor team of 12 has raised \$36,000 and we require \$69,000 for the refugee sponsorship. As well, we have committed to supporting them while they wait in Pakistan, which costs \$600 per month. This allows them to stay healthy and safe until they arrive in Canada.

We will be holding a large fundraiser, with Desserts from around the World, local Beachfire Brewery liquor and a live and silent auction. We would like to have 8 themed "destination getaways" as live auction items. We are looking for donations of gift

certificates for wonderful venues in our province as well as transportation to these locations.

Would you kindly consider donating gift certificates for travel, overnight stay or for your attraction? We would very much appreciate your contribution and will be sure to recognize your company during the event's promotions. We will have a professional auctioneer so we

Thank you very much for your consideration. Please contact team members Cheryl Couture at [cherylcouture@gmail.com](mailto:cherylcouture@gmail.com) or 250 895 9827 or Michelle Downey at [rmdowney1@gmail.com](mailto:rmdowney1@gmail.com) or 250 830 8262 with any questions or contributions.

Sincerely,

Cheryl and Michelle  
Safe Journey Afghan Sponsor Group