



Hello Project Welcome supporter

Happy Thanksgiving! We have much to be grateful for. We are connecting to share an update and some exciting news!

We will start with the update. Our 1st refugee sponsorship experience has gone very well. Nahed Al Housarya and her two boys, Majd and Faris, arrived almost 3 years ago. They've settled nicely into everyday life in Guelph. They've become quite proficient in English. Nahed continues her education. Majd has been working while he finishes his high school credits; he hopes to start college soon. Faris is in Grade 11 and earning excellent grades. Thanks to your generosity, they are grateful, hard working, and are flourishing.

We are grateful to everyone who volunteered, gave items and donated money to help the Al Housarya family. Project Welcome is a community-wide effort and your contribution has made a tangible difference.

Building on this great success we are now excited to share our news.

Project Welcome has taken on a 2nd sponsorship!

This time we are *partnering with* Nahed and her family, in welcoming Nahed's brother Emad, his wife Suzan, and their three children: Aya (in high school), Zaina (elementary school) and Jandal (a pre-schooler). They arrived in Canada at the end of June and are living in Guelph. The kids have just started school. Suzan and Emad are beginning English lessons. They are eager to work, so once they gain some English skills we'll be working with them to find jobs.

Nahed, Majd, Faris are providing the primary support. They know best what it takes to settle successfully in Canada, and we're glad to lean on their experience. Project Welcome has found them an apartment in Guelph and has been assisting with paperwork, making school, medical and social services connections, and gathering furnishings and supplies for their home.

With logistics well in hand we are now focusing on the finances needed to support our new family. Our goal is to raise over \$40,000 which will cover the cost of airfare to Canada, all set-up, housing, food, and daily living costs for this family of 5.

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The good news is that we have raised nearly half already! Today I am asking for your help to secure the rest of the funding.

Donating is easy:

By **credit card** through Canada Helps. Visit CanadaHelps.org, search for “Elora United Church,” then select the “Project Welcome 2019” campaign at the top. You can make a one-time gift or set up a regular monthly gift for the year.

By **cheque**. Please make it out to “Elora United Church,” and write “Project Welcome” in the memo line. You can mail your gift to:

Project Welcome
c/o Elora United Church 75 Geddes Street Elora ON N0B 1S0

In addition to a financial gift, we hope you will come to our **Supper By Syrians** event! Back when we were getting started in 2015, we had a *Supper for Syria* dinner at the Centre Wellington District High School. It was a wonderful success. The food was prepared by the school’s culinary teacher and students. Attendance was outstanding and money raised went to support refugee work in the countries around Syria.

This time, we’re switching things up! Nahed is a great cook and Emad is a trained chef. So we’re working with them to put on a feast that will be a Project Welcome fundraiser,

We’re still working on the details, including the date. Keep checking our website for updates: ProjectWelcomeCW.ca.

Our community can be very proud of the wonderful work we’ve done together. We’re making a real difference in the lives of Nahed and her boys, and now Emad, Suzan and their children.

With thanks for all your support,

The Project Welcome team

ProjectWelcomeCW.ca

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