

St. Francis Church Afghan Family Drive – Jan 2022 – FAQs

Thank you for thinking of joining the St. Francis effort to welcome a needy family evacuated by the United States! These are families, many of whom actively supported our country's interests in Afghanistan over past years, who were forced to flee by the Taliban takeover of the country. Unlike many others, these families were fortunate to have found a way to successfully flee to safe harbor. Let us welcome them with open arms and help them to get established in their new home.

Family Details: at this time, we have not been assigned a specific family. We were told to assume a family of four (2 parents, 2 children), living in a small 2- or 3-bedroom apartment (1 bath, kitchen, living room). When we are provided specific information about the apartment and the family (e.g., age of children) we will update our needs list.

Items: needed are listed on our SignUpGenius page (<https://bit.ly/3G0j6Pl>). All items must either be new or be in excellent condition. Some items must be new (see each item description for specific requirements). We also need financial donations. Please see the item description to determine whether we need a physical item or a monetary contribution to cover the cost of purchasing those items. You can sign up to contribute as many items as you wish

Monetary donations: some items on our list show a dollar amount in the item description. We will need to purchase them, so are asking for a monetary donation to cover the purchase cost, instead of a physical donation of the item. In addition, we need to raise extra funds to cover certain expenses and to provide the family with items they need which either are not on the list or were not donated. Additional funds needed are also listed as an item on the SignUpGenius list. We are asking for commitments of financial donations to be in increments of \$50.

FIRST, sign up on SignUpGenius (<https://bit.ly/3G0j6Pl>) for the item(s) and/or additional contribution you want to make so that we have a clear record and avoid having multiple people contribute the same item.

SECOND, make your monetary donation (if there is one). There are two ways to make your donation payment:

- **ONLINE** – access the St. Francis Paypal portal at: <https://bit.ly/3HDL17Y>
Please make sure you select the “Outreach” drop down, and later, on the payment screen “Comments” section, please type in “AFD” (for Afghan Family Drive) and the item(s) you signed up for which your payment is for. When asked, please consider a small incremental contribution to cover credit card costs.
- **CHECK** – send your check to St. Francis Afghan Family, 9220 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls VA 22066. Make your check out to St. Francis Episcopal Church. Please note the same information on your check as for the online donation above so that we can assure it is applied properly (i.e., add “AFD” and the items donated to the memo line, or include a note with the check). We need to have all checks in hand ASAP, and not later than Jan 26.

THIRD, deliver your contributed items:

- **Drop off day:** we are working on plans for a drop off day at a location in Great Falls convenient to all and with enough space to hold the furniture and other items. This has not yet been scheduled but is likely to be a Saturday in late January or early February. We will announce plans when they are set, sometime in mid-January.
- **Drop off at St. Francis:** we will also accept small items to be delivered to St. Francis during a week in late January. This will be for kitchen and cleaning items, bedding, toiletries, and other small items – but NOT for furniture or heavy or bulky items.
- **Alternatives:** if neither of these options will work for you, please contact Leslie Siegmund or Phil Pifer.

Updates will be posted here in the future. With questions or for more information, please feel free to contact either Leslie Siegmund (LESiegmund@aol.com | 703.435.9739) or Phil Pifer (philippifer@mac.com | 703.462.0759).

Updated as of: 4 Jan 2022