

# "RIDGEFIELD IS A PARADISE OF SAFETY."

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## REFUGEE FAMILY *Update*

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St. Mary Parish, along with local organizations, are helping a refugee family acclimate to their new homeland. Our parish is providing housing for 6 months and offering other assistance. Below is a summary of what the family, with the help of volunteers, has been up to...

1. Visited a halal grocery store for meats and other grocery stores for produce, etc.
2. Visited a mosque in Danbury.
3. Signed the family up for state benefits while they are getting on their feet.
4. Signed up to get on the list for subsidized housing.
5. Met with the dad to assess employment skills and start writing a resume.
6. Assessing English language skills of the family and setting up classes, lessons, tutors, and practice sessions.
7. The two oldest children started camp. The youngest will stay home with the parents this summer and we'll set up playdates and activities.
8. All kids are in the process of registering for school next fall.
9. The family has enjoyed a couple of CHIRP concerts.
10. Fireworks at a private home in Ridgefield.

The whole town has been so generous! St. Mary's collected gift cards from various stores a while back and we have been able to get what they need for the summer. Come fall, they will need winter clothing. Details to come.

The family is slowly adjusting to life in the US. They opened their first bank account and are learning about the American banking system. They call Ridgefield "a paradise of safety."

Thank you to all who have helped the refugee family!