

December 2023

Dear neighbor,

Neighbors for Refugees (“Neighbors”) is wrapping up its seventh year of operations! Well, “wrapping up” is a bit of a misnomer as our ongoing support of six families will extend into 2024 and we are working to welcome new families as early as January 1.

During our seven years, Neighbors has:

- helped over **2,500 refugees** with housing, food, clothing, furniture & household goods, ESL training, finding employment, and accessing medical care, as well as financial grants for job training, medical care, education, and the like,
- **resettled 80 families** in the tri-state area (18 of those are comprehensive resettlements)
- engaged over **100 local volunteers** who provide support services to the refugees,
- received in-kind support from approximately **500 donors** who have given furniture and household goods,
- **provided financial assistance to refugees of approximately \$1 million** that has been donated by approximately **800 individuals** from around the country and **over 30 grants and gifts from 16 regional institutions and organizations**, and
- increased our annual budget from **\$50,000 in 2017 to \$300,000 in 2023**.

We at Neighbors, the board, management and especially our volunteers, are proud of what we’ve accomplished since eight women sat around a kitchen table in November 2016 wanting to make a difference but not knowing exactly how. In these seven years, we’ve seen one humanitarian crisis after another, starting with Syria, then Afghanistan, the wars in Sudan and Ukraine and now in Gaza and Israel, not to mention the ongoing crisis along our southern border. Each time, Neighbors stepped up to welcome people fleeing the latest strife-torn region, most recently asylum seekers who came through the southern border and are living in shelters in New York City.

You, our supporters, should be equally proud of what Neighbors has done and continues to do! Without you, none of this would be possible.

**We cannot rest on our laurels.** The refugee crisis continues to grow every year and, sadly, 2024 will be no exception. Seemingly never-ending wars, natural catastrophes, climate-driven famines, and ongoing violence and persecution continue to add to the stream of refugees seeking safety and a new life. We need to be ready to do what we can to help.

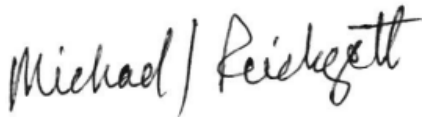
We know that times are tough, and Neighbors isn’t immune. Inflation has greatly increased the costs of resettling families. Rents have jumped even more. **On behalf of the refugee families who are here and who will come in 2024, we ask you to please donate. If you have never given before, please consider helping out – no gift is too small. If you’re a repeat donor, thank you for your past gifts. We hope you will consider increasing your gift this year.**

With your help, we plan to invest nearly \$300,000 again in 2024 to resettle and support refugee families in our community. To get us started towards that goal, we've set a year-end goal of \$120,000. The Neighbors' board has already pledged 50% of that goal. The Neighbors' board now challenges you to help us raise that other half – and then some!!

As you contemplate a gift, we want you to know that we are a grassroots, entirely volunteer-run, 501(c)(3) organization, which means approximately 94% of the money we raise goes to directly benefit our refugee families.

All of us at Neighbors for Refugees wish you and your family a safe and joyous holiday season and a happy new year.

Sincerely,



Mike Reichgott  
President



Frank D. Pierson  
Vice President

PS, we would love to hear from you. Please contact us at [info@neighborsforrefugees.org](mailto:info@neighborsforrefugees.org) or call 914.310.3146