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## NEWS RELEASE

Gerry Gannon,  
Coordinator  
The Reverend  
Janet Broderick,  
Clergy Convener  
Leo Rogers,  
Treasurer  
Karen Burns,  
Secretary

### RAMP Family Update - Spring 2017

#### *"It Takes a Village"*

**Morristown, NJ, June 10, 2017** - "It really DOES take a village!" So remarked a new RAMP member at the group's bi-monthly meeting at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Morristown, after listening to all the caregiving and support services provided by RAMP members to two Middle Eastern refugee families. Both families are now living in Morris County apartments secured, spruced up and furnished by RAMP members. In addition, members are helping with shopping, tutoring, driving, finding social and medical services and employment opportunities, and any number of other needs of the newly arrived families.

The Syrian family arrived last November. They are father, mother, a teen-ager, and two younger children. The younger boy and girl are both in elementary school and are quickly learning English. The teen-aged son is working in a pizza restaurant, and the father has had occasional construction jobs, a field in which he is very skilled. The young children plan to attend summer camp. This family needs full-time employment for the father and more intensive, professional English as a Second Language lessons for him. Also needed are substitute tutors for the family and volunteers who would be willing to take the family on some summer outings, e.g., to the beach, pool, New York City, or state parks.

The other family, from Afghanistan, arrived in March. They are father, mother, one young child, and another on the way. The father speaks excellent English and has a background as a water technician; he is seeking full-time employment, preferably in that field. Volunteers are

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Page 2 RAMP Release

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welcome to take them on local excursions over the summer. In addition, the mother would appreciate someone driving her to Jersey City on Saturday mornings to meet with other Afghan women at Church World Service offices.

Those interested in volunteering for RAMP should contact the organization at [info@rampnj.org](mailto:info@rampnj.org) and visit the website at [RAMPNJ.org](http://RAMPNJ.org), where there is also a link to RAMP's [Speakers' Bureau](#).

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**About Refugee Assistance Morris Partners (RAMP):**

Refugee Assistance Morris Partners (RAMP) is a coalition of Protestant churches, Catholic churches, a religious order, religious organizations, synagogues, and mosques located in the area. Civic organizations are also welcome to participate as members of RAMP in this humanitarian, people-to-people effort. Currently, there are more than 220 individual members.

RAMP operates as a Special Project Fund of the Community Foundation of New Jersey and accepts donations. Financial donations should be sent to Treasurer, RAMP, P.O. Box 1544, Morristown, NJ 07960. Checks should be made to the Community Foundation of New Jersey with RAMP indicated in the memo line. All donations are tax deductible. RAMP also accepts in-kind donations, especially of house furnishings and clothing.

**For more information contact:**

[Marie L. Pfeifer](#)

Speakers Bureau Coordinator