

August 21, 2018

RAMP Summer Update 2018

I hope you are enjoying your summer in spite of all the rain. I am delighted to report abundant sunshine in the lives of our two families.

The Tarakjis have received their green cards! This puts them on a five-year path to citizenship, should they so choose. And daughter Lona received the “kindness” camper award from the Boonton Recreation Department summer camp. Thanks to all of you who helped the Tarakjis live here safely and securely.

The Muniri family is also doing well. Dad Akhtar is now driving his own used car to work, thanks to generous donors, such as the Sisters of Charity of St. Elizabeth and the Islamic Society of Basking Ridge. Akhtar is in need of a short-term tutor to help him prepare for a job-related test that would lead to a promotion. If you can help out two to three times a week for a month, let me know.

What's next? Several of us met with [Church World Service](#) (CWS) in August to discuss sponsoring a third family. As you must know from news reports, the number of immigrants being allowed in the country has greatly diminished. CWS expects to get about 60 individuals to be placed over the next fiscal year beginning Oct. 1.

The earliest we will welcome a family is late September, but most likely it won't be until October. CWS expects we could get a family from Eritrea (on the east coast of Africa near Ethiopia) or Pakistan. The CWS representative asked us to consider what nationality and religious groups we think we could best support. The RAMP steering committee will be meeting after Labor Day to discuss this. If you have thoughts, please feel free to be in touch with me.

When the new family does arrive, it will again be all hands on deck to prepare to welcome them. I know you will again step up to this challenge. Fortunately, we do have a team ready to support this third family; it is being led by Tom Graham.

You are truly doing God's work by supporting these families. Please know that they send boundless love and thanks for all you have done. Stand by for our new friends who will be arriving soon!

Best regards,
[Gerry Gannon](#)
RAMP Coordinator