



## **Be a Welcoming Committee for a Refugee Family!**

### **Who?**

A Welcoming Committee consists of 8-12 individuals who want to help refugee families and are capable of communication and delegation.

### **What?**

Help a family reach independence and self-sufficiency in their new community by completing specific tasks intended towards achieving this goal. Be a friendly neighbor to a family when everything else is foreign and overwhelming.

### **Where?**

Families will be resettled in Madison proper, located with easy access to social services and public transportation.

### **Why?**

There are two key reasons to consider being a welcome committee for a refugee family:

#1 There are many tasks associated with resettlement during the first couple months that are more easily completed as a shared, community effort.

#2 Families often express feelings of isolation upon their arrival to a foreign place and it is comforting for them to meet people who care.

### **When?**

Families are coming steadily now! When a committee is formed they can likely be assigned to a family within a month or so. From the time of their arrival, the commitment is expected to be intensive for about six weeks and *last no more than six months!* **The sooner families feel independent and can take charge of their own resettlement the better!**

### *\$Note\$*

*There is no financial commitment. Welcoming Committees are encouraged to raise household donations to furnish the family's apartment and possibly provide some initial groceries, but a committee's greatest value lies in the time, care and attention given to a family at a time when they are vulnerable and overwhelmed.*