



## PRAY

- TX:** That we could find a Spanish speaking lady for April.
- MN:** For Long-term volunteers who can learn to love the work and to understand their students.
- Resettlement:** For the need of more churches to sponsor immigrant families.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

JULY '24

### INCOME

Donations	\$60,171.97
Building Fund	\$40,000.00
Donated Services	\$4,500.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$104,671.97</b>

### EXPENSE

<b>Programs</b>	
- Minneapolis	\$11,463.28
- Mexico Border	\$13,721.24
- Resettlement	\$185.27
<b>Administration</b>	<b>\$712.62</b>
<b>Fundraising</b>	<b>\$30.00</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$26,112.41</b>

<b>BEGINNING BALANCE</b>	<b>\$59,424.98</b>
<b>ENDING BALANCE</b>	<b>\$137,984.54</b>

## INCOME VS EXPENSES

– FOR THIS FINANCIAL REPORT –

\$104,671.97	<b>INCOME</b>
\$26,112.41	<b>EXPENSES</b>

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For if thou altogether **holdest thy peace** at this time, then shall there enlargement and deliverance arise to the Jews from another place; but thou and thy father's house shall be destroyed: and who knoweth whether thou art **come** to the kingdom **for such a time as this?**

Esther 4:14

## UPDATES

arcministry.org/updates



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## BOARD MEMBERS

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THE RAINBOW OF GOD'S PROMISES OVER THE ARC HIVE.

## NEWSLETTER

# ANABAPTIST REFUGEE COMMITTEE

Equipping Anabaptists to engage with diverse cultures creating enduring relationships to express the love of Jesus.



AUG 2024



## IN THIS ISSUE

**Pg.1** Clarification of Qualification

**Pg.2** Peak into a Student's Life Story

**Pg.3** Opportunities in the City?

**Pg.4** Who Knoweth?



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Giving Opportunity:** Funds remain tight due to recent purchases. If you would like to support the work we do, visit: [arcministry.org/donate/](http://arcministry.org/donate/)



## SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

- TX:** 1. House parents for Spring of '25  
2. Spanish speaking fellows and girls in September.  
3. Haitian Creole speaker for this fall.
- MN:** 1. A single man for late Jan.  
2. A Lady for early December.
- Resettlement:** Many opportunities to host a refugee family in your community. Call 937-418-8561 (Alex)

Email [volunteer@arcministry.org](mailto:volunteer@arcministry.org) or call 763-358-3816 for more information!

Continued on page 2

We also realize that teaching English is not the only thing we're here for. Our bigger purpose is to show the love of Jesus through our words and deeds—to be His hands and feet to the needy. And in this work God can use each of us, regardless of our talents. Perhaps today someone out there is just waiting for me to speak to them or maybe to just listen to them. I find it extremely difficult to talk with new people and get a conversation started, and maybe this is how God wants me. Maybe my way of relating is just what some person needs. I too often feel like I need to be a different person to really be used of God. I so often fail to realize that God can use me just as I am, and that, if I am willing, He will continue to shape me to fit the work to which He calls me.

I like to think of Moses when he was called to bring the children of Israel out of Egypt. Like me,

he thought of every reason why he was not qualified to do this. In the end he found that God's call is the only qualification needed. What would have happened had he decided that he was not good enough for the job and had not gone? If we all waited to do things until we felt adequate, so much of God's work would remain undone.

So, if you feel God calling you to serve in Minneapolis or another corner of the Kingdom, but don't feel like you have the skills or knowledge required, remember that all God needs is someone who is willing to be used of Him. I felt like I was the least equipped person to be an English teacher to these people, but now I see that God is working in greater ways than we can know or understand. We are all part of God's masterplan, and he has shaped each of us to fill a special spot in it.

-Glen Ramer

### Minneapolis Update

## A PEAK INTO A STUDENT'S LIFE STORY

*The story of Asadullah's family and their journey to the United States*

Bullets whizzed overhead and gunshots exploded as Asadullah\*, his young wife, and 3-month-old daughter fled across the tarmac into the airport. Inside, the massive sea of people all shared the same goal: flee to safety, wherever that may be!

Asadullah had been working as a guard for the army base when the U.S. forces pulled out of Afghanistan. The first night after the American army left, he had been on duty at the army base. The eerie stillness of that night, as he waited for what would happen next, is still imprinted on his mind. And as he would soon find out, the following days would forever change the life of his small family.

"But we missed our flight to America," Asadullah told me sadly. I sat cross-legged on the floor during class, spellbound by his incredible tale. The Afghan soldiers and security forces who had worked alongside the Americans had been told that every effort would be made to get them out as the Taliban took over the city, but there just wasn't enough room or enough time for everyone.



"We had to escape from the airport back to our home, where we stayed for two more years. It was hard! I didn't work, because if I did, the Taliban would find where I lived. Finally, we were able to get a flight to America. Unfortunately, we lost all our luggage during the flight. Everything we owned was on our backs! I had to buy everything we now own.

"Life in America is hard, but it is still better than Afghanistan. I miss my family there, but I am happy to be safe!" Asadullah concluded.

As I pondered his incredible story on my way back to the Hive, I couldn't help but be amazed. These people have been through so much trauma! We in America have been given so much. How can we hold back from

sharing our blessings with all these people? These refugees that are pouring into our country are looking for peace, security, and a place to call home. We, as God's children, know the only true source of peace. Let's be faithful in sharing this peace with those God has placed into our lives.

\*Name changed

-Everett Mast



### Minneapolis Update

## OPPORTUNITIES IN THE CITY?

*Who would choose to leave the peaceful countryside and live in a city?*

Living in a city is often a foreign idea for many of us. Constant traffic, loud noisy neighbors, "progressive" liberal lifestyles—these things are daily realities in city life. But for us working in the Twin Cities, the city contains so much more than problems. For the ARC Minneapolis team, the city is also full of opportunities—for connecting with our Hive family, for teaching English, and for forming student relationships in our everyday activities.

As I think of the Afghan students that I teach daily, I am often stuck by the diversity of their lives. In my morning classes, I teach a former security guard, a helicopter pilot, and a staunch accounting director. On the way home, I give a ride to a 15-year-old schoolboy and a high-ranking army major. My afternoon classes include a policeman, a pomegranate farmer/special forces soldier, and a 14-year military veteran who was stationed in the dusty province of Kandahar. Who would have thought that I would ever have been able to meet such an array of people!

I must admit that I was rather skeptical of the sustainability of a ministry in the city. For me, it made more sense to stay out of the road rage and the clouds of marijuana smoke and spend my life in the safety of the quiet countryside. However, I now see how this mindset minimized my view of the world around me.

Here, on the streets of one of the bigger cities in the country, I have been exposed to things that I would never have been introduced to otherwise. Diverse cultures, different religions, and various

lifestyles are just a few examples of what we deal with on a regular basis. Here, I have been challenged in many ways, but the most important of these is that I have grown spiritually.

The strangeness of living in city and teaching English to foreigners no longer crosses my mind as weird or absurd. I have now come to realize in a whole new way, that it is not just a battle to reach across the boundary of language, but to break down the door of the heart, empowering our students to see Jesus as the Savior who can set them free.

-Micah Dehn



## WHO KNOWETH?

*"Who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?"*

The above verse is one that ARC uses as their theme verse and it poses a question: "Who knoweth?" We don't know what effect the little moments spent with our students (the cheerful talk, the little smiles, the friendly words, the small deeds of helpfulness) will have on the eternal destinies of our students and the work of Christ's kingdom. It can be easy to become discouraged and wonder what good we are doing here. It can seem like the effort is not yielding fruit.

But we thank God for those little moments that make our hearts sing, and we wonder what work God may be doing inside the hearts of these dear students. Let me relate to you something that happened in one of my classes that made me smile, but also encouraged and challenged me.

One day while having class with Roheena,\* we were using some vocabulary words to make sentences. One word we used was "pray", the sentence being, "How many times a day do you pray?" This sentence instantly brought on questions about how many times a day I myself pray, if I am going to the church to pray, if I am only praying on Fridays, etc. I explained to her that I can pray anywhere I want to—at home, at church, anywhere! I told her that we talk to Jesus just like our friend!

Her quick response was, "Oh, you and Jesus are talking talking?"

"Yes, yes, Roheena! Jesus and I are 'talking talking'!"

It made me smile, but at the same time it challenged me. Is my relationship with Jesus as close and as intimate as her simple way of saying it implies? Is Jesus as personal to me as my best friend? Are we "talking talking"? It also made me long for her to come to know her Savior in a personal way, for her and Jesus to be "talking talking".

Please continue to pray for these dear Muslim friends of ours, as we continue to go into their homes day after day, teaching them English, building relationships, and trying to sow small seeds of truth in their hearts. And may God receive all the honor and glory for any fruit those seeds bring forth.

\*Name changed

-Phebe Smucker