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Community Foundation Awards \$119,900 in Round 3 Afghan Relief and Resettlement Grants

Oakton, VA (January 6, 2022) – The Community Foundation for Northern Virginia, a leader in philanthropy in the region announced today it has awarded \$119,900 in grants to 11 local organizations in the third round of grants from its **Afghan Relief and Resettlement Fund for Northern Virginia**. Each organization received a grant between \$9,900 and \$20,000. The grants will support Afghans who fled their country and who either pass through or are resettled here in Northern Virginia.

This new round of grants will support longer-term resettlement efforts, including food, shelter, household items, mental health, healthcare, education, language, life skills, mentoring, and other services.

"The Community Foundation's Afghan Relief and Resettlement Fund for Northern Virginia was established on September 1, 2021, to support Afghans fleeing their country who either pass through or are resettled here in Northern Virginia," said Eileen Ellsworth, president and CEO, Community Foundation for Northern Virginia. "This is a trying time for the Afghan refugees and evacuees. The least we can do is our *very best* to welcome and embrace them, to convey our deepest concern for their welfare, and to let them know they are not alone."

One of this year's grantees, the Fenwick Foundation uses its mobile van to provide dental services to long-term care facilities in Northern Virginia through its <u>Project Adapt</u> program. This program delivers needed dental care and treatment to low-resource and vulnerable older adults and immigrant-status adults in the region. Fenwick has scheduled to offer its mobile van dental services to Afghan refugees on Wednesday, January 26, 2022.

"Thanks to a timely and generous grant from the Community Foundation of Northern Virginia, critical dental care and treatment will be provided to Afghan refugees re-settling in the Northern Virginia region," said Alexander Gorny, Executive Director, The Fenwick Foundation.

According to a recent <u>InsideNova report</u>, about 4,000 refugees have been resettled in Virginia, and thousands more are expected to resettle here over the next several months.

To date, the Afghan Relief and Resettlement Fund for Northern Virginia has distributed \$245,900 in grants. To learn more visit here.

List of Round 3 Grantees:

Afghan Medical Professional Association of America/\$10,000

This grant will allow AMPAA to continue three main areas of focus: healthcare, culturally competent training for all U.S. healthcare providers in providing healthcare for Afghan Allies and mentoring and support of Afghan youth in STEM education.

BRAWS/\$10,000

BRAWS is supporting Afghan refugees with fundamental basic needs as they transition into their new lives and has partnered with local organizations (Lutheran Social Services and other social safety net organizations) to provide menstrual supplies and undergarments.

Express Care/\$10,000

The grant will support training (CPR and Personal Care Aide Certification for adults) as well as life-skills training for empowerment, resume writing and interviewing skills, and ESL offered by bilingual instructors. The grant will also support their Afghani food pantry, Afghan boutique, provide winter coats, and prayer rugs. They also plan to facilitate housing assistance and support immigrants with obtaining their real IDs.

Fresh Start Refugee Assistance Center/\$10,000

This grant will support their efforts in resettlement (immediate), education (medium and long-term), and community integration (long-term).

Immigrant and Refugee Outreach Center/\$10,000

The grant will support their Emergency Aid Program that provides food and clothing and will support ongoing partnerships with other resettlement agencies, and support families with adoption council, healthcare support, as well as career counseling and job placement.

Messiah United Methodist Church/\$10,000

The grant will support the increased capacity of their ability to provide beds and mattresses.

Muslim Association of Virginia/\$10,000

The grant will support the ability to furnish homes with furniture, kitchen supplies, and more, as well as long-term rental assistance, meal delivery, and training to support efforts to assist families to become self-sustaining as soon as possible.

Resettlement Action DC (REACT DC) and Honor the Promise/\$20,000

REACT DC and Honor the Promise are two veteran and military spouse run organizations that partnered to provide comprehensive services to families throughout their resettlement journey. REACT DC and Honor the Promise are partnered to provide a more comprehensive set of services. Programs are sequenced so families can prioritize their immediate needs before focusing on more complex tasks associated with workforce development and holistic health.

The Fenwick Foundation/\$10,000

The grant will support Project ADAPT (Adult Dental Access, Prevention and Treatment) which is focused on providing needed dental care and treatment to low-resource and vulnerable older adults and immigrant-status adults.

The Kugler Family Education Fund/\$9,990

The Kugler Education Fund is working with NoVa RAFT (Resettling Afghan Families Together), a highly effective grassroots organization supporting the critical needs of newly arrived Afghan refugees, to provide families with furniture and to support school-age children.

The Pentagon Federal Credit Union Foundation /\$10,000

The grant will support basic needs such as food, furniture, clothing, medical care, household items, etc., rent coverage and relocation costs, access to advanced ESL classes, college or vocational tuition, quality childcare, tuition for children nearing college age, stipends for extracurricular activities for the children, transportation, and more.

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About Community Foundation for Northern Virginia

The Community Foundation for Northern Virginia grows philanthropy to respond to critical need, seed innovation and lead and convene the community. During the past 2 years the Community Foundation awarded \$20 million in grants and scholarships and now reports \$89 million in managed philanthropic assets. For more information please visit us at www.cfnova.org, follow up on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and Instagram.