

KINGSTON ROTARIANS ASSISTING REFUGEES - KRAR

KRAR Newsletter — posted on kingstonrotary.ca

April 2016

KRAR includes Rotarians from the Rotary Club of Kingston, Rotary Club of Cataraqui-Kingston, Rotary Club of Kingston-Frontenac and the Kingston Waterfront Rotary Club.

- KRAR believes that Kingston will be a stronger community if we welcome and assist newcomers, especially those rebuilding their lives after coming from turmoil abroad.
- KRAR supports private refugee sponsor groups in the Kingston area (including Gananoque and Napanee). We are not sponsoring families directly.
- In 2015, KRAR collected eight containers of furniture, appliances, clothing, and household goods that were distributed to incoming refugees.
- In 2016, KRAR is helping the Kingston area welcome refugees from numerous countries, including Syria, Burundi, and Eritrea.

How we help

- KRAR connects refugee sponsors, government agencies, and community groups, to share resources and experiences in order to best serve new refugees and families.
- KRAR assists refugees and refugee sponsors in the pick-up and delivery of donated items such as clothing, small household goods, furniture, and appliances.

*KRAR has partnered with the local **Salvation Army**, which is managing all clothing and small household goods donations. Sponsored refugee families are receiving vouchers for the Salvation Army stores to select what best suits their families.*

Donations are accepted at the Salvation Army Family Thrift Store : 277 Bath Rd, Kingston, ON K7M 2X6, 613-544-4396

Donations of furniture and large appliances can be made directly to the sponsoring organizations listed on page 4.



Area Rotarians, family, and friends sort clothing generously donated by Kingston residents. Many thanks to Capital Movers & Storage for transporting and storing 8 containers of clothing, furniture, and appliances.

ROTARY is ...

... an international service organization. Our motto is 'Service above Self'.

This is a joint effort by Rotarians from the Rotary Club of Kingston, Rotary Club of Cataraqui-Kingston, Rotary Club of Kingston-Frontenac, and the Kingston-Waterfront Rotary Club.



Rotarians at a Rotary Fundraiser for Refugee Assistance, Feb. 2016

How is KRAR helping refugees?

Q: Are Kingston Area Rotary Clubs sponsoring refugee families?

A: We are not sponsoring refugees directly. Rather, we are assisting registered local organizations that are sponsoring refugee families.

Q: What are Kingston Area Rotary Clubs doing to support arriving refugees?

A: Local Rotarians are helping sponsoring organizations in the Kingston area to gather and distribute furniture, appliances, clothing, and household goods for incoming refugees.

Q: Are Kingston area Rotarians only helping refugees from Syria?

A: KRAR's objective is to support refugees in need no matter where they come from. We are supporting private refugee sponsor groups that are currently welcoming refugees from a number of countries, including Syria, Burundi, and Eritrea.

How can I help financially?

Q: Can I help financially?

A: Yes! KRAR is fundraising for the Emergency and Special Needs Fund. While sponsoring organizations take on significant financial commitments to provide the basics for incoming refugee families, emergencies do arise and the community can help. Financial donations in support of this fund can be submitted to:

The Rotary Club of Kingston
(KRAR - Kingston Rotarians Assisting Refugees)
P.O. Box 484
Kingston, ON K7L 4W5
Charitable No. BN11912 4931 RR001

All donations of \$20 or more will be eligible for a tax receipt. Please ensure that the name and address of the donor are clearly identified.

How is \$ used?

Q: How will financial donations to KRAR be used and how will they be monitored?

A: One hundred percent of financial donations to KRAR will be directed toward supporting local refugee families.

KRAR is alerted by the sponsoring organizations about specific emergencies and special needs.

The committee will issue periodic reports on the allocation of financial donations and supports.



Rotary Area Governor Brian Patterson presenting a donation to Rotarian Roy Conacher.

How can I donate other items?



1. **Small items** (clothing, small appliances, kitchenware) : Please contact the **Salvation Army Thrift Store** (613.544.4396) to arrange donation of clothing (all sizes), small appliances (kettle, toaster, coffee maker, mixer etc.), kitchenware (dishes, pots and pans, cutlery etc.). *Please note:* Donated items will be placed in general circulation at the Thrift Store and are not segregated for exclusive refugee use. In return for these donated items, the Salvation Army provides special Rotary/Salvation vouchers to refugee families so that they can adequately clothe all family members and set up basic functioning households.
2. **Large items** (large appliances, furniture): Please contact the individual **private refugee sponsor groups** (listed on page 4) to arrange donation of large appliances (fridge, stove, washer, dryer, etc.), and furniture (night tables, dressers, dining tables, chairs, side tables etc.).

Q: What should I avoid donating?

A: Please **do not** donate used mattresses and linens, damaged goods, and unwashed clothing.

How can I volunteer my time?

A: There is a demand for such expertise as resume and career assistance, English as a Second Language assistance, tutoring for children, fellowship, companionship, and integration with the Kingston community. Instead of duplicating the efforts of others, we are referring people to the following programs, which are coordinating volunteers:

Kingston Immigration Partnership
Kingston Community Health Centre
Ruth Noordegraaf
613-544-4661 extension 5151
ruthn@kchc.ca

United Way (KFLA)
<http://www.unitedwaykfla.ca/refugeerelief/>
volunteer@unitedwaykfla.ca



Kingston Community Health Centres
Centres de santé communautaire de Kingston



Our sincere thanks to **Capital Movers & Storage** for their tremendous help and generosity in transporting, storing, and distributing the outpouring of donations of furniture and clothing from Kingstonians.

www.pleasemoveme.ca

Private Refugee Sponsor Groups:

KRAR encourages community members to donate new or gently used furniture and appliances directly to the private refugee sponsor groups and supporters, including:

- **Diocese of Ontario Refugee Support /The DOORS Group** (Debra Fieguth, fieguthdebra@gmail.com 613.549.7159 or 343.363.5090)
- **Four Rivers Presbytery & Islamic Society of Kingston** (Dawn Clarke, dclarke@kos.net)
- **Inter-Church Refugee Partnership** (Kenn Doerksen kenn-sue2@yahoo.ca)
- **Kingston Writers' Refugee Committee** (Joan Heaton bjvsheaton@gmail.com 613.547.4333)
- **Save a Family from Syria** (Dawn Clarke, dclarke@kos.net)
- **St. Mark's Anglican Church** (Fr. Haynes Hubbard fr.hghubbard@gmail.com 613.546.3386)
- **St. Mary's Cathedral Family Sponsorship** (Angela Gambin stmarysrefugee@gmail.com 613.542.0414)
- **The West Kingston Refugee Partnership (WKRP)** (Janice Shaw, Janice_shaw@hotmail.com)

Community Services:

- **Immigrant Services Kingston and Area** (kchc.ca 613.544.4661)
- **Justice and Peace Commission** (romancatholic.kingston.on.ca 613.548.4461)
- **KEYS Job Centre Immigrant Services** (keys.ca 613.546.5559)
- **Kingston Community Health Centres** (kchc.ca 613.544.4661)
- **Queen's Law Refugee Support Program** (facebook.com/QLRSP)
- **Salvation Army Kingston Citadel** (salvationarmy.ca 613.544.4396)
- **United Way KFLA** (unitedwaykfla.ca)

*Join leaders
Exchange ideas
Take action*

Contact Us

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