

Yaser, Amina, & Salma - 6 months in Canada !!

As of Friday November 3, 2017, the family has been in Canada for 6 months. So much has happened for the Al Ibrahim family.

In July the family moved into their own 2 bedroom apartment on Flamingo Drive beside our church. So many volunteers have worked to make the family feel comfortable in Elmira. Just last Friday night, many of you got to meet the family for the first time at the Church Fish Fry.

In August, there was a picnic hosted by several sponsoring parishes in the area where Yaser and Amina met some of the other local Syrian families. In September, a trip to Niagara Falls allowed them to experience this "world wonder" in the company of some of these same families.

Salma is now 10.5 months old. She instantly wins everyone over with her large dark eyes, quick smile and squeals of delight. Yaser and Amina are so fortunate that Salma is so healthy. Salma has adapted to child care with ease while both parents are at ESL in Elmira.

Amina is doing well in Canada. She started ESL in Elmira in early September and thrives in class. ESL has been interrupted with the College strike, but hopefully it will be over early next week. The Education team is going over to their apartment for one hour per day, approximately 4 times a week to give Yaser & Amina private English lessons. We can see that the extra English lessons are helping. The Health team has followed up on all of Amina's health needs. Amina, is going to write her G1 drivers test this week.

Yaser is adjusting to Canada. He did a few weeks of ESL in Elmira in June. Volunteers took Yaser to Kitchener and picked him up for 6 weeks in July and August to attend ESL. Yaser started ESL in Elmira in September along with Amina. He volunteered at MCC Thrift Shop for July, August, and September, where he helped in the receiving and sorting area. We are currently trying to help Yaser find a part time job, such that he can continue in ESL. The Health team is following up on all of Yaser's health needs. Yaser has completed his G1 drivers test and is doing his G2 drivers test this week. Good luck Yaser.

Both Yaser and Amina have celebrated birthdays since their arrival in Canada and seemed to enjoy Canadian style birthday parties.

A big THANK YOU to all the Parishioners who have helped support this family in Canada. We began this Parish project 23 months ago.