



Esmatullah Ahmadzai was on the front line of freedom in Afghanistan.



Once an interpreter and then a prominent TV news journalist in Kabul, Afghanistan, Esmatullah was threatened, attacked, assaulted, and shot at for speaking against the Taliban. The news station he worked for was bombed twice. On August 15, 2021, KOP was asked if we could add Esmatullah and his family to a State Dept. list for evacuation.



My family and I are part of the more than 1,000 Afghan refugees who relocated to New York state late last year. I worked with the U.S. embassy in Kabul to find a way out through the SIV and P-2 program (visas given to those considered "high value" targets of the Taliban). On the 18th of August, three days after the Taliban took over Kabul, I received an email from the U.S. embassy saying, "You are ready for departure and you should come to the airport at 4:00 pm." While getting my wife and kids out was crucial, leaving behind the

rest of my family was heartbreaking.

After living at the Army camp in New Mexico for two months, my family and I were relocated to Rochester on November 6, 2021, with our documents and one bag. When we arrived here, the **Keeping Our Promise** community supported us with a place to live and helped us to start over. I am so thankful for them.

It is difficult to talk about leaving home. In Afghanistan, I was a famous journalist with a master's degree. I left all those things in Afghanistan. I am so happy that my immediate family is safe. But I'm so worried about my three brothers who are still living in Afghanistan right now. Despite everything, I hope for peace for all the world, especially for Afghanistan.

Update from KOP:

On April 19, 2022, your donations made it possible for Esmatullah to receive his Wheels For Work car grant, and he has since been hired by News Channel 8 - WROC TV! Thank you for helping our allies like the Esmatullah Ahmadzai family start their new life in our community filled with friendship and support.



Help us resettle more families like the

Ahmadzai family in the greater Rochester area!



Join us for "All In For Afghan Allies" Virtual Race June 20 – 30, 2022

**Help us reach our goal to resettle 50 wartime ally families
this year!**

There are 4 ways you can participate:

1. You can [register](#) to race in the event.
2. You can start your own [individual or team fundraising page](#). Your team does not need to race together to fundraise together.
3. You can ask your business or employer to become a [sponsor](#).
4. You can make a [donation](#) to support this fundraiser

**Whichever way you chose to move to honor our Afghan Allies, we
encourage you to sign up now through the race period of June
20–30, 2022.**

**Participants who need assistance setting up a personal
fundraising page can email: info@keepingourpromise.org.**

[Click here to sign up today – All In For Afghan Allies Virtual Race](#)

Thank you to our sponsors:



www.keepingourpromise.org

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