

Keeping Our Promise Inc.

Escaping With His Life



Thanks to you, we were able to get Niamatullah to Rochester in record time – two days after Taliban attacks in his home city of Kandahar.

This former English teacher, and U.S. ally, was told on March 29 that he needed to be in Kabul on April 8 at 2:30 in the afternoon to get his visa. By road it was a 10 hour trip through Taliban territory. By plane, a 55 minute flight.

The U.S military was launching air attacks on Taliban outposts surrounding his city when he was notified by the U.S. that he needed to get to Kabul. He was hoping to be able to spend Ramadan with his family – perhaps their last – after he received his visa.

He left on the first flight of April 7, and at 11 AM, the Taliban launched a rocket attack on the airfield. While the U.S. referred to this as a **"nuisance attack"**, there was no going back for Niamatullah.

Thanks to you and our partners at Miles4Migrants, Niamatullah was able to get a flight out of Kabul on April 9, and arrived in Buffalo on April 10.

His first words to us?

"Thank-you for saving my life."

You provided him with food, and emergency housing where he could quarantine. A volunteer arranged for him to get his first Covid vaccine. He moves into his permanent apartment with another SIV in mid-May because of your support. He has already started volunteering and considering his career options in Rochester!

Because of you Niamatullah has his life ahead of him in our very gracious community of Rochester.

Volunteer Highlight

Chandee Searcy is a model of love and commitment! Chandee has brought her children along in almost every step of this journey of SIV resettlement, expanding their world, and helping many to learn about **welcoming the stranger.**

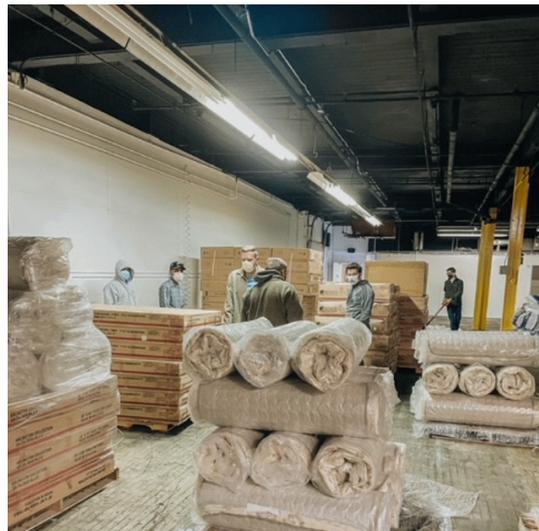
Chandee and her children have been to many airport welcomes with homemade signs and cheers. Most recently she organized



volunteers to help unpack pallets of furniture and beds from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. Chandee is a light for many of our families, and an inspiration to many.

We Are Moving to 850 St. Paul St.

Starting May 3, **Keeping Our Promise** volunteers will be moving all of our donations to our new shared space with **Greenovation** to the Upper Falls neighborhood located at 850 Saint Paul St. The new renovated space is next to OACES, where many of our SIVs attend adult education classes.



This is a BIG move and expected to take KOP at least 2-3 weeks. The date is not firm at this time because the floor still needs to be painted, but it will start May 3rd or shortly thereafter. For **Greenovation** the move is planned over a six week period.

Keeping Our Promise will have its own dedicated office space, and there is a conference room for our organizations to share. The space has been completely rehabilitated and we are sharing the building with another not-for-profit - **Rochester Makerspace** - as well as many other businesses! Our entrance will be in the front of the building, but you must turn onto Scrantom St. to access the parking area at the front of the building.

If you have a truck or van, and can drive, please let us know! We have almost finished packing boxes of dishes and housewares, which can be moved in cars or vans. We will be renting a U-haul for moving the furniture.

[Yes I can help! Sign Up Here](#)



JUNE 14 – 20, 2021

Join KOP for a Virtual Fundraiser

If you haven't already registered for KOP's **RUN FOR THEIR LIVES** event, you can do so now!

Participants from around the United States are running, hiking, biking, riding horses, and even doing a driving tour of the Finger

Lakes region to support resettlement of our SIV families. You do not need to be in Rochester to join this life-saving event!

Click here to **REGISTER!**

Please become an individual fundraiser or form a fundraising team. It's easy to set up.

1. [Start your personal or team fundraising page.](#)
2. Customize your page and tell why you support **Keeping Our Promise.**
3. Share your page link with family and friends.
4. Post your fundraising photos from June 14-20 on our Facebook page, on Instagram ([#KeepingOurPromise](#)), or share in email for us to post.
5. Any questions, please contact kopfundraising@gmail.com

Let Us Help With Laundry!

Tru Earth, maker of earth-friendly laundry strip detergent, is helping our families and the KOP community to reduce our "eco footprint" and support

our SIV resettlement program in Rochester.

Tru Earth has given **Keeping Our Promise** a grant so that each new SIV family has laundry detergent for a year!

In addition, each sale of their earth-friendly products from our website, newsletter and link helps to support our resettlement program. Want to try it out? Stop by the checkout desk at Greenovation (1199 East Main St. Rochester through June, then to 850 St. Paul St.) to get a free sample and try four loads of laundry on us! You can shop now using the link below. **Tru Earth** donates 20% of each sale to **Keeping Our Promise** to support our resettlement program.



[Tru Earth - Keeping Our Promise](#)

www.keepingourpromise.org

888 Pittsford Mendon Center Road, Pittsford
NY 14534 United States

Our federal tax ID is: 85-1918996

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