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Dear Valued Community Partner:

Life for our wartime allies has changed considerably over the last year. While some were able to evacuate from Afghanistan last fall to military bases and cities across the United States, many thousands remain behind. Many we have supported with visa assistance are stuck in Tajikistan, Turkey, India and Pakistan. Those still in Afghanistan are desperate, lonely, and filled with fear that the Taliban will hunt them down and kill them for supporting United States interests during the war. Keeping Our Promise remains committed to these individuals whether they are stateside or still trying against all hope to get here. We strongly believe that we have a moral obligation to stay engaged and committed to our wartime allies.

Since 2014, Keeping Our Promise has resettled over 600 of our wartime allies to the Rochester area – 251 of those individuals since August 2021. Our services include visa assistance, help to secure emergency flights when needed, a security deposit, 2-3 months of rent, home furnishings, household supplies, and basic food necessities. Because many new arrivals have come on a Humanitarian Parole visa, and have not yet secured their Special Immigrant visa, the cost to support a family has increased. ***It is estimated that resettlement costs \$10,000 for a family of four.***

As a grassroots organization that does not receive any government funding, we rely heavily on donations, charitable giving, and fundraising events to carry out our mission. To continue this work, we are excited to announce our upcoming ***“All in for Afghan Allies” virtual race fundraiser.*** The event will be held during the month of June 2022, to coincide with World Refugee Awareness Month. Individuals and groups are encouraged to participate on behalf of our families by running, walking, biking, horseback riding, or skateboarding!

We are truly grateful to our supportive community for being “all in” to help us achieve our goal and raise \$60,000, which will ensure that our dedicated staff and valued volunteers can continue providing comprehensive resettlement assistance to our wartime allies. ***We would be honored to have you join us as a sponsor!***

Thank you for your consideration in making a direct impact in the lives of men and women who sacrificed greatly for our country. These families are our future. They are our neighbors, children’s classmates, employees, and family! With your support we can provide the promise of a better life in the Rochester area, free of conflict and full of possibilities!

Sincerely,

Fundraising Committee Member