



SGAC Refugee Family Congregational Update

March 2025

SGAC submitted an application in June 2022 to sponsor a refugee family which was approved in December 2022 and transferred to the IRCC office in Ankara, Turkey. Their application still waits approval. The Christian family of five is from Afghanistan but fled to Tajikistan for their personal safety. However, life in Tajikistan is also complicated, where they face challenges including hostility from local authorities, threats of deportation, and not having the right to work.

For more information, please visit <https://www.sgac.net/GlobalMissions> or call Arlene Olsen at 780-903-7064 for details on how you can get involved with the sponsorship team.

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Prayer Requests:

- Pray the family's visa would be granted quickly.
- Pray for God's protection from harm and that He would provide all the family's needs as they wait upon the Lord.
- Pray for the SGAC sponsorship team as they prepare for the arrival of the family and help them resettle once they arrive in Canada.
- Praise God for the provision of the necessary funds to provide the financial assistance to the family for SGAC's 12-month commitment.

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Below is a letter from the family sent to the sponsorship team in January 2025.

Dear friends in Christ,

We are deeply grateful for your love, prayers, and support. Your church has been a tremendous blessing to our family, reminding us that in Christ, we are all part of one spiritual family—united by His Spirit.

Ministry in Tajikistan is filled with challenges, from navigating cultural differences to facing the hardships that come with being a family far from home. Yet, we have experienced God's unwavering

faithfulness through every trial. He has been our protector, provider, and the strength that carries us through each day.

We are witnessing God's grace in the lives of those we serve—both Afghan refugees and Tajik people. Through the Gospel, we see hearts softened and lives transformed. It is humbling to know that God is using our small efforts to bring His glory to this place.

We ask for your continued prayers in the following areas:

- For strength and perseverance as we share the Gospel in a land where many have never heard it.
- For the protection and provision of our family as we live and serve in Tajikistan.
- For the hearts of the people here, including Afghan refugees, that they may experience the love and truth of Jesus Christ.
- For wisdom and guidance as we prepare for our transition to Canada and continue our work there.

As we serve here, we remember the challenges that many face, including deportation and financial struggles. We pray for those who are still struggling, especially for the Afghan believers and the families we minister to. They are part of the community we serve, and we believe that God will work in their hearts as they come closer to faith in Christ.

Thank you for being a part of what God is doing through us in Tajikistan. Your love and prayers are sustaining us and empowering us to continue in this calling.

In closing, we draw strength from the Word of God:

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." (Philippians 4:13)

"But He said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.'" (2 Corinthians 12:9)

