



## ***Eat Around the World Potluck and Household Goods Drive***

Every month, Altamont Free Library holds a wonderful event called the *Eat Around the Word Potluck*, where members of our community come together and prepare and share foods from a different culture or country each month. In February, we've decided to add another element to the mix. On **Monday February 27<sup>th</sup> at 6pm**, we will be sampling the cuisine of Syria. In the Capital District, we have seen many people who have escaped the recent violence in Syria and are now trying to make a new life for themselves among us. Often, these refugees come to the United States with only the proverbial clothes on their backs, and they need help. To that end, on the night of our potluck and in the week before it, we will be accepting donations of household goods to be distributed to groups that work to resettle refugee populations. Making a donation is by no means necessary to attending the potluck, but if you are inclined, below, you will find a wish list of household and personal goods that would gratefully received.

### **Requested Household Goods for Syrian Refugees**

Imagine coming to a new country with your entire family and only a few suitcases. You would need some help to get started in your new home! The staff, volunteers, and donors to the US Committee from Refugees and Immigrants (USCRI) help refugee families feel welcome in their new community. Monetary contributions and donated gift cards are also greatly appreciated by refugee families. Donations to USCRI, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, are tax-deductible.

Below is a list of the items most needed to set up a household for a refugee family. While there are many other things that may be useful, they have limited storage space and have to prioritize these essential items. They accept new and gently used items and cannot make repairs or launder items.

### **ACCEPTED DONATIONS**

#### **KITCHEN**

Dishes; glasses; silverware; pots; pans; woks; rice cookers; cooking utensils; mixing bowls; can openers

#### **BATHROOM**

Bath towels; bath mats; shower curtain and rings; toilet paper; facial tissue

#### **HOUSEHOLD**

Paper; notebooks; pens; pencils; school supplies; scissors; light bulbs; lamps; flashlights

#### **PERSONAL HYGIENE**

Toothbrushes; toothpaste; soap; shampoo; deodorant; disposable razors; sanitary napkins; diapers; other baby items

(List continues on back)

### BEDROOM

Sheet sets (twin/double); comforters; blankets; pillows; pillowcases; alarm clocks; clothing hangers; window curtains/rods

### FURNITURE

Dining tables; chairs; couches; sofas (no pull-out beds); love seats; dressers; Air Conditioners

### CLEANING SUPPLIES

Mops; buckets; brooms; dustpans; toilet brush and holder; wastebaskets; trash bags; paper towels; dish soap; sponges; kitchen cleanser; all-purpose cleaner; laundry detergent

### CLOTHES AND SHOES

Winter wear (Coats; boots; gloves; mittens; hats; scarves)

### OFFICE AND SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Computers (laptops or desktops), tape, school and office supplies (notebooks, pencils, construction papers, lined papers etc.), clothes and shoes, dry erase boards and markers

## **IT'S HARD TO SAY "NO, THANK YOU," BUT WE GRACIOUSLY CANNOT ACCEPT**

- Beds or bed frames
- TV's, DVD players and VCR's
- Washing machines/dryers; microwaves; stoves; non-essential items (baskets, knick-knacks, decorations, etc.)
- Clothing (with some exceptions for winter clothing and children's clothing)
- Books except for children's books, books for English learners, and dictionaries.

PLEASE CHECK WITH YOUR SPECIFIC FIELD OFFICE LOCATION IF THEY CURRENTLY HAVE THE CAPACITY TO ACCEPT WINTER CLOTHING. WE APPRECIATE YOUR CONSIDERATION AND SUPPORT!