



Neighbors Helping Neighbors

In April, one of our Algerian neighbors, Nouara, called Em, RIC career specialist, and asked, "There is a new family in Riverview. Can we bring them for job help?" The next day another Algerian neighbor, Lamia, called me and asked, "There is a new family and they need Medicaid because she is pregnant. Can you help them?" Both Nouara and Lamia were earlier recipients of RIC help when they arrived in 2019 and now were calling for the same family! Em and I both had meetings with this new family, who were temporarily living with Nouara and getting rides to our office from Lamia! The husband started working right away, and his wife got Medicaid and is getting prenatal care now. When they moved into their own apartment, I asked what baby items they needed, and was pleased to learn that the Algerian Amazigh ([what is Amazigh?](#)) community on Riverview had already given them nearly everything! As much as we love to support our neighbors and new families, *we love it even more when we see our community supporting each other!*

The weather is getting warmer and the days are growing longer. Flowers are blooming, trees are green again, and it feels like the pandemic situation is finally starting to improve! This month, enjoy some stories from our community of the good things happening! And thank you, as ever, for your care and support for Riverview and the RIC!

Emelia Sheeley,
Assistant Director

Volunteer Spotlight: Amy Cobbs

"I'm so thankful that I found this kind community, and have been blessed by the friends that I have made here. It's important that newly arrived families and individuals feel welcomed and cared for in their new home. I enjoy collecting essential donated items for these families and I am always touched by the generosity of others. No matter how I am volunteering, I always enjoy meeting our Riverview neighbors and learning about their inspiring experiences!"



It's **Ramadan** again! After missing out on special dinners and parties

with our community last year, our staff - now all vaccinated - is enjoying celebrating with our neighbors this year! Here is a photo of Emelia and her daughter

Nora at their **iftar** dinner with Afroza. We are encouraging our neighbors to get the vaccine, and many are choosing to do so. We look forward to a more normal, healthy future! To learn more about Ramadan, [click here](#).

Citizenship!

One of our RIC volunteers, Susan, met with a neighbor, Rokeya, many times over Zoom this winter to help Rokeya prepare for her upcoming citizenship exam. We are thrilled to share that Rokeya passed her exam and is now an American citizen! She shared this photo of herself holding her certificate, after the oath swearing. It takes a lot of [time and work](#) to become a citizen, and we are proud of Rokeya for taking this big step!



This winter, [Heart to Heart Food Pantry](#), a ministry of First Community Church, began bringing food boxes to the RIC once a month after noticing they had many people from Riverview driving to the pantry in Grandview for food and supplies. This popup pantry has been a gift to many of our families because the Heart to Heart staff have gone above and beyond to make sure to bring items our neighbors are familiar with and like to eat! There is no Hamburger Helper in Bangladesh, and our neighbors frequently don't know how to cook with the items they receive at pantries! To solve this problem, Heart to Heart is bringing foods like rice and pasta, fresh fruit and vegetables, and toiletries. We are grateful for this new partnership that helps so many families.



Our Contact Information

{{Organization Name}}
{{Organization Address}}
{{Organization Phone}}
{{Organization Website}}

{{Unsubscribe}}