



Naima's 3 daughters (L-R): Zineb, Zahra and Khadija

Children choose their prizes from the prize box after reading each night

## Our new neighbors & summer reading

At the end of May, we met a mom, Naima, after she and her family moved in just across from our office. She came to enroll her three daughters in school. As with many others, she came again the following week for help making a resume and applying for jobs. Naima was able to get a job at the Marriott Hotel right away, but because she arrived at the end of the school year, her daughters did not have enough time to enroll and begin attending school. Naima was eager for them to start learning English, so we invited the girls to attend our summer reading program. All three girls came every single day of the program, and the

youngest, Zineb, sometimes came two times in a night to have an adult read to her and teach her English letters and words! Next month the girls will finally get on that bus, and we will provide them with backpacks and water bottles for their big transition to school in America! It's an honor to support families through such a significant time in their lives. It takes many hours of meetings, but each appointment accomplishes important tasks that have to be done to get a family settled. Our financial supporters make this care for Naima and her children possible!

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## Summer Reading Highlights Here:





**"Teachers are very  
and they're fun"**



What is grown? Hot peppers, a type of spinach that thrives in hot sun various beans, tomatoes and flowers.

## Gardening on Riverview

Where do you go for fresh produce? Some of our neighbors, especially those from Bangladesh, grow their own if they can. Last week, I took a walk on Riverview Drive looking for gardens. I found 30 gardens using containers, patches of dirt and sometimes raised beds. Rita, who lives across from our office, manages the raised bed in front of our complex. She also uses every green space behind and beside the apartment buildings. Many of her gardens are lined with recycled jugs filled by her sons with water so that watering the garden isn't such a chore. No water spigots and hoses in these buildings! -- Diane Linton

# Celebrating With Our Neighbors

- Houda and husband, Abdulrazak, are now U.S. citizens!
- Alpana, Happy, Samir, Samir B, Saoussen, Hadjer, Safaa all got hired at the Marriott Hotel
- Hamza started his tow truck business
- Amr and Heba started their food truck business and in 1 month, Amr will be able to leave his warehouse job.
- Ahcene and Robert got connected to begin English conversation practice
- Soraya welcomed a new baby girl into the family
- Maha volunteered to speak at all of the RIC tours
- Volunteer Mike Renne agreed to help men learn to drive (a BIG need!)
- Fozia's family moved off of Riverview into a house.

Congratulations everyone!



Wrigley Field, Chicago

Los Angeles

The sewing group visits Clintonville!

## RIC Sewing at Jeni's across the U.S.!

Have you been to Jeni's Splendid Ice Creams this summer? Visit any Jeni's store across the US to see these beautiful buntings made by the Riverview Sewing Group! RIC friends have spotted them at Wrigley Field in Los Angeles and of course, Columbus!

## Volunteer Spotlight: Farhan Uddin

Farhan Uddin is a Centennial High School student and Riverview resident who began volunteering at the RIC in early 2020, helping whenever he could during our limited pandemic hours from setting up chairs to stuffing envelopes for mailings. This summer, he came for every night of Summer Reading Program,



never missing once! When we asked Farhan why he keeps coming back to help, he said,

*"I like to volunteer at the RIC because I like to help people. When I read with the kids, they feel happy, and I feel happy too! The RIC means a lot to me because when I came to USA for the first time, I didn't know much English. The RIC helped me a lot, with everything I needed. So now I am giving back to them."*



## COVID-19 VAX Clinics



This month we partnered with ReachCare Pharmacy and The Ohio Asian American Health Coalition to offer the COVID-19 vaccine at our office. For some of our neighbors, it's been difficult to get to a vaccine site off the street, so bringing the vaccine to Riverview was a huge help. Seven neighbors were vaccinated and many others came to talk to the pharmacist, Abdul, and have their questions answered. We plan to have Abdul returning to the RIC every month through the rest of 2021 to help more of our neighbors #gettheshot!

## Get to know the RIC!

- We invite you to join us for a 1 hour tour, in person or virtually. We will talk about what we have learned as staff/volunteers and hear directly from some of our neighbors.
- Next tour dates are Thursday, Aug. 12, @ 7pm or Wed. Sep. 15 @ 7pm.
- OR arrange for your small group of friends to come for a private tour.

[Arrange a Visit](#)



## THANK YOU Auction Bidders & Donors



- 53 people attended the event at COHatch
- 140 people participated in the online bidding
- \$55 profit was collected for the food (after paying our neighbors)
- \$5,172 came in from the winning auction bids
- \$1,760 was donated because of the auction

**\$6,987 given to benefit our New American neighbors!**

### **Our Contact Information**

\*{{Organization Name}}\*

\*{{Organization Address}}\*

\*{{Organization Phone}}\*

\*{{Organization Website}}\*

\*{{Unsubscribe}}\*