

Riverview

INTERNATIONAL CENTER

3 Women Unite in Work



Salsabil and her children enjoy the RIC Community Festival last fall

In many ways, the RIC has become a kind of facilitator in an effort to promote neighbors helping neighbors. Our goal is to take advantage of and share the many and varied skills of our neighbors. The story of Salsabil and Ghaniya is an example of this cooperative spirit. Salsabil came to the RIC often for help acquiring her Master's of French US equivalency in order to aid her job search with our RIC career specialists. Another neighbor, Ghaniya, a mother of many small children, was also coming to the RIC, looking for employment. Both women experienced a variety of barriers, including a lack of transportation, childcare, and one, English proficiency. These two ladies met and decided to work together to make their goals happen! They both were hired by a local charter school, as substitute teachers and housekeepers, respectively. Their husbands are now sharing transportation carpooling roles to get the women to and from the school. In addition, a third neighbor is helping with their childcare needs so the women can work! This is the kind of thing that makes this community unique, special, and necessary—empowering each other is contagious!

Good News on the Street



Emelia and Hamida carpoled with Dr. Dorothy Hassan and _____ from Our Helpers to attend the Hello Neighbor Network Conference which is a coalition of grassroots organizations working with refugees and immigrants in the U.S. that comes together to grow and inspire change.

"The Hello Neighbor training was very helpful for me. I had one-on-one meetings with non-profit consultants and got many tips from them that will help me a lot to improve my job. I noticed that RIC is in a good hands because [many other non-profit leaders] asked Emelia to give them advice and tips" Hamida Ouali, Community Care Coord, RIC



Angelica's thoughts on the OSU/craft partnership: Students with the OSU Mount Leadership Society partnered with the RIC last month to organize and lead a handprint mural project for our neighbors and families. The OSU Mount Leadership Society is an organization that focuses on leadership and community service throughout the county, and we are grateful for their community partnership!



The RIC has been hosting preschool enrollment including SPARK, a home-based preschool program, Headstart and Competative Columbus City Schools lottery applications!



This month, Hamida and her family, along with several community members, gained their U.S citizenships! Congratulations to each one!

Partner Spotlight: The Columbus Diaper Bank helps RIC neighbor families



A volunteer introduced us to the Columbus Diaper Bank (CDB) over 5 years ago. We met Jimmy, the director of CDB, and have partnered with them ever since to ease the expensive cost of diapers for our neighbors. In 2023, we gave out diapers to over 140 families.

Volunteer Needs

The RIC thrives on the spirit of volunteerism, and we have many opportunities for you to make a difference in the lives of our neighbors. Whether you're looking to engage directly with the community or support from behind, we have a place for you:

In-Person Opportunities:

- Homework Helper (Immediate Need):** Assist the neighborhood kids with their school work and foster social connections. Be a part of their academic journey Monday through Wednesday from 5:30-7:30PM. [Sign up here](#).
- Scavenger Hunt with Children:** Join us for a fun and engaging scavenger hunt with the kids on Tuesday, April 16, from 5:30-7:30PM.
- Office Greeter:** Dedicate 2 hours a week to help us in the office. Your assistance with service data entry, greeting visitors/neighbors, answering basic questions, and scheduling appointments is invaluable to our operations.

[VOLUNTEER HERE](#)

Did you know? Holy month for Muslims and Christians

This year, two very important holy seasons for many Muslims and Christians, Ramadan and Lent, respectively, overlap in the month of March. Both holy seasons are a time of fasting. The dates of Ramadan are determined by the moon and 30 days of fasting from food and drink during the day, with fasts broken every evening during a celebratory meal and prayer time called iftar. Lent, on the other hand, is 40 days of fasting from general indulgences like meat, chocolate, coffee, etc. Ramadan ends with a celebration called Eid and Lent ends with the celebration of Easter.

Come visit us!

Step inside the world of the RIC and experience the pulse of our community firsthand. Come meet with us — see our space, hear from one of our neighbors, and learn about immigration in Ohio. You are welcome here!

Our doors are wide open on the following dates:

- Wednesday, **April 10** 6:00-7:00 PM.
- Wednesday, **April 24** 12:00-1PM
- Wednesday, **May 8** 6:00-7:00 PM

[Email Diane](#) to choose a date to visit.



Our Contact Information
 {{(Organization Name)}}
 {{(Organization Address)}}
 {{(Organization Phone)}}
 {{(Organization Website)}}
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