**Local Amnesty International Group Sponsors Refugee Family**

“Community Sponsorship” Allows Individuals to Come Together to Support and Welcome Refugees

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
[DATE]

CONTACT:

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The [local] Amnesty International group has joined with [RESETTLEMENT AGENCY] in sponsoring a family from [COUNTRY] seeking refuge in the United States. The family, who was granted refugee status by the U.S. government, will arrive [this week].

“Refugees are people just like you and me who have been forced to leave their homes because of unimaginable conditions,” said [local spokesperson]. “They’re only trying to keep themselves and their families safe, which is what any of us would do in their situation. Our group decided to be part of the solution by welcoming this family with compassion into our community.”

The U.S. government works with nonprofit organizations to help place refugees once they have passed the onerous vetting process, which can sometimes take years. Community sponsorship is a process by which local residents can work with these organizations to provide material support to help the family get settled, as well as emotional support to help them ease into the community while they get back on their feet.

“With community sponsorship, everyone has the power to be part of the solution by taking actions that reinforce the America that we believe in,” said [AIUSA staffer]. “We believe that this is a country that embraces our neighbors and offers a home for people seeking safety.”

[In consultation with the family and local resettlement agency, can insert additional information about the family if appropriate and the family is willing. This information may include how many people are in the family, how long it took for them to be cleared, what the adults did for a living, what they hope for their future, etc.]