

"Our mission is to love and care for those seeking refuge from war torn countries with the heart of Jesus."

Oasis International

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Special Thanks to First Baptist Arnold and Church at Bevo!



We are so grateful for the 95 box fans that came in from Church at Bevo and First Baptist Church-Arnold, Mo. It is so important for every refugee family to have at least one fan in the summer time. Many times the new families are struggling to find jobs and are concerned about utility bills, so they opt to not turn their air conditioners off and depend on the fan for cooling. The picture on the left are two new friends from Cuba. We are receiving more families from Syria, Iraq, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Somalia, Sudan and Congo.

nature's bakery



CENTAUR
BUILDING SERVICES

God has truly answered our prayer again! We have been praying for jobs for the refugee families. We were contacted by these two companies that wanted to connect with us to do applications and interviews at Oasis in order to hire refugee families. We are so thankful for good companies that want to pay a good salary with benefits. The founder of Centaur was a refugee so their families are always wanting to help the new refugees coming to St. Louis. The Vice President of Nature's Bakery was in the congregation when Mark spoke at Destiny Church. They connected with us and set up interviews at Oasis for about 15 refugees for jobs. Talk about "divine connections".

ESL Teachers and Childcare Workers Training

Joani is already preparing for the 2015 fall semester for English classes at Oasis. There will be an envisioning and training workshop for teachers and childcare workers on Tuesday August 25th. Our English classes meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Contact Joani for an application on our website or by phone or email. We are in need of 3 teachers on Tuesday (10:30-12:30) and 4 teachers on Thursday (10:30-12:30.) We also need 2 child care workers for Thursday (10:30-12:30.) School will start on Tuesday, September 8th. We have 6 levels of English classes and two teachers per class. We say we have the most eager students in St. Louis. You will fall in love with them.

Mark & Joani Akers Founders/Directors

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Please check out our new video at <https://vimeo.com/121524862>

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"This is what the LORD Almighty said: Administer true justice; show mercy and compassion to one another. Do not oppress the widow or the fatherless, the foreigner or the poor.

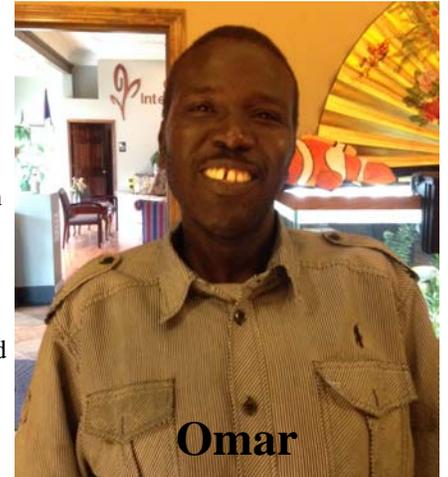
Do not plot evil against each other." Zechariah 7:9

"Compassion" A feeling of deep sympathy and sorrow for another who is stricken by misfortune, accompanied by a strong desire to alleviate the suffering.

Oasis In the City: *"Stories from the heart."*

"oasis" a pleasant or peaceful area in the midst of a difficult place.; calm in the city."

We have known Omar, from Sudan since he arrived in St. Louis 5 years ago. We have helped him with his furniture and clothes but have also helped him with day to day needs along the way. He is a great example of the relationship we have with many of the refugee people we love and care for each day. When he came in last week his words were, "**Mark, you give me hope when I come to Oasis.**" Last Wednesday he needed help with a problem getting into his new apartment. I helped him fill out his application a few weeks ago. He loved this new place and his best friend from Sudan lives there. So he came in to Oasis a week ago to tell me that he was accepted. Then Wednesday he came in and was very sad. The landlord called him and told him back and they gave him his application fee back. He was so depressed. I asked him if I could call the landlord and he was surprised and said yes. So I called and asked the landlord, who was very nice, if she could give him a try. While the phone was on speaker, Omar heard the landlord change her mind. He was ecstatic. He couldn't believe it. After we hung up Omar came around and gave me a hug.



Omar



Eman and Haider

Last month we shared a picture of Eman, from Jordan, receiving her citizenship. This month we also want to share that her husband, Haider, from Iraq, also received his citizenship. It is always a celebration for the family and friends to get together and realize where they have come from and the new life they live now in the U.S. One thing for sure it is not easy to leave your country, family, friends and your way of life. As with most refugee families it has been a difficult transition from Iraq and Jordan with 4 children. Haider has helped us many times as we were getting started at Oasis. He has helped us bring families to Oasis that needed furniture and clothes. He has driven our Oasis truck to help deliver furniture to new arrivals from many countries. Today Haider repairs cars and Eman volunteers at Oasis with our child care. We love to see their smiling faces as they help with interpreting for the Arabic speaking people and bring people that need help to Oasis. When both of them received their citizenship they were quick to say, "**We love the United States of America!**" And we love you too, Haider and Eman. God bless you.