

REFUGEE HOPE INTL

“WHEN IS THE NEXT SOCIAL EVENT?”

Just days after a community gathering hosted by the Ypsilanti Seventh-day Adventist Church, a refugee child asked a simple question: **“When is the next social event?”** Having enjoyed the evening so much, he was already looking forward to the next opportunity to spend time with **friends and neighbors**.

His question highlights an important reality. For many refugee families, the challenge is not only meeting physical needs but also overcoming **isolation** caused by **language barriers, unemployment, and limited support networks**. Children and youth, in particular, benefit greatly from opportunities to build friendships and feel **connected to their community**.

To help address this need, Refugee Hope International (RHI) regularly connects families with **local events**. On February 15, RHI partnered with the Ypsilanti Seventh-day Adventist Church for a special social gathering that welcomed approximately 45 attendees, including many children. Families enjoyed recreational activities, meaningful conversations, and time together in a warm and **welcoming environment**. At the end of the evening, each family received a gift bag containing household essentials.

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BUILDING COMMUNITY, RESTORING HOPE



YARD SALE FUNDRAISER

Volunteers and supporters came together to host a yard sale fundraiser benefiting Refugee Hope International. Thanks to generous donations and community participation, funds were raised to support programs and services for refugee families. We are grateful to everyone who contributed items, volunteered their time, and helped make the event a success.



BREAD MINISTRY IN APRIL



Throughout April, dedicated volunteers baked homemade bread, which Refugee Hope International distributed fresh and warm to refugee families in our community. This simple act of kindness brought encouragement, strengthened relationships, and reminded families that they are cared for and valued.

More than anything, the event provided something many newly arrived families deeply need: **a sense of belonging**. It was an opportunity to build **friendships**, strengthen community ties, and create lasting memories. The child's question captured the impact of the evening better than any report could. It reflected a desire not simply for another event, but for another opportunity to be part of **a caring community**.

At RHI, we remain committed to walking alongside refugee families, connecting them with opportunities for friendship, support, and meaningful community. We believe that when people feel **welcomed, valued, and included, hope begins to grow**.

Families served average monthly : 35

New refugee families served: 5

Assisted job searching: 4 persons

Distribution over six months:

- 16 bikes;
- 75 boxes of clothes and diapers ;
- 3 boxes of kids' books;
- 120 grocery bags;
- delivered furniture to 10 families;
- 10 vacuum cleaners distributed to 10 families.

Want to Volunteer?

Ask us how you can help!

Phone:

(734) - 604 -3353

Email:

RefugeeHopeInternational@gmail.com

Address:

2794 Packard Street
Ann Arbor, MI 48108

DONATE TODAY!

You may send gifts using **Zelle**
(no fees apply) with the email address:

refhope2023@gmail.com

You may also visit and read RHI NEWSLETTERS on our website at RefugeeHopeInternational.org

