

Dear CMC Supporter,

This spring at the Catholic Multicultural Center, we are **Celebrating Hope Together**. Hope can come in the form of being able to put food on the table after shopping at the food pantry; finding a new job that helps earn a living wage; learning English to make daily life a little easier; or enjoying a warm meal in the company of friends. One young immigration legal services client recently found hope at the CMC after world events turned his life upside down:

Wisal is a typical 13-year-old boy, who is originally from Afghanistan. After the U.S. troop withdrawal, he and his family were in danger. They went to the Kabul airport in August 2021 to try to evacuate, when a bomb exploded knocking Wisal unconscious. In the chaos that ensued, Wisal was separated from his family. A few days later, he was evacuated to Qatar while his family presumed him dead. Wisal arrived here in the U.S. alone, but was welcomed into the care of extended family. To be able to stay safely in Madison and to reunite with his family, he quickly needed immigration legal services. The CMC team stepped in, helping navigate the incredibly complex and lengthy process of applying for asylum. In early December, Wisal had his asylum interview at USCIS with CMC staff by his side. Three weeks later, he received a decision that his asylum case had been approved! The CMC immigration team is also working to reunite Wisal with the rest of his immediate family, though USCIS approval rates for such applications are currently exceedingly low. Wisal and his guardian were happy to share his story with CMC supporters, in hopes that it would raise attention to the pressing needs of Afghans in our community and in their homeland.

A donation to the CMC makes the immigration legal program possible, offering hope to clients who cannot afford a private attorney. A gift of just \$50 will cover the cost of a consultation for one new client. Your contribution will also provide hope via a daily hot meal; help finding employment; food and personal hygiene items; ESL classes; and so much more.

Will you consider donating \$20, \$50, \$100, or more to allow CMC to continue to offer compassionate and practical services? Your gift will truly have an impact on enabling the CMC to provide hope for hundreds more people like Wisal in their time of need.

Wishing you health & blessings this Easter season. Thank you for your generous support and prayers.

Sincerely,



Steve Maurice | Director

You can also donate online:

cmcmadison.org/donate

Put Spring2023 in the note field





Celebrating Hope Together

