



# SACRAMENTO

## CALIFORNIA

*Dedicated Care for Afghan Refugees*



# 85,000

*Estimate of the number of Afghan refugees in the US in the last year.*

## 15,000

*Current estimate of Afghan refugees in Sacramento.*

## 10,000

*Estimate of those still expected to arrive in the area.*

## 70%

*The percentage of refugees that are children.*

## 5-6

*The average number of children per Afghan family.*

## 90

*The number of days federal assistance lasts for newcomers.*

# THE DISPLACED AFGHAN PEOPLE

Many see the United States' departure from the nation of Afghanistan as a near-complete disaster. The timing, the execution, and the void of leadership created an instantaneous emergency situation. This sparked celebration from the Taliban, desperation on the part of the average Afghan citizen, and sheer terror for those who had been helpful and supportive of US troops over the last 20 years.

Many escaped. Many remain. While at this time, it's nearly impossible to help those who remain, we have a unique opportunity to care for those who have been relocated to this nation and placed in our own backyard.

While the government is taking some actions to support these families, significant gaps remain. One of the greatest gaps is in the area of culturally sensitive, language-specific, dignified healthcare and soul care.

*We intend to help  
change that.*

# ADVOCATES

God has given Dr. Tom Stafford a vision to care for the least of these. It's a calling he has felt since early in life. Medicine is his training and his skill, but providing true healing in Jesus' name is his calling. God has uniquely positioned him and gifted him to do this in a beautiful and natural way for the Afghan refugee population. Dr. Tom is not alone. We have a team of other doctors, nurses, and support staff who are volunteering their time and expertise to serve this vulnerable population.

One of these team members is Roman (Roma), a female Afghan doctor we initially crossed paths with back in 2020. Little did we know at that time that God would be using her to partner with us in caring for the refugees. Roman is now working full-time with Healing Grove to provide cultural care, medical care, translation, and community support. She is a tremendous blessing to the recently arrived refugees, as well as the team of doctors and nurses caring for them. God has blessed her with a kind and compassionate heart to serve her own people.





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*These refugees supported and protected our troops in Afghanistan, and their children have already lived with more trauma and fear than many of us will experience in our lifetime. God has brought them to us, and settled them in our midst. Let's show them the love, hospitality, and quality of care that Jesus calls us to provide.”*

**DR. THOMAS STAFFORD**

Internal Medicine & Pediatrics

*Better is a neighbor nearby than a brother in a distant land.*

Proverbs 27:10





## HEALING GROVE HEALTH CENTER

# *Work has already begun.*

Doctors are visiting the communities and apartments of Afghan refugees, making detailed house calls for all in the home. This is part of the long, hard work of building relationships and trust in a new community of refugees. They are listening to their stories and caring for their emotional, mental, and spiritual pain. They are learning about the acute and chronic health needs of this newly arrived population, so that long-term solutions can be found.

During these visits, other needs related to schooling, work, and family often surface. The doctors are able to connect them to other organizations who can help address these needs. Before concluding the extended visits in the home, which often end with tea and treats, the doctors offer to pray for the family. They lift up their specific health needs, and pray a blessing over their new home. These are truly holy moments.

We are also running a school-ready vaccine program, which is helping newly arrived Afghan children get enrolled in local schools as quickly as possible. In addition, we have a network of volunteer specialists providing care for more specific issues as they arise.

However, home visits have limitations. This is where the vision for Healing Grove Health Center comes in. Together, we would like to lease and renovate a community health clinic, which will serve as the hub for all of the healthcare activity being provided for the Afghan refugees.

# HEALING FOR NEW NEIGHBORS

## PHYSICAL BROKENNESS

Healthcare workers are meeting real and unique health needs of this population, with high quality care in the name of Christ.

## FAMILIAL BROKENNESS

Nearly every family has left behind grandparents, siblings, children, or spouses. Families have been fragmented and shattered. Many fear for the lives of family members left behind, which is why we don't show the faces of adults.

## EMOTIONAL BROKENNESS

The word "trauma" can't even begin to capture the things seen and experienced by the Afghan people, both during the course of the war and during the final days of evacuation.

## SPIRITUAL BROKENNESS

The greatest need the refugees have is for the caring, compassionate, healing, saving love of Christ. We are in a unique position to share His love in word and deed.





## Healing Grove Health Center

Healing Grove Health Center will be a place where Afghans can receive culturally competent healthcare, soul care, and cultural care in a loving and compassionate environment. Healing Grove is seeking to acquire an existing facility in Sacramento, in the vicinity of the Afghan community, and equip it to be a clinic that can meet the ongoing needs of this diaspora community.

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## Phase 1

✓ COMPLETED

### DEVELOP LAUNCH TEAM

The vision for Healing Grove is the culmination of leaders from various refugee organizations coming together to make an impact.

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## Phase 2

✓ COMPLETED

### PLANNING AND RESEARCH

Counsel was sought and models were evaluated for the most effective and culturally appropriate way to begin caring for the Afghan community.

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## Phase 3

✓ COMPLETED

### START HOME VISITS

For many months, home visits and periodic focus clinics have been conducted in an effort to evaluate and meet needs, build trust, and establish a track record. However, the needs outpace this short-term method.

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## Phase 4

### ESTABLISH A HOME-BASE CLINIC

Lease, renovate, and equip a community clinic that is designed from the ground up to care specifically for the Afghan refugee population in the greater Sacramento area.







Goal  
**\$250,000**



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# PROJECT FAQ'S

## *Who and what is Healing Grove Health Center?*

Healing Grove Health Center is a collaborative effort between doctors, NGO's, churches, and Healthbridge Global to bring compassionate, dignified, quality healthcare to the swelling population of Afghan refugees being resettled in the Sacramento area. It is a sister project of Healing Grove San Jose, that was started years ago to provide the same type of care to undocumented immigrants.

## *What is Healthbridge Global's role in this project?*

We have adopted this project. We are advocating for it, consulting for it, and raising funds from caring and like-minded people. This project is in line with our mission and purpose, and we believe that we have a responsibility to help care for these refugees.

## *Does Healthbridge provide operating support for this project?*

Healing Grove has a well-developed plan to be self-sustaining with regard to its ongoing operations. Our commitment is to help them develop a permanent clinical home-base that will uniquely meet the needs of the Afghan refugee population. Healing Grove has the capacity to maintain this project once launched.

## *Other questions?*

Feel free to reach out. We'll answer any questions you may have.

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the Gospel*

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