

FAIRHAVEN CHRISTADELPHIAN CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

WINTER 2021

*Do not oppress a
foreigner; you
yourselves know how
it feels to be
foreigners, because
you were foreigners in
Egypt.
Exodus 23:9*



...I WAS A STRANGER AND YOU INVITED ME IN --WELCOMING REFUGEES

A distinctive feature of the ancient mid-eastern culture was their generous hospitality. In Genesis 18 we read of Abraham's welcoming invitation to his angelic visitors and the lavish meal that he prepared for them. Similarly, Ruth the Moabitess, when gleaning in the field of Boaz, noted the kindness extended to her, "Why have I found such favor in your eyes that you notice me — a foreigner?" Yet human nature can cause us to be self-centred and view the foreigner with suspicion. In this respect the teaching of the Law was counterculture. Just as Israel had experienced slavery and persecution

firsthand in Egypt and knew what it felt like, God's people were called upon to treat the foreigners in their midst with empathy, rather than cruelty—and not exploit them as they had been exploited. "The foreigners residing among you must be treated as native-born. Love them as yourself, for you were foreigners in Egypt." (Lev. 19:34) As the new Israel of God, we too once were "aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise" but now have been "brought near by the blood of Christ".

Our Lord Jesus Christ sets the bar high for his disciples. Our treatment of the refugee brother or sister in our midst should reflect how we would treat the Lord himself. This is to be one of the hallmarks of Christian discipleship.

As we await the return of our Lord, we are to "live out our time as foreigners here with reverent fear" (1 Peter 1:17). As "strangers and pilgrims" in this age, we are mindful that we too live as foreigners in this world, awaiting our inheritance. God's kindness to us can guide our thoughts and actions towards those living as strangers in our midst.

Fairhaven Christadelphian Charitable Foundation

c/o 39 Knox Avenue

North, York, ON, M9L 2M2

www.fairhavenfoundation.ca

Directors: Alan Ghent, Marie Klien, Ian McPhee, Jennifer Narjes,
Mike Nielsen, Penny Sheppard, Tom Thorp



LOVE THEM AS YOURSELF...

The Law directed Israel to love the foreigner in their midst (Leviticus 19:34). They were to be treated equally under the law and included in the activities of the nation. Provisions included:

- * Protection in the Cities of Refugee in the case of accidental murder (Numbers 35:15)
- * Foreigners were to be included in Israel's festivals and celebrations (Deut. 16:14, 26:11)
- * A special tithe was taken to support the foreigner and disadvantaged (Deut. 14:28,29)
- * Gleaning in the Israelites' fields provided the foreigner the dignity of work and food to eat (Lev. 23:22)
- * Foreigners were to be afforded the same care as the poor in Israel. (Lev.25:35)

How Can We Fulfill the Spirit of the Law Today?

- * Pray for refugees, their safety and well-being; pray for the coming of the Kingdom, when these difficulties will be past.
- * Welcome refugees into your community. Extend Biblical hospitality and treat outsiders like insiders.
- * Give—Helping refugees safely resettle requires resources. Your generosity with time, talent and money can make a difference. Local resettlement agencies would welcome gently used clothes and housewares.

She has had a 'moderate' stroke leaving her with slurred speech and weakness on the right side. She has been off work for the entire period and has felt a tremendous need to return to work to support herself and only son.



THE FOUNDATION'S TERMS OF REFERENCE

How can the Fairhaven Foundation be of assistance to your ecclesia? Are there health and welfare needs in your meeting that require attention, but ecclesial resources are strained or insufficient? The Foundation, operating under the applicable government regulations, may provide grants only to registered charities in Canada. We must disperse a percentage of our investment income each year, based upon a government regulatory formula.

Ecclesias in Canada may request assistance from the Foundation by following these guidelines:

Only requests from Arranging Boards will be considered. Requests from an individual member of an ecclesia will not be accepted by the Foundation. Priority is to be given to the welfare needs of Christadelphian elderly, since this reflects the original purpose of Fairhaven House. If additional funds are available after meeting these needs, then more general health and

welfare needs of the Christadelphian community will be considered, followed by health and welfare needs of the community at large. Requests must be in writing and should document, in confidence, the need, the background, the amount of help required and the amount of help being provided by the ecclesia. It is expected that the ecclesia requesting support will also provide funds to assist from its own resources. It is preferable, if possible, that ecclesias address emergency situations, and subsequently follow up with a request to the Foundation. The board of the Foundation considers requests at its semi-annual meetings in February and June each year. Emergency requests will also be addressed as quickly as possible.

Requests may be sent to:
The Fairhaven Christadelphian
Charitable Foundation
c/o Sister Penny Sheppard, Secretary
39 Knox Avenue
North York, ON, M9L 2M2

It is important to appreciate that the primary responsibility to meet the welfare needs of our brothers, sisters and young people lies at the ecclesial level, and consequently the Foundation's role is to supplement, rather than supplant this ecclesial responsibility. We encourage ecclesias to be actively aware of situations where there is a need, extend help, and then approach the Foundation as a funding partner.



SISTER MARYAM

My advice to the newcomers is to stay strong and don't let any of these difficulties take your dreams from you. We need to dream and pray. Never lose your hope and don't give up. You can try your best and God will always help us like me and many other refugees and new immigrants. During all these years, the ecclesia was the biggest help for me and my family. Every time we were about to go down all the brothers and sisters in the church took our hand and stayed beside us. We grow together, we are a big family. Brothers and sisters were always giving us love and care. What I think an ecclesia can help new refugees is giving them always love and hope. I hope you all the best luck and blessing from God.

AN APPEAL

In this low interest rate environment, income generated from investments has been inadequate to address the needs of recipient ecclesias. The Foundation would welcome ecclesial and individual gifts to support this work. Please visit our website, www.fairhavenfoundation.ca Donations can be sent to the treasurer:

Sis. Jennifer Narjes
8 Royal Rouge Trail
Toronto, ON, M1B 4T4

Our sister, originally from Iran, came to Canada with her family in 2014. She has learned English (her third language), finished high school, college, and an internship. Maryam is currently employed as a dietary technician at Castlview, a nursing home run by the city of Toronto. Maryam offers this counsel to newcomers beginning resettlement in Canada--



Year End Financial Report

Statement of Revenue,

Expenses And Fund Balance

For The Year Ending

March 31, 2021

Revenue

Investment Income	3,040
Donations	5,459
	—————
	8,499

Expenses

Grants	57,381
Professional fees	2,034
Administrative	71
	—————
	59,486

Net Income (50,987)

Opening fund balance 246,913

Closing fund balance 195,926