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Opening Doors Releases “Welcome Home” Video in Honor of Big Day of Giving

Video Highlights Opening Doors’ Work Resettling an Afghan Family after the Fall of Kabul

SACRAMENTO – In honor of the Big Day of Giving, Opening Doors today released “Welcome Home: Reuniting Families,” a video highlighting the resettlement of an Afghan family in Sacramento after the fall of Kabul in 2021.

The 7-minute video shows the resettlement of a family that fled Afghanistan when the Taliban took over the capital. The family’s 11-year-old son fled and made it to California first and was in foster care until the rest of his family arrived here. Opening Doors helped resettle the family, picking them up at the airport, reuniting them with their son and renting and preparing an apartment, groceries and school supplies for the family.

“‘Welcome Home’ shows the kind of work Opening Doors does every day, helping immigrants, refugees, and survivors of trafficking on their path to stability, self-sufficiency, and belonging,” said Rommel Loria, chair of Opening Doors’ Board of Directors. “Our communities are richer because of these newcomers – and on this Big Day of Giving, we ask the Northern California community to support Opening Doors’ work.”

The journey of immigrants, refugees, and survivors of trafficking coming to the U.S. is complicated, exhausting and often dangerous. For many, they are not only leaving difficult circumstances — they are introduced to new challenges as soon as they arrive. From financial to language barriers, bureaucratic and cultural barriers — the obstacles can be overwhelming. Opening Doors is here to ensure all newcomers have the tools they need to thrive.

“In 2023, we walked alongside more than 3,500 immigrants, refugees, and survivors of trafficking as they built the lives they deserve,” said Jessie Mabry, Opening Doors’ chief executive officer. “When they thrive, we all thrive. But we cannot do this work without support from the community.”

In 2023 alone, Opening Doors:

- Provided resettlement services for 1,635 refugee clients
- Provided free legal representation to 970 immigrants, including support with applying for asylum, naturalization, deportation relief, and adjustments of status;
- Assisted 101 survivors of trafficking through victim-centered case management, skills-building, mental health care, and other supportive services; and
- Provided \$463,000 in micro-enterprise loans to immigrant- and refugee-owned businesses.

The Big Day of Giving on May 2 is a 24-hour giving challenge that encourages people to support the nonprofits that serve our community.

Learn more about Opening Doors: <https://openingdoorsinc.org/>.

Contribute to the work of Opening Doors: BigDayOfGiving.org/OpeningDoors

YouTube Link for “Welcome Home: Reuniting Families”: https://youtu.be/KS5H-Su6T_4?si=Lboy0D2xelTc0Uhf

Vimeo Link for “Welcome Home: Reuniting Families”: <https://vimeo.com/941002118>

About Opening Doors

Opening Doors’ mission is to enrich communities by supporting immigrants, refugees, and survivors of trafficking on their path to stability, self-sufficiency, and belonging. Opening Doors meets immigrants, refugees, and survivors of human trafficking wherever they are on their journey, supporting them as they work toward stable housing, financial security, overall wellness, and strong community connections. Opening Doors walks alongside our new neighbors, connecting them with resources, helping them navigate complicated systems, and supporting them in gaining access to education, employment, and health care.

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