

September 20, 2017

Interfaith Council of Franklin County
Sending Love, Hope and Relief to Women and Children in Syria
October 2017 - May 2018

Franklin County Project

Fill the equivalent of one large shipping container and raise \$5,800 to pay to send one shipping container of goods and supplies to women and children in Syria in cooperation with **NuDay Syria**. ICFC members, other faith communities and civic groups will organize independently by choosing a time frame, approach, and campaign leader to run their own collection between October 2017 and May 2018.

Goods and supplies will be stored at:

Bernardston Self-Storage.

11 Deacon Parker Road

Bernardston, MA 01337

Exit 28A off I-91N, right off ramp, 2.25 miles from exit

Groups will transport their goods to this central storage area at specified times when our warehouse manager, Susan Perez, will be on hand to coordinate logistics. Youth Groups from member communities led by Reverend Jeff Galbraith will pack the items at the central location one Saturday morning per month beginning November 18. Adult volunteers will truck goods to NuDay Syria's main warehouse in Nashua, NH. Cash and checks collected will funnel through ICFC and be sent to NDS. We have raised \$3,950 toward our goal.

What is needed

Food (nonperishable dried, canned, protein bars)	New blankets, sleeping bags, layettes
Hygiene products (diapers, sanitary pads, bars of soap, powdered detergent)	Backpacks and school supplies
New packaged underwear, socks, thermal wear, and hats, mittens, gloves for children	Medical supplies and equipment (advil, children's tylenol, neosporin, bandages, walkers, canes, crutches, wheelchairs)
Stuffed animals, soccer balls and toys	Cash (checks payable to Interfaith Council of Franklin County, a 501(c)(3) org)
New unisex clothing for infants under 2	Sewing machines and textiles
Letters of love and hope	New and very gently used winter coats for adults and children

Our Partner

NuDay Syria (nudaysyria.org) based in Windham, NH was founded in 2013 by Nadia Alawa, a Muslim mother of eight to send aid, hope and love to women and children in Syria. The mantra of NDS is One Person at a Time, One Humanity Closer. They run several schools in Syria and are currently sending 1-3 containers of humanitarian aid per month to their contacts in Syria. They have also been involved in rebuilding homes, caring for orphans, repairing and installing wells, and setting up medical clinics.

Save the date: Nadia Alawa, CEO of NuDay Syria, will speak on Sunday, October 22 at 3pm at Second Congregational Church in Greenfield. Please come to hear what is happening now in Syria and to get answers to any of your questions.

Groups that have signed on

Temple Israel (held tag sales in September and raised \$600 in cash)

Second Congregational Church in Greenfield (collecting goods of all kinds now. See display in our sanctuary)

St Paul's Lutheran Church (collecting blankets in February)

The Episcopal Church of St James and St Andrews

Some Local Project Ideas

Collect much needed food supplies and hygiene products.

Purchase backpacks and fill them with school supplies.

Hold a church supper or sponsor a film and send the proceeds to ICFC for shipping costs

Knit layettes and afghans, make quilts for children, or buy blankets.

Organize your youth group to help us pack on a Saturday mornings from 9-noon. Dates for packing are Nov 18, Dec 9, Jan 27, Feb 10, Mar 3, Apr 28, and May 12.

Help your younger children draw messages of love and hope.

We welcome any community groups who would like to participate.

Please contact Charlene Golonka at dittomango@gmail.com or at 413-231-2953 with questions.