



# Helping *a* Refugee Family Resettle *in* Wethersfield



“ A few years ago, a fellow Episcopalian asked that Trinity help a Syrian refugee family move from Hartford to Wethersfield. After a warden and I visited them, we decided that Trinity should become involved. They were a family of five: Ayman, Yaman, Noujoud, Kaled, and Riham. They had no relatives east of Ohio and no support from a resettlement agency. We collected food and household goods from our church family and many people gave generous cash donations as the family had limited job opportunities. I developed a special friendship with Yaman as did others. When the pandemic hit, a group of parishioners brought items for me to get them to the family. For two years, Yaman cooked for our Chili & Rice & Beans Cook-Off and won first prize for her lamb dish both years. She loved her association with the people of Trinity. In 2020, Maria was born and things became more difficult. Many people brought baby shower gifts to my home and several of us continued with diapers for as long as they were here. In June 2021 the family decided to move to Ohio where they have relatives and in December 2021, Zain was born.

It was meaningful for me personally to lead this effort as I had wanted to help an immigrant family. God blessed me in many ways with this opportunity. Yaman calls me still and before she left she said, "Your church has done so much for us, I want to meet the people." We had a farewell get-together outdoors at my home. They are doing much better in Ohio renting a single family home, working steadily, and the children are doing really well in school.







# Sewing Machines for Women's Empowerment & Peacemaking



Last year Trinity members donated \$9,000 to purchase 60 sewing machines for the Women's Centre of the Diocese of Kafanchan, Nigeria. The Women's Centre is the creation of the Mother's Union and Women's Guild under the leadership of their president, Nana Rahila Dogo.

Every year, the Women's Centre organizes a skills acquisition training class for widows, orphans and other women who have no means of financial support. They offer classes in the basics of starting a new business along with particular skills in operating a sewing machine or doing leather work or running a catering business. The goal is to equip women who live on the margins of survival to learn a skill and start a small business to support their families.

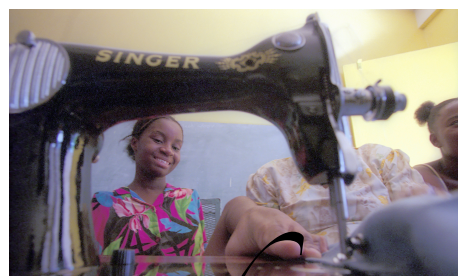
This year, the Women's Centre was further helped by the Mallam Garba Foundation which provided funds for hiring professional teachers in each of the skills. The Mallam Garba Foundation is funded by a Muslim philanthropist. The program was intended to provide for an equal number of Christians and Muslims. In addition to teaching practical skills, it also strives to build peaceful relationships in the midst of much religious strife and animosity.

On graduation day, 121 women received certificates in the trade in which they had been trained. And 60 of those graduates were given a sewing machine to start their own business in their home villages.

*We are so grateful for our friends at Trinity Church in Wethersfield for your generous support of our work to empower women. You cannot begin to imagine how much a difference these sewing machines will make in the lives of the women and their families. We thank you all from the bottom of our hearts. And we look forward to visiting you again soon."*

Nana Rahila Dogo  
President  
The Women's Center





# St. Vincent's Center *for* Children *with* Disabilities



This year we rejoice that our parish and diocese were able to give the gift of solar power to St. Vincent's Center Children with Disabilities in Haiti, where violence, chaos, and disaster have caused such financial pressures that the education of 200 children is barely able to go forward. Electricity is needed, but fuel for the generator is impossible to obtain. "The sun is kinder," says Father DuVeaux, the school's director and a long-serving Episcopal priest. What a beautiful summary of a clean, affordable, sustainable technology! We pray for all the children whose future hope and continued education will be blessed by this simple gift.

We were also able to provide a gift of technology for St. Vincent's medical center: an electronic medical recordkeeping system operating on solar powered iPads rugged enough to be carried by backpack into remote areas. Orthopedic surgeons in disaster zones, who often have to perform countless surgeries and amputations in quick succession, will now be able to manage the follow-up care their patients will need for recovery. We trust God will indeed bless these brothers and sisters with full recovery after their trauma, and grant them a future of hope, health, and joy.

*"Lord, let your  
saving health be  
known among all  
nations.*

*Let not the needy be  
forsaken, nor the  
hope of the poor be  
taken away."*

The Book of  
Common Prayer





# Community Suppers *with* Hands On Hartford



Hands On Hartford is a social service, nonprofit organization that serves Hartford's most economically challenged residents in the areas of food, housing, and health with assistance from volunteers and community partnerships. Through Community Meals, they provide thousands of meals each month to individuals and families facing food insecurity.

Trinity teamed up with Hands On Hartford more than a decade ago. Through the generosity of our parishioners, we provide food for 100 dinners, six times a year. Each dinner includes ham, mac & cheese, baked beans, coleslaw, buttered rolls, juice and dessert. When we don't have the challenge of the pandemic we cook, prepare and serve the meal. We also have an opportunity to be in community with our neighbors in Hartford and develop friendships.

*"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in .... Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."*

Matthew 25:35, 40