

Support Refugees of Swat, Pakistan

Austin Muslims, with help from Hidaya Foundation (www.hidaya.org) are launching an effort to support hundreds of thousands of (internally displaced) refugees in Swat, Pakistan. The project will be entirely run by high school and college students of Austin, under the guidance of Hidaya Foundation.

Tax receipts will be given by NAMCC upon request. Let us clean their closets and garages and bring items (listed below) to fill an 18-wheeler container that will be shipped to Pakistan for distribution among men, women and children living in sub-optimal condition in camps, away from their homes.

A shipping container (40 ft x 9 ft x 8 ft) will be parked in the NAMCC parking lot between Friday (June 12) and Sunday (June 14). Volunteers will be on hand between the hours of 10:00 AM and 8:00 PM to receive your donations. Please DO NOT drop off your donation outside these hours. A donation of \$1 per pound of goods you donate will be greatly appreciated (to defray the cost of shipment to Pakistan).

Following items in good condition (slightly used or new) are very much needed (NO JUNK, PLEASE):

- 1 **Men's /boy's clothing** (Pakistani and western style)
- 2 **Women's dresses** (Pakistani style only - no western dresses please)
- 3 **Winter clothing** (coats, jackets, sweatshirts for men, women, boys, and girls)
- 4 **Bedding** (blankets, sleeping bags, comforters, pillows, bed sheets)
- 5 **Bicycles** (any size)
- 6 **Foot wear** (shoes, sneakers, boots – men, women and children – all sizes)
- 7 **Computer Equipment** (PCs, laptops, monitors - for use by schools in and around camps)
- 8 **Medical Equipment** (crutches, wheelchairs, braces, splints) – no electrical goods
- 9 **School Supplies** (educational books, elementary and middle school text books, backpacks, note books, ball point pens, pencils, and calculators)
- 10 **Children's Toys** (no electric operated toys and electronics)
- 11 **Household Items** (pots and pans, dishes, tents, tarps)
- 12 **Empty sturdy storage/packing boxes** (Small and medium size)

Please follow these packaging Instructions:

- 13 Use HEAVY DUTY, 1mm Thick "Compactor" Trash Bags, (the kind that do not rip easily) for clothing, and soft items
- 14 Do not bring loose items
- 15 Put hard items such as toys, tools, and other items that would poke through a bag into sturdy boxes with lids. Do not seal or tape the boxes shut.
- 16 Keep pairs of shoes separate in their own bags. If shoes have laces, tie them together, otherwise put a rubber-band around the shoes to keep the pairs together.
- 17 Ladies shalwar-kameez suits should be rolled up as a set and secured with a rubber band

For volunteering opportunities for this event, please contact Hidaya Austin youth coordinator, Jamal Yoosufani at (lamajy@yahoo.com)

For any other questions please contact Hidaya Austin volunteer Zahid Yoosufani at or 512 335-3138. (zahidy1@yahoo.com)