

## Omar's Road to Peace

TMWF's Zahra Khan (Serious Illness) Support Program (ZKSP) was honored to assist a refugee, Omar\*, his wife and 5 year old daughter. Omar had been diagnosed with Stage 4 brain cancer. Due to his illness he is losing his vision therefore he is unable to work. Due to limited language skills his wife was unable to work as well.

When Omar first visited our offices for a consultation, **he had no income**. His case manager applied for disability income and Omar began receiving benefits of more than \$700 per month plus Food Stamps and Medicaid. This somewhat alleviated his burden in paying rent and utility bills. His case manager reached out to area mosques and other non-profit organizations to request assistance in paying his rent and utility bills. In addition, the client had no furniture and to improve his standard of living, his caring case manager contacted an organization who furnished and decorated his whole apartment at no charge. At present, his application for Section 8 government housing is still pending.

After almost a year of financial assistance in paying his rent and bills, he was recently offered an apartment in TMWF's Transitional Housing. He is now living there peacefully with his family. His daughter has begun kindergarten and his wife has worked on improving her language skills, learnt to drive and is now looking for a job to support her family.

As part of the ZKSP program, the ZKSP team members have visited him at his house to provide emotional support.

*\*Name has been changed due to confidentiality.*