#AFGHAN EVAC

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Dear President-elect Trump, Vice President-elect Vance, Speaker Johnson, and Leaders Thune, Schumer, and Jeffries:

AfghanEvac is an organization dedicated to helping our Afghan allies following the chaotic withdrawal of U.S. and allied nation forces in August of 2021. We focus on reducing uncertainty, maintaining urgency, and increasing throughput, all while maintaining our national security.

We are U.S. military veterans and frontline civilians who served our nation in war and peace, standing shoulder to shoulder with advocates and elected officials representing every part of the American experience, writing today with a deep commitment to our Afghan allies—those who stood with us in moments of danger, guided us through unfamiliar terrain, and shared in the mission we undertook together. These brave men and women, motivated by loyalty to a shared purpose, risked their lives and futures to support American forces. Now, it is our duty to honor that loyalty and ensure they are met with the same commitment they showed us.

Through Operations Allies Welcome, Allied Refuge, and the ongoing relocation effort called Enduring Welcome, tens of thousands of Afghan allies have found safety in the United States after passing thorough security vetting. But for those who remain at risk in Afghanistan and other countries around the world, and for those already here but who lack permanent status, our mission is not yet complete.

We call on Congress and the incoming Administration to ensure that Afghans who arrived through these operations, or who have ties to the U.S. mission over the past 20 years that make them eligible to build a new life here in America, are provided a pathway to permanent residency in the country they served.

We are asking you to make clear your commitment and support for the ongoing relocation and resettlement mission so we may continue welcoming our allies to the United States of America.

Our dedication to our Afghan allies reflects the values shared across America. Recent polling shows that 90% of Americans support Afghan relocation efforts, including 75% of evangelical Christians. The cost of fulfilling this promise represents a small fraction of the overall cost of the Afghan conflict, yet its impact on our national security and reputation is profound.

To fulfill this commitment, we urge unified, bipartisan action on the following priorities:

1. **Sustained Funding.** Dedicated funding is essential to maintain relocation operations both domestically and abroad. This investment is not merely a policy choice but a moral

imperative—a demonstration of loyalty to those who stood alongside us. Ensuring the safety of our Afghan allies is a responsibility we must honor.

2. **Additional Visas and Legal Adjustments**. An additional 50,000 Special Immigrant Visas are urgently needed to complete the relocation process and reflect the number remaining in the pipeline, after the standard washout rate. Minor adjustments to current law—such as those proposed in the *Fulfilling Promises to Our Afghan Allies Act*—would create a clear path to permanent residency while allowing for additional layers of robust security vetting to address any safety concerns. This approach honors the loyalty of those who served with us and fulfills America's commitment to them.
3. **Adjustment of Status for Evacuated Individuals**. For Afghans evacuated through Operations Allies Welcome, Allied Refuge, Enduring Welcome, or those who fled due to their ties to the U.S. mission, permanent residency in the United States is both a moral and practical necessity. Providing a secure legal status affirms our loyalty and gratitude for their service.
4. **Protecting the USRAP pathway for verified Afghan allies.** The U.S. Refugee Admissions Program provides a crucial legal path for allies who, due to nuances and technicalities in the Special Immigrant Visa (SIV) program, have no other path to safety. This pathway should be preserved for Afghan allies and other at-risk refugees.
5. **Shielding Afghan Allies from Broad Immigration Enforcement.** Ensure Afghan allies currently in the United States awaiting permanent status are shielded from potential executive orders targeting broader immigration enforcement, thereby safeguarding those who risked everything to support our mission. These individuals, already thoroughly vetted, should not face the uncertainty and risks associated with blanket immigration enforcement actions.
6. **Unwavering public support for our allies.** Please make unequivocally clear where the incoming administration and 119th Congress stand on these issues. The uncertainty of what the future holds is one of the leading causes of stress and anxiety among our allies. No one among us could move on with our lives if we lacked the ability to plan. Please make clear that you intend to continue supporting at-risk Afghans through relocation and welcome programs.

This mission is about loyalty—loyalty to those who put themselves in harm's way for us and loyalty to the principles that define who we are as a nation and a leader on the global stage. Many of us have worked closely with Afghan interpreters, soldiers, and families who risked everything to protect and guide us. To abandon them now would be a betrayal of the values we fought to defend and the trust built through years of shared struggle and sacrifice.

Failing to protect these allies not only strains our asylum and immigration systems but threatens our credibility with potential allies in future conflicts. Upholding these commitments ensures that America remains a trusted partner and reinforces our national security.

Congress's recent codification of the Coordinator for Afghan Relocation Efforts (CARE) into law through the NDAA reflects broad bipartisan agreement on the importance of this mission. We respectfully call on Congress and the incoming Administration to act with urgency. By funding ongoing relocation and resettlement efforts, providing a secure pathway to citizenship, and shielding our Afghan allies from potential executive orders targeting immigration, we demonstrate that America stands by those who stand by us. Loyalty, duty, and honor are not just words; they are the foundation of our actions and commitments.

Respectfully,

/s/ Shawn VanDiver

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Zabihullah Saad

Zuhal Bahaduri
Executive Director The 5ive Pillars Organization

Dallas Windham

Stacy Barnes
Alight

Seth Middleton, U.S. Army Veteran

Lauren Akin
Welcome Corps Volunteer

Mark Buckley, RPCV

David Alexander Papiasvili

Nancy and James Kardon

CDR Evan Farley, U.S. Navy Retired
Shaina Silvers

Susanna Levin

Theodora Anntares

Ms. Bobbi Lee

Sarah McHenry

Diane Hughes, U.S. Army Veteran

Frank X. Moeller, U.S. Army Veteran

Justin A. Reese

B. Whiting

Brig Gen Lee A. Denson, U.S. Air Force Retired

Cztherine Houtakker

Assemblywoman Amy Paulin
New York State Assembly

David Van Kennen, U.S. Army Veteran

Arash Yaqin, U.S. Army Veteran

Sehar Bayat

Zvac Salarzai, U.S. Army Veteran



Rebecca White, U.S. Navy Veteran

Albert Zutavern, U.S. Army Veteran

Erline Ner

Lt Col. Brandon Brooks, U.S. Marine Corps Retired

Khwaja Sediqi

Zachary Willey, U.S. Army Veteran

Brian Luti , U.S. Army Veteran

Omaid Sharifi
ArtLords

Dr. Susan Bartolone

Anna Cowen

Farhad Farewar

Brian Weyer, U.S. Army Veteran

CDR Anthony Clapp, U.S. Navy Retired
Veterans for American Ideals

Maryann Enright
Sisters of St. Joseph

David W. Gaier, U.S. Marine Corps Veteran

Kip Cashman, U.S. Marine Corps Retired

Dawn D. Burns

Sp4 Bruce Janssen, U.S. Army Veteran

Kari McDonough

Ms. Marilyn Paul
Neighbors For Refugees

Angie Hoffer
Paws Unite People, Inc

Mark A. Smith, U.S. Air Force Veteran

Assemblymember Marc Berman
California State Assembly District 23

Amina Baha
SEWA-AIFW

Robert Eugene Jordan, U.S. Navy Veteran

Earl Grandstaff, U.S. Navy Veteran

Jim Loveland, U.S. Army Veteran

Stephen Ryan
Truman National Security Project

Maggie Feldman-Piltch
Operation Eagle

Kristen Perano, PhD
President, Kurdish Alliance of North America

Dr. Virgene Link-New

Paula Meighan
ICNAW

#AE

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Sarah Nugent

Alex C. Glaros

Mark Hetfield
President, HIAS

Allison Rief

MAJ Jacob Wishko, U.S. Army

Elaine Rose

Paul Szoldra, U.S. Marine Corps Veteran

Dr. Evelyn Farkas, Former Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Russia, Ukraine, and Eurasia
Executive Director, McCain Institute

AJ Cho

Dr. Nan R. Warshaw
Refugee Community Connection

MAJ Matthew Timlin, U.S. Army

Amy Sophia Marashinsky

Paul Folmsbee
U.S. Ambassador, Retired

Jody Allen-Smith

Thomas F. Walter

Cindy J. Clarke

Ms. Christy A. Elamma

Earl Anthony Wayne
U.S. Ambassador, Retired

Afghanistan Prosecutors Association

Tarek Maassarani
US Institute of Peace

Taylor Watson
City of San Antonio

Casee Maxfield

Caryn Graves

Cat Clason, U.S. Army Veteran

Scott Shadian

Carl Landon Taylor, U.S. Army Veteran

Steven Tracy Parker, U.S. Marine Corps Veteran

SMSgt Kimberly S. Osbourn, U.S. Air Force Retired
Task Force Argo

Jennifer Rachels, U.S. Army Veteran

Utkarsh Nath

Mignon C Reynolds



Tamara Vazquez

Christa Clament

John Oda, U.S. Army Veteran

LTC Steve Ferenzi, U.S. Army Retired

Tristan Dyer, U.S. Army Veteran

Major Em Tucker, U.S. Army Veteran

Beth Jones,
U.S. Ambassador, Retired
Former Coordinator for Afghan Relocation Efforts (CARE)

Michele Melland

John Slocum
Refugee Council USA

Pamela Sprayregen

Tricia Payer

Melissa Bradley

Craig Lemley

Councilmember Raul Campillo
City of San Diego

Col Reed R. Bonadonna, U.S. Marine Corps Retired

Niamatullah Badshah Khan
Second Families

Alpha Koroma

Daniel Hadidi

Robert K. Wadley, U.S. Space Force Veteran

Charles Mallinckrodt-Reynoso, U.S. Marine Corps Veteran

Kristen Erekson

Capt Alexander Meyer, U.S. Marine Corps Veteran

Christina V. O'Bryan

Col Brad Duplessis, U.S. Army Retired

Miriam Dunbar

Connor T. Christensen, U.S. Navy Veteran

Dr. Joseph Kafer, U.S. Army Veteran

Dale Simmons

Alexander J. Walsh, U.S. Navy Veteran

Michael McGee, U.S. Army Veteran

Lt. Col Will Selber, U.S. Air Force Retired
GCV/AAVA

Inkeri Chisholm

Farid Sarwary

Samad Fazli



Kelli Brown

Jeremy Konyndyk
President, Refugees International

Christine M. Blair

Reshad Ahmadi

Michelle Tolson, former USAID contractor in Afghanistan

Grace Ukoha

Carla Volpe Porter

Paddy Collins, U.S. Army Veteran

CPT Nick Weber, U.S. Army Veteran

Richard Gyug

Barbara Flickinger

Donald A McGregor, U.S. Air Force Retired

Timothy Porter

SPC Katelyn Gaston, U.S. Army Veteran

Richard L. Santos
President & CEO, Church World Service

Luke Magyar, U.S. Marine Corps Veteran

Paula Cooper

Russell B. Roberts, U.S. Air Force Veteran

Harry Jellinek

Mike Crandall, U.S. Air Force Retired
#AfghanPromise

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Douglas B. Wilson
Former Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs

Eliza Moore

Gaby Fleischmann

Captain Patrick Weeks, U.S.Marine Corps Veteran

Amelia Stringer-Gowdy
Refugee Assistance Alliance

Seelai Karzai

Ryab Jones, U.S. Army Veteran

Valerie Polichar

Richard McIntosh, U.S. Navy Veteran

John Schleiffarth

Michael E. Solomon

Clara Joanna

Eesa Mojadady, U.S. Army Veteran

Emma Florez, U.S. Air Force Veteran



Dr. Emily Levitt Ruppert
#AfghanEvac

Lain Riley

SPC Keith M. Schnerr, US Army Veteran
#AfghanEvac

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Connecticut General Assembly

Greg Sells

Donna J. McLain

Tara Rolstad

D. Starkus

Assemblymember Matt Haney
California State Assembly, District 17

Major Shawn D. Haney, U.S. Marine Corps, Retired

Ahmad Wahed

Leila Saeed

Mohammad Saleem Arghandiwal

Maya Hess, PhD
Founder, Red T

Jen Litton

Hon. Glenn Nye, Former Member of Congress, USAID

Ryan Mauro

Carol Slusher
TaskForce Genesis

Lauren Kroell

Saif Sikandary

COL Bradley A. Keough, U.S. Army Retired

Mary Cavallero
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John Cavallero

Dr. Jacqueline Conard
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Robert Easton, Attorney

Melissa Nauss

Andrew C. Porter

Dr. David Stockwell, U.S. Air Force Veteran

Mohammad Dawoud Ayoubi

Daniel Kim, U.S. Army Veteran
#AfghanEvac

Cyrus Saeed

Kathleen Saeed



Ross Wilson, U.S. Ambassador, Retired and former Chief of Mission, US Embassy Kabul

R. Gee, U.S. Army Veteran

E. Villa

Sara Robling

Patric Jones

Emily Patterson

Beatrice Rocca Stein

Luke E. Johanson, U.S. Air Force Veteran

Matt Kenney, U.S. Army Veteran

Mayor Todd Gloria
City of San Diego

Melanie Green

Michael Tribbitt, U.S. Marine Corps Veteran
Team America Relief

Angelica Weigand

Donna J. McLain

Nazanin Ash

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LTC Todd Burkhardt, PhD, U.S. Army Retired

Jeremiah Granden, U.S. Marine Corps Veteran

Ms. Erin Fleming

Bashir

Joel Hafvenstein

Spouzhmai Akberzai

Jamie Schnerr

Catherine Winn
Hearts & Homes for Refugees

Lyla Kohistany, U.S. Navy Veteran

Mayor Lacey Beaty, U.S. Army Veteran
City of Beaverton Oregon

D.G. Sifuentes

Christine Quinn Antal, U.S. Army Veteran
Task Force Antal

Matthew Martin, U.S. Air Force Veteran

Khaliqyar “Kevin” Haidary
World Hazara Council USA

Lieutenant Commander (SEAL) Benjamin Tartell, U.S. Navy Retired

