



IN SUPPORT OF AFGHAN REFUGEES

The national platform of the Libertarian Party declares that “political freedom and escape from tyranny demand that individuals not be constrained in the crossing of political boundaries”. Under no circumstance is this declaration more relevant than when the conditions of tyranny and the suppression of political freedom are brought about by the failures of US foreign policy.

Though many of us have known better for 20 years, the US nation building project in Afghanistan has collapsed with a swiftness that took many in the foreign policy establishment and even in the intelligence community by surprise. For 20 years, Americans have committed blood and treasure to a vain effort to remake one of the regions of the world most historically impervious to the imperial machinations of Great Powers. Those efforts were aided by local Afghans clinging to the hope that our efforts might succeed and that they might find a new birth of freedom in their long suffering homeland.

They trusted us to stand by them. They put their lives and the lives of their families at risk to assist in our efforts to transform their nation into something it had never been through the judicious application of military force. As our inevitable failure manifests, the politicians responsible for this misguided adventure will live out their lives in the comfortable unearned wealth that so often comes from a misspent career in American politics. The service men and women who risked their lives, lost their friends, and left pieces of their souls on the wrong side of the world will return home, wisened by their experiences in ways their civilian chain of command could never understand, but ultimately safe from the retribution anticipated by their local counterparts, translators, and support.

It is the least we can do to offer them safety. To grant them asylum in the home we take for granted that they believed we could replicate for them in their country. To welcome them as refugees from the circumstances we created with our hubris.

The New Castle County Libertarian Party of Delaware holds no illusions that by adding our voice to the many others already calling for this small measure of justice and gratitude that we will meaningfully influence the policies of the Federal government, but what we can do is contribute in some small way to the efforts of established organizations already working to ease the transition of those we do welcome to the safety of our shores to adjust to their new lives and attain a sense of normalcy after the tumult they left behind.

Therefore we are resolved to contribute \$100 to the Jewish Family Services of Delaware organization to assist in their efforts to support and welcome Afghan refugees to Delaware, and ask all who are able to join us in our support of that mission.