



Who are we?

A committed team of people who are passionate about **loving our Somali Bantu neighbors** unconditionally and serving them practically, as a demonstration of the love of Jesus.

What do we do?

We are driven by a desire to **build authentic friendship**, at its deepest level. In the context of these relationships, we work closely with the leadership of the Somali Bantu community of Pittsburgh to understand the community's real and felt needs, and then we attempt to **assist them in meeting those needs**. Currently, as some examples, we:

- ♦ **teach conversational English** in home settings
- ♦ **find and connect them with resources** and items of practical need, such as food, clothes, and furniture
- ♦ assist in the **development of a non-profit community-run organization**
- ♦ help in the **design and implementation of a for-profit urban farming venture**

Who are our Somali Bantu Neighbors?

In the early 1990's, thousands of Somali Bantu, consisting of the Magindo, Makua, Manyasa, Yao, Zalamo, Zigua tribes, were **evicted from their homes in Somalia** for demanding rights and protesting against discriminatory policies. They fled to Kenya, Ethiopia, and Yemen, where they **lived in refugee camps** managed by the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR). Coming to the United States seeking to rebuild their lives and searching for a better and brighter future, an estimated 1,000 Somali Bantu currently live in Pittsburgh, with more on the way. Most of the families live on the North Side. They arrive here with little to no possessions, and face employment challenges due to language and cultural barriers.

Ready to Join the Team?

Contact Dave and Lorrie Groetzinger:
412-983-5005 or groetzid@hotmail.com.

"You shall treat the stranger who sojourns with you as the native among you, and you shall love him as yourself, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God."

Leviticus 19:34

Then Boaz went over and said to Ruth, “Listen, my daughter. Stay right here with us when you gather grain; don’t go to any other fields. Stay right behind the young women working in my field. See which part of the field they are harvesting, and then follow them. I have warned the young men not to treat you roughly. And when you are thirsty, help yourself to the water they have drawn from the well.”

Ruth 2:8-10



For the Lord your God is the God of gods and Lord of lords. He is the great God, the mighty and awesome God, who shows no partiality and cannot be bribed. He ensures that orphans and widows receive justice. He shows love to the foreigners living among you and gives them food and clothing. So you, too, must show love to the foreigners, for you yourselves were once foreigners in the land of Egypt.

Deuteronomy 10:17-19

Who Are We?

In the Steps of Boaz is a committed team of people who are passionate about loving our Somali Bantu neighbors unconditionally and serving them practically, as a demonstration of the love of Jesus.

We are driven by a desire to build authentic friendship, at its deepest level.



In the context of these relationships, we work closely with the leadership of the Somali Bantu community of Pittsburgh to

understand the community’s real and felt needs, and then we attempt to assist them in meeting those needs, such as with the Boaz Project.

Interested in finding out more?

Contact Dave & Lorrie Groetzinger:

412-983-5005

groetzid@hotmail.com



theBoaz Project

A project to love the Somali Bantu refugee community in Pittsburgh as a demonstration of Jesus' love



Who Are We Serving?

In the early 1990s, hundreds of thousands of Somali Bantu were evicted from their homes in Somalia for demanding rights and protesting against discriminatory policies. They fled to Kenya, Ethiopia, and Yemen, where they lived in refugee camps managed by the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UHNCR).

Coming to the United States seeking to rebuild their lives and searching for a better and brighter future, over 1000 Somali Bantu currently live in Pittsburgh.

They arrive here with little to no possessions, and face employment challenges due to language and cultural barriers.



What Is The Boaz Project?

The Somali Bantu community faces challenges providing for the seasonal needs of their families. Sometimes families can be as large as 10-12 people, many of whom are small children.

The Boaz Project is committed to providing baskets of basic necessities three times a year as an expression of the Father's extravagant love.

Through this project, we seek to be an extension of Jesus to our neighbors, just as Boaz reached out to Ruth, a foreigner in his land, and helped her to provide her family with necessities.



How Can You Be A Part?

Four Options for Involvement:

These are great opportunities for small groups, Bible Studies, friends, or even your own family!

- **Adopt A Family** Commit to providing each item on the list for the entire year! You will be accompanied by an *In the Steps of Boaz* member to deliver three seasonal baskets directly to a family.
- **Build A Basket** Commit to one season of providing a full basket for a family. (Delivery will be done by an *In the Steps of Boaz* member.)
- **A La Carte** Purchase any specific items on the list to help add to the baskets. See insert for these items.
- **Financial Gifts** Purchase a gift card to Walmart, Target, Kohl's, or Giant Eagle that can be used to purchase needed items.

Ready to Get Started?

See the insert for more details and contact Audrey Hall, Donations Coordinator: **Email** inthestepsofboaz@gmail.com, **Phone** 412-862-9110