



From the Office of Sharon Bulova
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Chairman Bulova and Board Support Syrian Refugee Blanket Drive

November 19, 2013– Today, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova called for Board support in publicizing a blanket drive for Syrian refugees in Turkey. The drive is organized by a variety of non-profit groups and Northern Virginia organizations.

“Fairfax County is publicizing the Syrian refugee blanket drive so that residents who want to donate to this humanitarian effort have the information and opportunity to do so,” Chairman Bulova said. “Residents can drop-off clean and folded blankets at locations around the county. Several Board members have agreed to have their offices serve as blanket donation collection points and a number of faith organizations in the area are serving as collection points as well.”

The goal of the drive is to fill a shipping container that will then be delivered to Turkey where a local relief agency will distribute them to the refugee families. Blankets should be new or gently used. Donations should be made no later than December 5th to ensure the blankets are delivered in time for the winter weather. For a list of collection points [click here](#).

“Additionally, with the recent events in the Philippines and tornadoes in the Midwest, I would like to share information about the best way county residents can be of assistance to these tragedies,” Chairman Bulova said. “Please consider donating to the Red Cross by visiting redcross.org or calling 1-800-REDCROSS.”

Background: Fairfax County has a Sisterhood relationship with the City of Keçiören in Ankara, Turkey. A delegation from Northern Virginia recently visited Turkey as part of a cultural exchange program with the American Turkish Friendship Association, a sponsor of the drive. Part of that trip included a visit to a Syrian refugee camp. Some delegation members from that trip, including Purcellville Mayor Bob Lazaro and Northern Virginia Regional Commission Director Mark Gibb, have initiated the blanket drive in the region.

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