Omar Alfarag fled his home country of Iraq in 2005. In September of 2012 he was given the opportunity for resettlement in the United States. However, he worried about leaving the rest of his family—a mother, father and two brothers, behind in Egypt. Omar and his family decided that he must not pass up the opportunity and he made the difficult decision to leave, not knowing when he would see them again. Omar quickly threw himself into studying English and learning as much as possible so that if his family got the opportunity to join him, he would have a good job to provide for them.

Much to Omar’s surprise, he learned that his brother Hameed would be resettled in March of 2013, followed by his parents, May and Farooq, and his younger brother, Faisal, in May. Their smiles were infectious and their excitement obvious when, just days before their parents and younger brother were scheduled to arrive, Omar and Hameed assisted Catholic Charities Atlanta staff and volunteers in setting up the new apartment they would all share, together again as a family. Omar and Farooq are currently working at a bakery in Tucker, GA and Hameed is making specialty dental appliances.

Today the family is self-sufficient, happy, and looking forward to the future.