“It was our first time to see war,” Mumba says. “We had never even heard the sound of a bullet.”

Young Mumba Musabimana and his wife, Dorothy Girinmbabazi, six months pregnant, were quietly beginning a life together in Ceya, a Congolese village near the Ugandan border, when they found themselves fleeing for their lives.

A conflict, fueled by fallout from the Rwandan genocide of the mid-1990s, had concentrated in the border area of the three countries. As the number of
groups at odds with each other grew, the indiscriminate killing began.

One brother-in-law was killed outright. Another was taken never to be seen again. A cousin also died. Dorothy lost a brother too. Close family friends—mother, father and five children—were killed in one day. The rebels used anything on hand--guns, car bombs, landmines, hammers.

Twenty-two years later, the family stepped off the plane and into the August heat of their new Knoxville home.

### Donation List

- $50  Monthly bus pass
- $75  One month of utilities
- $100 Welcome meal upon arrival
- $150 Bicycle
- $200 One week's food for family
- $250 Single bed with frame
- $350 Individual pack of basic needs
- $450 One month's food for a family
- $500 Deposit for an apartment
- $750 Month's rent for 3BR apartment

Please note that these are estimations based on current local listings and are not always exact.

### Chattanooga December Women's Lunch

Volunteers (ladies) from several local Chattanooga churches provided gifts and food for all refugees who participated in this annual festive event. Our clients shared their delicious food and performances as well.

### In The News

Representative Ilhan Omar, a former refugee, became the first Somali-American elected to Congress. She is part of the largest
group of women in history to serve in this capacity.

Image credit: Stephen Maturen/Getty Images

Want to get involved? Come to a volunteer orientation!

Knoxville
Feb 20th: 5:30 - 7pm
Mar 6th: 10:00 - 11:30am
Mar 27th: 5:30 - 7pm

Are you interested in connecting refugees with community events in your area? Then please take the survey below!

Community Engagement Survey

Culture Corner
Swahili Edition 1

Karibu
Welcome

Jina lako ni nani?
What is your name?

Jina langu ni Katie.
My name is Katie.

Wao ni Wamarekani.
They are American.

Swahili is spoken in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Burundi, and Rwanda