



*I hope the OceanPath experience will give me an opportunity for positive impact and growth both within myself and my community. I look forward to developing my independence as well as my collaboration skills.*

## Laura Pickersgill

*St. Francis Xavier University*

*SAFE (Syria-Antigonish Families Embrace), Antigonish*

I'll be working alongside SAFE and other refugee sponsorship groups to document and organize the work already done in the area, with a focus on the history and trajectories of the community and its cultural integration work. This information will be consolidated and used for advocacy and public presence to inspire and inform other groups in rural Canadian settings.

During my time at StFX, I have been continually inspired by the breadth and diversity of social justice in Antigonish. I have been invested in the Syrian crisis since spring of 2016, when I witnessed the effects of the crisis firsthand while working in a refugee center in Istanbul. After my return to Antigonish, I became involved with the StFX for SAFE society and looked for further opportunities to get involved.

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