From Episcopal Migration Ministries

9 Things Your Congregation Can Do To Support Asylum Seekers

- I. **Engage:** <u>Request</u> EMM's Supporting Asylum Seekers: A Toolkit for Congregations.
- Learn: Offer an educational opportunity for your congregation or wider community: a film viewing and discussion, a Sunday forum class using EMM's <u>2019 Epiphany curriculum</u>, or a presentation from a local organization that serves refugees and asylum seekers.
- 3. **Pray:** Use EMM's <u>**Prayers of the People for Refugees and Displaced**</u> <u>**Persons** in your Sunday morning worship.</u>
- 4. **Reflect:** Use the <u>Way of Asylum</u>, a moving interpretation of Stations of the Cross, inspired by the art of Michelina Nicotera-Taxiera.
- 5. **Teach:** Volunteer locally to mentor and tutor English-language learners.
- 6. **Give:** Take up a special offering during a worship service to <u>support EMM</u>. Donate to an organization providing direct service. Contact EMM for a list of local organizations near you.
- 7. Write: Participate in a pen pal program and write letters to asylum seekers detained in immigration detention centers. Sign up to participate at <u>LIRS</u>, <u>First Friends of New York and New Jersey</u>, <u>El Refugio</u>, <u>South</u> <u>Georgia Immigrant Support Network</u>, or a program local to you.
- 8. Advocate: Join the Episcopal Public Policy Network to learn more about immigration policy. Take action to support asylum protection by writing and calling your members of Congress.
- 9. **Connect:** Gleaning ideas from EMM's Supporting Asylum Seekers Toolkit, create and maintain a list of organizations in your community that provide support and assistance to asylum seekers. Have this list available at the church so you can provide connections and referrals to a family that might reach out to you for help. If possible, translate this list into multiple languages.

TAKE ACTION!

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