

## Anglican Immigrant Initiative 2016 Provincial Council Report



An Anglican Church in North America initiative, facilitated by Greenhouse  
[www.anglicanimmigrantinitiative.com](http://www.anglicanimmigrantinitiative.com)

### Mission on Our Doorsteps: A Vision for Immigrant Ministry in the Anglican Church in North America

There are currently over 40 million immigrants in the United States, and 6.8 million in Canada. By 2023 there will be 51 million immigrants in the US representing 85% of the population growth in our country. Though many of these immigrants already come from Christian backgrounds, those that don't are, according to missiologists, one of the groups most receptive to the gospel. In the US, the fastest growing segment of the Church, across the evangelical spectrum, is the immigrant church. Behind the statistics is a human story of vast proportions. Many are trying to rebuild lives shattered by violence, chaos or extreme poverty. They have chosen our land as their hope.

These statistics and faces and names represent an incredible missional opportunity as well as challenge for us Anglicans. We desire to heed the call to welcome and love the stranger (see, for example, Matthew 25:35 and Leviticus 19:34), a call that resounds throughout the Old and New Testaments as we see the special care of God for the widow, orphan and immigrant.

#### How can we respond?

Millions of immigrants face a daunting, confusing, expensive, frustrating immigration system. The need for trustworthy legal services has never been greater. Immigrants are often targeted by unauthorized legal practitioners that prey on immigrants' vulnerability. By contrast, churches are a trusted presence in immigrant communities that can, with proper training, help address this shortage of legal services.

The Immigration Alliance ([www.theimmigrationalliance.org](http://www.theimmigrationalliance.org)), a national, multi-denominational evangelical coalition has arisen to equip churches to meet the practical legal needs of immigrants by starting church-based legal aid sites.

The Anglican Immigrant Initiative seeks to bring concrete help in a variety of contexts:

1. In cooperation with the Immigration Alliance **we aim to start 30 parish-based legal aid clinics for immigrants**, which will help those in need and be a mission beacon shining from Anglican churches. Our hope is that through these centers new immigrant congregations can be planted and many immigrants can integrate into existing congregations.
2. Educate and equip Anglican Church in North America congregations in immigrant ministry
3. Provide assistance, through these legal aid centers, in obtaining the necessary religious worker visas for Anglican communities wishing to bring religious workers from other countries to serve them (for example, bringing Nigerian priests to serve Nigerian congregations here in the US)
4. Provide assistance for Anglican communities wishing to sponsor refugees fleeing from persecution and violence
5. Identify Anglican immigrants and, as good shepherds, connect them with existing congregations or help them organize new congregations.

### **History:**

This initiative was started by and is currently facilitated by the Greenhouse movement. It was originally launched out of the Caminemos Juntos Latino ministry conference. Currently there is a one legal aid center that has begun (Tree of Life in South Bend Indiana) and several other congregations interested or in the process of beginning the centers.

### **Goals for 2016-2017:**

- a) Start 5 new legal aid sites
- b) Increase awareness building in ACNA
- c) Develop tools to strengthen existing sites
- d) Continue shepherding project
- e) Start a Canadian team
- f) Christian formation for Immigrants.

### **Leadership:**

Director: Rev. Jonathan Kindberg (Chicago, IL, Greenhouse, Diocese of the Upper Midwest)

Chair: Bp. Winfield Mott (Columbus, NM, Diocese of the West (REC))

### **Taskforce Team:**

Rev. Kay Adebogun (Regina, SK, Missionary Diocese of the Trinity)

Rev. Paul Aduba (Toledo, OH, Missionary Diocese of the Trinity)

Mr. Jonathan Bruce, JD, (Indianapolis, IN, Missionary Diocese of the Trinity)  
Dr. M. Daniel Carroll R (Littleton, CO, PEAR West)  
Rev. Heather Ghormley (South Bend, IN, Diocese of the Great Lakes)  
Mr. Gus Haddad (El Paso, TX, Diocese of the Southwest)  
Mrs. Christine Jones, Arlington, Virginia, Diocese of the Mid-Atlantic  
Canon Jon I. Lumanog (Canon to the Archbishop, Anglican Church in North America)  
Deacon Richard Roberts, (Langley, British Columbia, ANiC)  
Rev. Raphael Villareal (Houston, TX, Diocese of Ft. Worth)  
Mrs. Connie Zamora, (Fresno, California, Diocese of San Joaquin)