# HOPE 4 INDY

MIDTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SOCIAL

JUSTICE RESOURCE GUIDE

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# Hope 4 Indy

#### 2018 Resource Guide

Team "Hope 4 Indy" is an opportunity to serve and give hope and dignity to our neighborhood, community and city in these areas of injustice. Our team verse, Micah 6:8b which states "do justly, love mercy and walk humbly with your God," is our charge to care for the poor and oppressed. The following list of organizations are just a few of what are available in Indianapolis in each category and is in no way exhaustive.

# Community Development/Mental Health

#### **Families First**

<u>Mission Statement</u> To create healthier communities by strengthening families and individuals during life challenges and changes.

Volunteer Opportunities Older and Challenged Adult Volunteer: supports older adults as well as adults with intellectual/developmental disabilities, chronic mental illness, and other cognitive challenges—helping them make appropriate decisions and manage personal affairs. Volunteers for this program work to provide support and companionship to an older and/or disabled adult. Specific tasks will be determined between the volunteer and his/her direct supervisor. This position is flexible and the need is ongoing, with shifts expected to be weekly or bi-weekly. Visitations will take place at the client's place of residence which could be senior living community or facility.

<u>Contact</u> 615 N. Alabama St. Suite 320 Indianapolis, IN 46204; 317-634-6341 www.familiesfirstindiana.org

### Eskenazi Health Midtown Community Mental Health Center

<u>Volunteer Opportunities</u> Care Rounding Ambassadors - Opportunities available: 6 a.m. to 12 a.m. (midnight), Monday through Sunday. Assess patient needs through hourly rounds on inpatient care floors. Support staff members by filing, making reminder calls, restocking supplies and performing other clerical needs. Complete all necessary paperwork and evaluations following each interaction. \*Must go through an interview with a member of the Volunteer Services team – phone call and email have been sent, waiting to discuss further.

<u>Contact</u> 3171 N. Meridian Street, (317) 941-5003, http://www.eskenazihealth.edu/locations/3171-meridian-st

# **Domestic Violence**

#### **Coburn Place**

<u>Mission</u> Coburn Place empowers victims of intimate partner violence to live as survivors.

<u>Vision and Identity Statement</u> The vision of Coburn Place is of a world where every adult and child may live free from intimate partner violence, housed stably and safely, with adequate financial resources.

<u>Values</u> Warm and caring environment, safety and security, and respect. It is not unusual for domestic violence survivors to have low credit scores, evictions.

#### Ways to get involved:

The Adopt an Apartment program is a great way for individuals and groups to become involved in providing a welcoming home to new Coburn Place families. \$1500-\$5000 covers the cost of completely readying an apartment for a new family to move in for one year.

Donate – Money or to their wish list (available online), online social media fundraiser Sponsor or create your own Event

Volunteer – current openings include:

DONATION ASSISTANT - Weekly help needed with organization and distribution of donations. Volunteer must be able to commit at least 3 hours a week to this responsibility. Availability: Monday-Thursday, 10am-3pm. Shifts: 10am-1pm, 1pm-3pm

CHILDRENS SERVICES ASSISTANT - Weekly help needed in our Children's Services area during art class, free play, and after school tutoring. Availability: Monday-Wednesday, 6-8pm, Thursday 5-8pm

ADULT TUTORING - Interested in tutoring a specific subject or working one on one with our residents to help develop various life skills? Let us know! Availability: Flexible schedule, no regular shifts

FACILITY ASSISTANT - Weekly help needed cleaning facility, doing outside grounds upkeep, assisting in maintenance requests, moving furniture, and cleaning/decorating some apartments. Availability: Monday-Thursday, 8am-3pm, Shifts: 8-10am, 10am-12pm, 1-3pm

EVENTS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT VOLUNTEER - Help needed planning special events, third party events, hosting supply drives, and participating in community fairs and presentations. Availability: Flexible schedule, no regular shifts

#### Ways to get involved

Indians Game - Thursday, June 21. Lemonade Stand - July 20.

<u>Contact</u> 604 East 38th street, Indianapolis, IN 46205, (317) 923-5750, Coburn@coburnplace.org, http://coburnplace.org/

#### **Julian Center**

Mission To empower survivors of domestic and sexual violence and end the

generational cycle of violence.

**<u>Vision</u>** A community where every individual is safe and respected.

Values: Diversity, Integrity, Compassion, Empowerment, Systems Advocacy They have a 24-hour crisis line, emergency shelter, counseling support services, empowerment support program, sexual assault advocacy, law enforcement advocacy, transitional housing, permanent supportive housing, community engagement, legal services, extended support advocacy.

#### Ways to get involved

Volunteer – Areas to volunteer include: Child Care, Thrifty Threads Retail Store, Resource Center, Dinner with the Kids, Client Services Desk, Propel Indy, Teaching Classes, Organizing Storage Closets, Group Opportunities

Donations and Fundraising – Running the shelter and the empowerment programs costs \$11,000 per day. Monetary donations needed or gently used items donated to Thrifty Threads. Donations of office supplies, artwork, photography, landscaping, facility repairs, etc. Donations for things on their wish list located on the website. Donations of good working vehicles

Shopping - When you shop at, or donate to, Thrifty Threads, the Julian Center thrift store, you're using your buying power and your gently used donated items to help survivors thrive.

**Events** Tennis and Tastings with Chris Evert - September 15 - 12:30 pm - 5:30 pm, Tastings 2:30-5:30 Meridian Hills Country Club, 7099 Spring Mill Rd. Indianapolis, Sponsorship opportunities available!

<u>Contact</u> 2011 N Meridian St Indianapolis, IN 46202, (317) 941-2200, https://www.juliancenter.org/

## **Neighborhood Christian Legal Clinic**

<u>Mission</u> To promote justice through legal representation and legal education for our low-income neighbors as a way of demonstrating Christ's love.

About The Clinic believes everyone should have access to justice regardless of their income, so we provide free legal services to those who cannot afford them. We're a faith-based organization that seeks to show God's heart for justice by serving and empowering all clients, regardless of background or religion. Our goal is to free our clients from the legal burdens that have kept them from flourishing. The Clinic has offices in Indianapolis and Fort Wayne, but we also provide services statewide and serves 10,000 people every year including:

- Consumers with tax issues, foreclosures, bankruptcies, and more...
- Immigrants
- Homeless youth
- Homeless veterans
- · Victims of violent crime

· Individuals with criminal histories

#### Ways to get involved

Volunteer Attorney – for the intake team, case referrals, event days, counsel and advice team

Volunteer Translator/Interpreter – The clinic serves a large immigrant population. Volunteers will assist with interpreting for client meetings, one-day events, intakes, document translations and more.

Support Volunteer – Prayer team, general administration and paralegal, Project GRACE Expungement Help Desk:

The Neighborhood Christian Legal Clinic's Project GRACE (Guided Re-entry And Community Education) has initiated the Pro Se Justice Project. The program established a Help Desk at the City County Building staffed by law students, volunteers, and Clinic staff. The Help Desk currently distributes information, provides basic navigation through petitions, and answers general questions regarding the expungement/sealing of criminal records. The Help Desk assists qualified persons in properly filling out the paperwork, but will not offer legal advice or representation. Training is provided and knowledge of criminal law is not necessary in order to become a Help Desk volunteer.

Law Student Volunteer – Legal interns, Project GRACE Help Desk, Research and One-Day events

Fundraising & Engagement Volunteer – Special events planner, community fairs, fundraising:

Write grant applications for the Clinic. Assist with data entry. Assist with donor appreciation opportunities and thank you letters to supporters. Hand-address envelopes or help fold & stuff a Clinic mailing.

Creative Engagement – Storytelling - Follow & share content from the Clinic's social media platforms. Follow & share about the Clinic via social media using the hashtag #storiesofjustice.

Photograph everyday operations at the Clinic, a special event, or staff and client portraits.

Assist with video or sound editing.

The Clinic also has a podcast to educate yourself on the topic and what they do

Events Hot Topics in Immigration Law LIVE Webinar – Tuesday, August 21 – 12-1pm

Naturalization Day | 1 CLE | One-Day Volunteer Event - Saturday, September 15 - 9:00 AM 3:00 PM

Justice for All is the Neighborhood Christian Legal Clinic's largest annual fundraiser – Fall 2018. As a non-profit civil legal aid provider that serves over 10,000 low-income people every year, the Clinic relies heavily on the support of our community. Attending or sponsoring Justice for All is one of the primary ways you can support the Clinic and help provide accessible justice for your neighbors.

We'll begin the program with a reception featuring a buffet of filling hors d'oeuvres and drinks in the Indiana Landmarks Center's historic Cook Theater. From there we'll move into the Grand Hall to hear inspiring stories from NY Times best-selling author and social media rock star, attorney Bob Goff. You won't want to miss one of the best story tellers in the country.

<u>Contact</u> 3333 N Meridian Street, Suite 201 Indianapolis, IN 46208 (317) 429-4131 contactus@nclegalclinic.org https://www.nclegalclinic.org/

# Education

#### **School on Wheels**

<u>Mission</u> School on Wheels' mission is to provide one-on-one tutoring and educational advocacy for school-aged children impacted by homelessness.

<u>Tutoring Opportunities</u> "Our after-school tutors provide one-on-one homework assistance to school-aged children experiencing homelessness in Indianapolis. We hold after-school tutoring at 9 homeless shelters and four Marion County schools up to four nights a week, and provide over 7,700 one-on-one tutoring sessions each school year." Where: Location and schedule

<u>Contact</u> 2605 E 62nd St #2005 Indianapolis, IN 46220, (317) 202-9100 kids@indysow.org <a href="http://indyschoolonwheels.org/get-involved/volunteer/">http://indyschoolonwheels.org/get-involved/volunteer/</a>

#### Starfish Initiative

<u>Mission</u> Starfish Initiative is dedicated to making a difference in the lives of at-risk and economically disadvantaged high school students. We assist students of promise overcome the barriers of poverty and develop cultural capacity and leadership skills that prepare them to graduate from high school and college. Our goal is to "fill empty caps and gowns" by improving graduation rates in Indianapolis.

#### What They Need Mentors / Donations

<u>Contact</u> 6958 Hillsdale Court, Indianapolis, IN 46250, (317) 955-7912 info@starfishinitiative.org, <a href="https://www.starfishinitiative.org/index.php/be-a-mentor/apply-now">https://www.starfishinitiative.org/index.php/be-a-mentor/apply-now</a>

#### **TeenWorks**

<u>Mission</u> The mission of TeenWorks is to empower teens to achieve excellence in college, career, and community. TeenWorks provides a year-round employment and college readiness program with supportive services for teens throughout the school year.

What They Need: 360 Mentors / Worksite Partner

**Contact** 2820 N Meridian St, Suite 1250 Indianapolis, IN 46208, (317) 916-7858

#### **Dream Alive**

<u>Mission</u> DREAM Alive is a mentoring organization that exists to equip urban youth in atrisk communities in grades 7 through 12 to become civic-minded leaders.

What They Need Volunteers, Corporate partnership

Contact 7828 E 88th Street Indianapolis, IN 46256, (317) 762-6353

https://www.dreamaliveinc.org/contact/

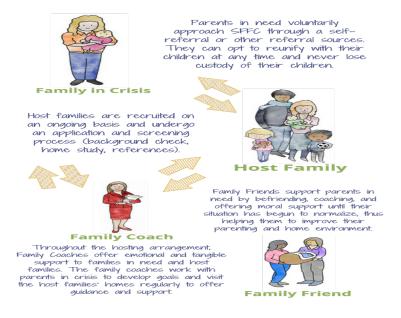
# Homelessness

#### Safe Families for Children

<u>Mission</u> Safe Families for Children hosts vulnerable children and creates extended family–like supports for desperate families through a community of devoted volunteers who are motivated by compassion to keep children safe and families intact.

<u>Vision</u> Creating a world where children are safe and families transformed through radically compassionate communities

Churches: Central Indiana churches play a significant role in recruiting and supporting their people to serve parents in crisis. Churches of all sizes and various denominational or non-denominational backgrounds are active partners with Safe Families for Children of Central Indiana. Our volunteers come from the smallest to largest congregations, as all followers of Jesus are awakening to the urgent need of struggling families in our own cities and towns.



#### Ways to get involved

**Informational Meeting:** July 9th – This time hosted by Hands of Hope is for anyone interested in learning more about Adoption, Foster Care and/or Safe Families. More details here.

**Family Coach Training:** July 11th – 5:30pm-8:30pm at Bethany Christian with dinner at 5pm for those interested. RSVP to Debbie Douthitt.

Chick-fil-A Fundraiser Night: July 24th – Join us as we dine to donate! Click here for details and mark your calendars!

**Trivia for a Cause:** August 31st – 5:30pm at East 91st Church. Mark your calendars and look for details coming soon for this evening of fun bringing awareness and funds for our local Safe Families Chapter!

<u>Contact</u> Mariah Windhorst at <u>mwindhorst@safefamilies.net</u>, <u>https://indianapolis.safefamilies.org/</u>

#### **Day Spring Center**

<u>Vision and Mission</u> "CHIP mobilizes, advocates and empowers community collaboration towards ending homelessness and fosters an effective system of homelessness prevention and intervention in the greater Indianapolis area."

At least 70% of Day Spring families exit and move into affordable housing b. Vision & Mission

- "Helping homeless families find their way home." c. Programs
- Children's programs
- Conducts assessments
  - Conducts parenting classes
  - Tutoring
  - Summer day camp (Wellness Transitional Housing)
    - Assists former Day Spring residents and other families leaving community shelters
    - Has 12 apartments for residents for up to 2 years iii. Follow Up Case Management
    - Case manager works with former residents for up to 12 months after leaving the shelter program

Goals Shelter, feed, clothe and assist homeless families with children

Empower residents to become independent, self-supportive families again. Work together with all sectors in our community to establish continuing financial and volunteer support. Provide services to all, regardless of ethnic or cultural heritage, income, health or creed.

Volunteer Opportunities Children's activities, meal prep and serving, wishlist

collections, fundraising (10th Annual Mini Golf Classic)

- June 16th at 6pm iii. Escape Room
- Portion of ticket sales go to DS with code DAYSPRINGX3656
- Adopt a Family
   Contact: Janice Cox, 317.635.6780 2. Janice@dayspringindy.org 1537 Central
   Ave

#### CHIP - Coalition for Homelessness Intervention and Prevention

<u>Mission & Vision</u> We create collaborative housing solutions to drive community change. Coalition for Homelessness Intervention & Prevention is the only organization in Indianapolis driving a system-wide, community response to make homelessness rare, short-lived, and recoverable.

Through leadership and collaboration, CHIP:

Secures funding for housing and services

Manages and analyzes data collected by homeless providers

Advocates for policy change at the local and national levels

Supports community partners as we work together to end homelessness

<u>Volunteer Opportunities</u> Children's activities, cleaning, food servers, pantry helpers, landscaping, sorting, etc.

**Events** CHIP Celebration – September 18 - The Celebration is an opportunity to recognize the people and projects that have made an impact on ending homelessness over the past year. Our keynote speaker this year is Dr. Matthew Morton, a Research Fellow at Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago. Morton currently leads the youth homelessness agenda at Chapin Hall and has expertise in youth development and youth homelessness. We will present the Diamond Service Award, an honor given to an individual who has overcome homelessness and now gives back to the community in a meaningful way.

**Contact** CHIP – Coalition for Homelessness Intervention and Prevention

1100 W. 42nd Street, Suite 350 Indianapolis, IN 46208 Map

Phone: 317.630.0853 | Fax: 317.630.0856

Email: info@chipindy.org

# Interfaith Hospitality Network of Indianapolis - Family Promise of Greater Indianapolis:

<u>Mission</u> "We are a partnership of congregations and community organizations responding to the crisis of children and their families who are homeless. We work to eliminate homelessness in Greater Indianapolis."

<u>Vision</u> A community where homelessness is rare, short lived and recoverable.

#### Ways to Get involved

Congregation Interest Meetings 3 coming up in June 2. Register online In need of congregations as hosts and support to other congregations Day center volunteers needed

<u>Contact http://www.fpgi.org/</u> 1850 N. Arsenal Avenue – Indianapolis, IN 46218 (317) 261-1562

#### **Wheeler Mission**

<u>Mission</u> To provide Christ-centered programs and services for the homeless and those in need.

<u>Vision</u> To see every man, woman, and child we serve equipped to be productive citizens who enjoy lasting success in Christ.

#### Ways to Get involved

Serving a meal is the easiest option – here's a <u>link</u> to do so. Kids as young as 8 can also serve with you at the women and children meals. Housekeeping opportunities kids as young as age 5 can also serve. Many other options for serving from landscaping to hairstylist/barber, driving a truck for donation pickups, laundry, meal prep, movie and recreational nights (kids can attend too, age 8+ for men's events, any aged minor for women and children, but to use discretion for ages under 8), painting, praise and worship leading, prayer partners and warriors, working in the store and donation center.

<u>Contact</u> https://www.wheelervolunteer.org/custom/504/ 205 E. New York Street Indianapolis, IN 46204

317.635.3575. Email: info@wmm.org

# Labor and Sex Trafficking

#### **The Hope Center**

<u>Mission</u> "Hope Center Indy's mission is to be a Christ-Centered Residential Campus committed to healing the personal and building the professional lives of women, who are coming out of Human Trafficking."

<u>Ways to Get Involved</u> The Hope Center is a place for broken girls to find healing. One way they utilize volunteer's is through the "Adopt a Room" program. Similar to "Adopt a Highway," the Hope Center encourages groups to volunteer to take care of a room. When girls come off the streets, this is one of their first impressions. Volunteers decorate and take care of any potential issues in a room so that the victims feel Christ's love.

**Events** The Hope Center has a number of events for volunteers to raise awareness and money. June 9<sup>th</sup>, Greenwood Community Church is hosting a 5K to raise money for the

Hope Center. They encourage other Churches and groups to host events as well.\_The Hope Center encourages potential volunteers to schedule a visit and get familiar with the campus. Next orientation tours are June 6<sup>th</sup> at 10am and June 19<sup>th</sup> at 6pm.

Contact (317) 434-5040, hope@hopecenterindy.org, http://hopecenterindy.org/

#### **PURCHASED**

<u>Mission</u> The mission of Purchased is to educate, equip, & empower the community to end modern day slavery.

<u>Ways to Get Involved</u> Invite a Purchased team member to speak about human trafficking at your small group, church, community organization or job. Become a mentor. Start a book study on the topic of human trafficking with people you know. Host your own movie night with people you know. Help promote Purchased events via social media. Support our events by participating (running in our 5k, attending our fundraising dinner). Encourage your child's school to host Purchased to teach curricula. Sponsor an awareness concert at your church or other community organization. Purchased also encourages local churches to partner with them.

#### **Events**

On July 12, Purchased will host their 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary benefit concert featuring Jon McLaughlin.

Contact 3421 N Park Ave. Indianapolis, IN 46205, (317) 782-5535, info@purchased.org

#### **ASCENT 121**

<u>Mission</u> Advocacy and long term recovery services for Indiana's teen survivors of trafficking.

<u>Ways to get involved</u> Become a monthly sponsor. Give a Birthday Party in a Box. Give a Holiday Party in a Box. Write Words of Encouragement Cards. Give a Baby Shower in a Box. Donate supplies from our Amazon Wish List. Host a book discussion group. Host a movie night and devotional. Become a Prayer Partner. Become a Social Media Advocate. Participate in a Prayer Journey.

**Events** Ascent 121 hosts a prayer journey the third Saturday of each month on the near east side. In June, Four Day Ray Brewing in Fishers will host "Tapped for a Cause" to support Ascent 121. On July 19, volunteers can paint a wood sign as a fundraiser for Ascent 121. October 13<sup>th</sup>, Ascent 121 will host a kid's carnival fundraiser.

Contact P.O. Box 1143 Carmel, Indiana 46082, (317) 759-0067, info@ascent121.org

#### RESTORED

<u>Mission</u> We will encounter children who have been extorted through sex trafficking and exploitation but, through Christ's love, we will provide them an avenue to find restoration. Along with victim services, we will work to raise awareness and provide education and advocacy in the hope of ending human sex trafficking throughout Indiana.

<u>Vision</u> Restored's hope is to provide services, outreach, and education to young girls between the ages of 11-24 whom have been victimized by domestic sex trafficking and sexual exploitation. Restored will combat cultural trends and ignorance that continue to let human trafficking become more prevalent and readily used within the American culture. We believe that restoration comes from Christ alone who gives freely, that's why our heartbeat is found in Isaiah 55:1.

<u>Ways to get involved</u> Start a prayer team. Volunteer. Donate monetarily. Host an awareness screening. Start a drive. Become an intern.

**Events** September 6 – Restored's First Annual Golf Outing. October 10 – Volunteer Orientation. November 2 – Stop the Traffick Annual Fashion Show Fundraiser. November 28 – Drink to Donate at Hotel Tango.

Contact Online form on website, FB page

# **Politics**

### Legislators in Midtown Area

Senator John Ruckelshaus, Republican (800-382-9467)

Committees | Environmental Affairs, Health and Provider Services, Insurance and Financial Institutions Committees

https://iga.in.gov/legislative/2017/legislators/legislator john ruckelshaus 1/

Representative Edward DeLaney, Democrat (800-382-9842)

Committees | Courts & Criminal Code, Education, Judiciary, and Ways & Means. https://iga.in.gov/legislative/2017/legislators/legislator edward delaney 988/

### **Congressional Legislators**

Representative Susan Brooks, Republican (317-848-0201)

Senator Todd Young, Republican (202-224-5623)

Senator Joe Donnelly (202-224-4814)

# **Prison & Incarceration**

Kairos Prison Ministry International

<u>Mission</u> A community spiritually freed from the effects of imprisonment, reaching all impacted by incarceration, through the love, hope, and faith found in Jesus Christ.

<u>Vision</u> The mission of the Kairos Prison Ministry is to share the transforming love and forgiveness of Jesus Christ to impact the hearts and lives of incarcerated men, women and youth, as well as their families, to become loving and productive citizens of their communities.

<u>Ways to get involved</u> Baking cookies for their events (recipe provided), serving at their events

<u>Contact</u> Matt McCormick <u>matthewmccorm</u>ick79@gmail.com

# Racial Reconciliation

### Indianapolis Urban League

<u>Mission</u> The Indianapolis Urban League's mission is to assist African-Americans, other minorities and disadvantaged individuals to achieve social and economic empowerment.

<u>Ways to get involved</u> Education & Youth Empowerment, Economic Empowerment, Health & Wellness/Quality of life Empowerment, Young Professionals,

<u>Contact</u> Sam H. Jones Center 777 Indiana Avenue Indianapolis, IN 46202 (317) 693-760, info@indplsul.org

### **Indiana State Department of Heath Event**

Indiana black & Minority Health Fair Hall F, Indiana Convention Center

Opening Ceremony | Thursday, July 19 3-4 p.m. **Goal of the event:** The core goal of the Indiana Black & Minority Health Fair is to increase minority awareness of chronic diseases, and how to prevent them. Increasing minority awareness of diseases, such as diabetes, heart disease, stroke, hypertension, and cancer is not just the goal of the Office of Minority Health or of the Health Fair. The goal is also at the heart of the Indiana State Department of Health's mission, which is to promote and provide essential public health services.

Aligned with this mission, the Indiana Black & Minority Health Fair also works towards raising public awareness of the health issues that disproportionately affect minorities. By tracking self-reported race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, health behaviors and risk factors, researchers can determine causative agents or reasons that morbidity, chronic illness, and mortality differ between particular racial and ethnic subgroups. This allows state health representatives to formulate programs to address these health disparities, and, most importantly, positively impacting the health and well -being of the Hoosiers who attend.

In my experience they can do that through blood pressure, BMI, blood glucose, health

education, setting up a primary care physician, referral to community based organizations, etc.

This could be a good volunteer event for medical staff that attend our church. It is the Indiana Black and Minority Health Fair that is put on by the State Department of Health. We have a lot of different health professions that could be represented. Nurses, PT, surgeons, physicians, health educators etc. We would most likely want to work with the evening or weekend shifts unless someone's work schedule allows for it.

Or if there is good interest we could set up a vendor table that people could work. I don't believe you have to be a sponsor to help with screenings but I can clarify. I could set this up but here are the steps. Community Health has a booth and this is how we are setting it up.

Email Adrianne Slash at aslash@ecommunity.com with your service list volunteers and include the following:

- The Service Line or Department Name
- A Service Line main contact name and phone number
- Volunteer name with title/credentials, a cell phone number, work location (include facility and department name) and t-shirt size (t-shirts will be sent via interoffice mail to work location)  $\Diamond$  Volunteer date and shift time

<u>Contact</u> Indiana State Department of Health Black & Minority Health Fair Attn: Volunteer Committee 2 North Meridian St., 3A Indianapolis, IN 46204 (317) 232-3231

# Refugees

### **Exodus Refugee**

<u>Mission</u> Exodus Refugee Immigration is dedicated to the protection of human rights by serving the resettlement needs of refugees and other displaced people fleeing persecution, injustice and war by welcoming them to Indiana." They provide services such as free **English classes**, a **welcoming team**, weekly English **tutoring**, and **mentoring**.

Who is a Refugee According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, a refugee is a person who, owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group, or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality, and is unable to or, owing to such fear, unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country. Most of the refugees that come through Exodus are Congolese, Iraqi, Eritrean, Somali, Bhutanese, Burmese, Chinese, Afghani, Cuban, and other nationalities. Refugees usually enter the U.S. with little to nothing, as they have left everything behind in their home country.

#### Ways to get involved

(Welcome Teams) Perfect for churches, companies, civic organizations, and other groups Welcome Teams partner with Exodus to assist a refugee family with adjusting to life in the U.S. during their first 90 days. Commit to at least 3 Welcome activities, such as meeting the family at the airport, setting up an apartment, providing transportation to appointments, teaching English, providing financial assistance (rent, utilities, school supplies etc.) and more.

Requirements: Minimum 90-day commitment. Must be comfortable working with individuals with limited English proficiency. Groups must complete a comprehensive training and all participants must pass a criminal background check.

(Tutoring) a Refugee in Indianapolis that has come through Exodus Refugee Immigration in English. Refugees may speak little to no English, or a fair amount. They attend English class weekly at the Exodus location, and will have worksheets to fill out during tutoring hours. All materials and curriculum are supplied. You basically would be teaching 1st or 2nd grade curriculum to Adults, so pretty doable for anyone without experience! Commitment is one hour/week for 6 months. This may be the only intentional, individual training that the refugees receive outside of English classes. Exodus asks that the tutoring take place in the refugees' home for the sake of their familiarity and comfortability. Most refugees do not own cars, making transportation difficult at times. Going to them serves them in multiple ways! Refugees live on all sides of Indy, so if there is a specific side of town that you would prefer not to go, Exodus will respect that! Spending this time with the refugees is a great way to build a friendship with them, get to know their families and meet them where they are at.

(Mentoring) Working with a mentor allows newcomers to practice English and attain a better grasp of American culture. Refugees who enter the program will identify specific goals to work towards with mentors. Mentors will be expected to meet with clients twice a month at minimum to work on goals. Goals may include practical skills such as grocery shopping, budgeting, banking, and getting acquainted with modern technology. Time with the individual or family can be spent at their home, at your home, and/or taking them out to experience new things in America. This is a great opportunity for families, as children have a special ability to form cross-cultural friendships. Minimum 6-month commitment. Must be able to meet with the refugee individual or family 2-4 times per month. Must complete trainings and a personal interview.

(Classroom Teacher) The success of resettlement largely depends on a refugee's access to English instruction. Volunteers will teach English classes weekly for 2.5 hours at Exodus. All materials and curriculum are supplied. Requirements: Minimum commitment: teach 1 class per week for 6 months. Must complete trainings and class observation. Teaching experience is preferred and ESL experience will be given preference. Requirements: Minimum 6-month commitment. Must be able to meet with the refugee individual or family 2-4 times per month. Must complete trainings and a personal interview.

**Events** Celebrate the Life Ahead Gala – August 30 – 6-9pm - Join us for a night of cultural celebration honoring the courage and strength of refugees who have made Indiana their home. You will enjoy international cuisine, complimentary wine and beer, live music, and a silent auction. All proceeds from the gala benefit our programs to welcome and support refugees in Indianapolis.

<u>Contact</u> Kari Moore; Manager of Educational Programs, 317-215-7942 <u>kmoore@exodusrefugee.org</u>, <u>Www.exodusrefugee.org</u>