

Sanctuary Movement Update

During Rabbi Whinston's Yom Kippur morning sermon, he talked about doing more as a congregation for immigrant families in our area. This summer, along with Abbie and several other members of our Social Action Committee and St. Clare's, I attended a meeting of the Ann Arbor Jewish Sanctuary movement, of which TBE is a member. During that meeting, Ruth Kraut, the group's founder and organizer, highlighted the current needs of the immigrant communities:

- Most importantly, if you speak a foreign language proficiently or fluently (especially Spanish and Arabic), and are willing to offer interpretation services, fill out this form: <https://goo.gl/forms/fWltsnTaVeWfqaVK2>
- If willing to house persons needing temporary housing, Ruth has a checklist from Bill O'Brien (Catholic Services) to complete so he can maintain a vetted list. Please email Ruth (ruthkraut@gmail.com) if you are interested.
- Many immigrants must check in with ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) regularly in Detroit. They also have doctor's appointments, meetings with lawyer, etc. Some need to check in with the embassy of their home countries, often located in Chicago.
For shorter rides and updates on other needs of the community, join AAJS Listserve. To join go to: <https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/a2jewishsanctuary> and click on "apply for membership." Then, contact Laurie White on this website for who needs rides on specific days.
For longer rides (to Chicago or picking someone up in Kalamazoo to get to Detroit), contact Rabbi Josh Whinston through this Facebook page, [Migrant Mother Drivers](#). (You will need to request access) – or simply email him, of course!
- WICIR (<https://www.facebook.com/WICIR/>): is still often a point of first contact for many immigrants, refugees in our community. They continue to play a key role in activism and direct support, continue to need support and ask that other newly emerging needs be addressed by other initiatives so they can maintain their focus.
- Washtenaw Congregational Sanctuary (<https://www.facebook.com/WashtenawCongregationalSanctuary/>): Is a joint initiative of WICIR/ICPJ/UU—three local congregations (including TBE and STC) have declared themselves prepared to provide sanctuary if requested by a family and other local congregations have declared their readiness to provide financial and other material support in that effort. Still others are educating themselves and the community on these issues.
- There is still need for money: could be used for food, for household needs, toiletries, for gas, for bond payments. Rabbi Whinston at Temple Beth Emeth has offered to use his fund as fiduciary. Donations to AAJS should be done online or via check to TBE with "A2Jewish Sanctuary" as note on donation or check. To donate online: (<https://tbea2.wufoo.com/forms/ss5au410eydwmn/>) Go down to B. on this link and select Rabbis Discretionary Fund AND be sure to put A2JewishSanctuary in the Tribute Message Box.
- Finally, at the next Board meeting, we will be discussing how TBE can adopt an immigrant family in need. I will get back to you on this at a later date.