

PATHS TO WELCOME THE STRANGER:
How You Can Help Asylum Seekers, Refugees and Immigrants in New York

If a foreigner stays with you in your land, do not do him wrong. Rather, treat the foreigner staying with you like the native-born among you — you are to love him as yourself, for you were foreigners in the land of Egypt; I am Adonai your God.

Leviticus 19:33-34.

In these difficult times, all non-native born people in our country, from naturalized citizens to green card holders to asylum seekers to the undocumented, live with the possibility, and, too often, the reality of disrespect, harassment, arrest, detention, and deportation. The West End Social Action Committee has prepared this flyer to inform you of organizations in Manhattan and New Jersey that provide helping hands to the refugee and immigrant communities. These organizations are worthy of your donations and have opportunities for volunteers. While this list is not exhaustive, it provides alternative paths for fulfilling our tradition of welcoming the stranger.

Entries below include, in most cases, the organization's name, street address, phone number, and web address, along with a brief note about volunteer opportunities with the organization. All organizations accept online donations. WES members can enter this link ([https://westendsynagogue.org/paths to welcome](https://westendsynagogue.org/paths%20to%20welcome)) into their browsers to access an annotated list that includes level of commitment and training required and other details. When relevant, the online list includes our own personal experiences as volunteers with these organizations.

List of Organizations

New Sanctuary Coalition, 239 Thompson Street, New York 10012. 646-395-2925. www.newsanctuarycoalition.nationbuilder.com. Assists asylum seekers with support, legal advice, form completion and check-ins with ICE. NSC also collects letters of support for detainees.

Bend the Arc, Jewish Action, 330 7th Avenue, New York 10001. 212-213-2113. www.bendthearc.us. Political advocacy and direct action.

English in Action, 144 East 39th Street, New York 10016. Contact kruelle@esuus.org. Conversational English for foreign students, visitors, immigrants and/or asylum seekers.

First Friends of New Jersey, New York. 58 So. Hackensack Avenue, Kearny, NJ 07032. 908-965-0455. www.firstfriendsnjny.org. Services to detainees including visits, pen pals, and collection of stamps and writing materials.

HIAS, 411 Fifth Avenue, New York 10016. 212-967-4100. www.hias.org. Mentoring, translation, letter writing to detainees.

Syria Supper Club, United Tastes of America. www.theunitedtastesofamerica.org. This organization is located in New Jersey, but partners with New York congregations to host Syrian suppers prepared by refugees. Best means of contact: syriasupperclub@gmail.com.