

Volunteer partnerships

CWS is supporting the work of shelters on the southwest border through the coordination of financial and long-term volunteer assistance and onward travel support for asylum-seekers.

The primary role of the shelters is to provide humanitarian care in a protected space as asylum seekers coordinate onward travel and await court appearances. Shelter sizes and services vary, but generally each shelter provides meals, a bed for one night or extended stays, a place to wash clothes or collect donated clothing, and assistance coordinating onward movements by contacting relatives and providing transportation to a bus station on the day of departure.

Volunteers are needed to support the work of shelters at the southwest border. For more information on any of the volunteer or funding opportunities below, please contact CWS at resourcecenter@cwsglobal.org.

Congregational Support - Southwest

Assistance is needed in the following areas:

Arizona: Tucson
California: Los Angeles, San Diego
New Mexico: Albuquerque
Texas: Dallas, El Paso, Laredo, McAllen

Volunteer opportunities:

- Provide temporary shelter (1-2 days) for a minimum of 20 asylum seekers per week, for 1 week each month in a local church. This includes providing food and overnight shelter, contacting relatives, and transportation to the bus station.
- Partner with existing shelter and provide consistent local volunteer support (providing meals, cooking, laundry, bilingual volunteers to assist with intakes).
- One-month bilingual (Spanish/English) volunteer opportunities in El Paso, TX.

Congregational Support - Interior

Volunteer opportunities:

- Housing asylum seeking family in a church for a minimum of 6 months
- Basic needs including food and clothing for a minimum of 6 months
- Accompaniment – legal, community resources, education

Financial

Funding may be used for additional staffing, printing costs for legal information, or basic needs such as food, diapers, laundry, and hotel costs for overflow shelter.