

Fort Wayne has been a significant immigrant friendly community for southeast Asian, Mexican, Burmese, and east European populations for many years. While we began welcoming Afghan refugees about 20 years ago, we are currently seeing a surge in Afghan immigrants due to the drastic measures taken after the US military withdrew from Afghanistan last year.

A group of our members have been meeting with Reverend Sara to accomplish two major things relative to the surge in Afghan immigrants.

1. Work with Catholic Charities ('CC') and our own Terry Dougherty, to discern the needs presented by the Afghan immigrants appearing on our community's doorstep. These needs fall into the following general categories: housing, transportation, employment, food availability, education, cultural integration, medical (both physical and mental/emotional), and legal (i.e., applying for asylum and/or visas). Within each of these general categories are multiple levels of specificity.
2. Determine the specific activities required to meet those needs, survey the congregation to determine what needs our members and friends can help meet by identifying which of the specific activities members and friends are willing to perform. These activities are how you can become involved if you desire. On the following page is a table on which you can enter your name, phone number and email address, and then check the activity/activities you would like to volunteer to perform.

The first section of the attached document lists activities that require a volunteer to complete a background check and TB test. CC owns the process to meet these two requirements. If you desire to volunteer for any of the activities in this first section, we will contact you with the information and documentation you need to meet these two requirements.

The second section of the attached document lists activities that do not require a background check and TB text. Your completion and submission of this form will be all we need to contact you about your participation.

If you desire to volunteer, please complete the attached form. You may print a completed form and leave it in the office or the offering plates available on Sunday mornings. Or you may send the completed form electronically to Steve Hollingsworth ([stevbeck67@gmail.com](mailto:stevbeck67@gmail.com)). If you have questions while completing the form, please feel free to call Steve at 260-433-6503.

Plymouth will set up the organizational structure to make the connections between the individuals who agree to provide support and the immigrant families who require that support. Any instruction or materials necessary for an activity will be provided to you.

Your participation is greatly appreciated.

Afghan Immigrant Task Force

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

<b>ACTIVITIES THAT REQUIRE A BACKGROUND CHECK AND TB TEST</b>	
	<b>CHECK IF OFFERING THIS SERVICE</b>
<b>PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION</b>	
Drive personal vehicle to transport	
Introduce adults to the FW bus system	
<b>TUTORING</b>	
Help children with schoolwork	
Teach adults English	
Instruction for cultural integration	
<b>FIELD TRIPS</b>	
Take adults shopping (groceries, clothes, household items, etc.)	
Tours of the city	
Visit mosques or other places of worship	
Visit the Zoo, Science Central, various splash parks, city parks	
Host or participate in social gatherings with Plymouth's family and/or multiple Afghan families	
<b>ADVOCATING</b>	
<b>EDUCATION</b>	
Assist parents with getting children registered with FWCS	
Introduce and instruct parents and children on FWCS bus system	
Ensure any special needs are being addressed appropriately	
<b>LEGAL</b>	
Assist parents with asylum or visa applications	
<b>MEDICAL</b>	
Help families establish family care, either with a particular physician or via a clinic.	
Help families obtain Medicaid benefits if needed.	
Ensure parents or children are receiving mental health services if needed.	
<b>EMPLOYMENT</b>	
Help parents seek appropriate employment.	
Help parents discern and obtain necessary skill training.	
Help parents apply for supplemental financial assistance as necessary.	
<b>ACTIVITIES THAT <i>DO NOT</i> REQUIRE A BACKGROUND CHECK AND TB TEST</b>	
	<b>CHECK IF OFFERING THIS SERVICE</b>
<b>SET UP HOUSING – House or Apartment. All of the following would be completed before the family moves into their housing.</b>	
Clean house or apartment	
Help move furniture and appliances	
Set up/connect appliances and beds	
Perform necessary handyman type jobs	
<b>GENERAL SUPPORT</b>	
Help organize or conduct a fundraising activity	
Make contributions to an immigrant fundraising activity or to an ongoing support fund.	
Help organize a social gathering for immigrant families.	
Identify and contact businesses that would be willing to hire immigrants.	