

Role and Expectations for Host Congregations

What does a place of worship have to do to participate and become a sanctuary for immigrant families?

- Agree to host an immigrant family [<Link – The Pledge>](#) that meets the following criteria:
 - Be in the legal process [<Link – Legal Help>](#) and under an order of deportation
 - American citizen children
 - Good work record
 - Viable case [<Link – Legal Help>](#) under current law
- Host the family for an initial commitment. The family will use the congregation as their mailing address and will be able to spend time as needed at the site. They may need actual hospitality (a place to live) in the congregation, in real estate owned by the congregation or in the home of a family that belongs to the congregation.
- Help with material and spiritual support for the family. There will be a larger network [<Link – Our Allies>](#) of individuals and congregations who will not be hosting families but will be providing material and spiritual support for families. Expert immigration lawyers will be handling their case.
- Participate in a public press conference with congregations all over the country who are hosting families. All of the host and allied congregations are joining in an interfaith statement of accompaniment/solidarity lifting up the human rights of immigrant families as children of God.
- Be available for press interviews.