Walking with Asylum Seekers:
A Training Series for Congregations

Welcome!

Walking with Asylum Seekers
Sponsorship Part 1
April 15, 2:00 – 3:30PM ET

episcopal MIGRATION MINISTRIES

LUTHERAN FAMILY SERVICES Rocky Mountains

AMMPARO
Accompanying Migrant Minors with Protection, Advocacy, Representation and Opportunities

HOUSEKEEPING

- **Mute:** Please mute your mic.
- **Recording:** We are not recording today's webinar. The powerpoint will be shared in a follow-up email.
- **Chat Box:** You may submit questions and comments throughout the workshop via the chat box.
- Be welcoming, considerate, and patient. We are all at different places in this work and everyone has something to offer and learn.
- Personal attacks or insults, harassment, or discriminatory jokes and language will not be tolerated. EMM reserves the right to remove any person from the webinar who does not follow the rules of respectful conduct.

OPENING PRAYER

A prayer for reconciliation *(from Daily Prayer with the Corrymeela Community)*

Where there is separation,
there is pain.
And where there is pain,
there is story.

And where there is story,
there is understanding,
and misunderstanding,
listening
and not listening.

May we - separated peoples, estranged strangers,
unfriended families, divided communities -
turn toward each other,
and turn toward our stories,
with understanding
and listening,
with argument and acceptance,
with challenge, change
and consolation.

Because if God is to be found,
God will be found
in the space between. Amen.

Introductions

Live – Mary Campbell, ELCA AMMPARO, Allyson Pryor, ELCA Southwestern Texas Synod, Andrew Byrd, Lutheran Family Services Rocky Mountains

Taped: Stephanie Gonzalez and Kari Lenander, Border Servant Corp, Barbara Ammirati, Save the Children, and Allison Duval, Episcopal Migration Ministries

Overview
Today's Agenda

- Kari and Stephanie- Considerations for Hosting
- Allison Duvall - EMM Toolkit
- Barbara- Special Considerations for Children
- Q&A
- Breakout Session-Group Task
- Andrew- Resources for Asylum Seekers
- Q&A
- Breakout Session-Individual Challenge
- Closing Prayer

Walking with Asylum Seekers

Accompanying Refugees: Best Practices

Stephanie Gonzalez
& Kari Lenander

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC
Diocese of Las Cruces

BSC
BORDER SERVANT CORPS

Peace Lutheran Church
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Save the Children

New Mexico Hospitality Coalition

CITY OF LAS CRUCES
one community embracing all
ASYLUM SHELTER

Timeline of Hospitality Centers in Las Cruces

Through Annunciation House (mostly from U.S. Immigration & Customs Enforcement)

- 2014 – Unaccompanied Minors: Holy Cross Retreat Center, Roman Catholic Diocese of Las Cruces
- 2017 – El Calvario United Methodist Church
- 2018 – Border Servant Corps, Peace Lutheran Church, Trinity Lutheran Church
- 2019 – Heart for the World Church, Sierra Vista Church

Directly from U.S. Customs & Border Protection

- *January 2019 – Beginning of NM Hospitality Coalition (faith-based, non-profit, and governmental)*
- April 2019 – City of Las Cruces
- May 2019 – City of Deming

Answering the Call

Responding
(a few considerations)

- **Mission:** Whose call is this?
- **Partnership:** Who else is / could be involved? Expertise?
- **Impact:** Who / What will be impacted? How?
- **Timing:** Urgency of need
- **Education:** Listening and learning at all points (before, during, after) to all involved (staff, volunteers, guests)
- **Communication:** Avenues, accuracy, consistency, commitment throughout
- **Longevity:** Depth and breadth of commitment (sprint vs. marathon)

Balancing Do's & Don'ts

*Centered in mission

Challenges
(individual, congregation, partnership)

- Control
- Power dynamics
- Egos
- Personalities
- Longevity
- Self-care
  - Compassion-fatigue
  - Burnout
- Navigating uncertainty
- Rules / Guidelines
- Conflict

Opportunities
(individual, congregation, partnership)

- Centering in mission
- Demonstrating and offering genuine welcome
- Sharing / Reminding the WHY
- Volunteer education, vetting, training, feedback
- Discovering and sharing gifts
- Future shared ministry projects
- Appreciation and engagement
- Learning moments
- Reflections and workshops

Additional Considerations

- Clear boundaries, structure, input mechanisms
- Liability & safety protocols
- Accessibility
- Barriers to participation
- Train people how to share/process experience, respecting confidentiality
- Multiple layers of “backup”
- Ending / Transitioning well

Ministry of Accompaniment

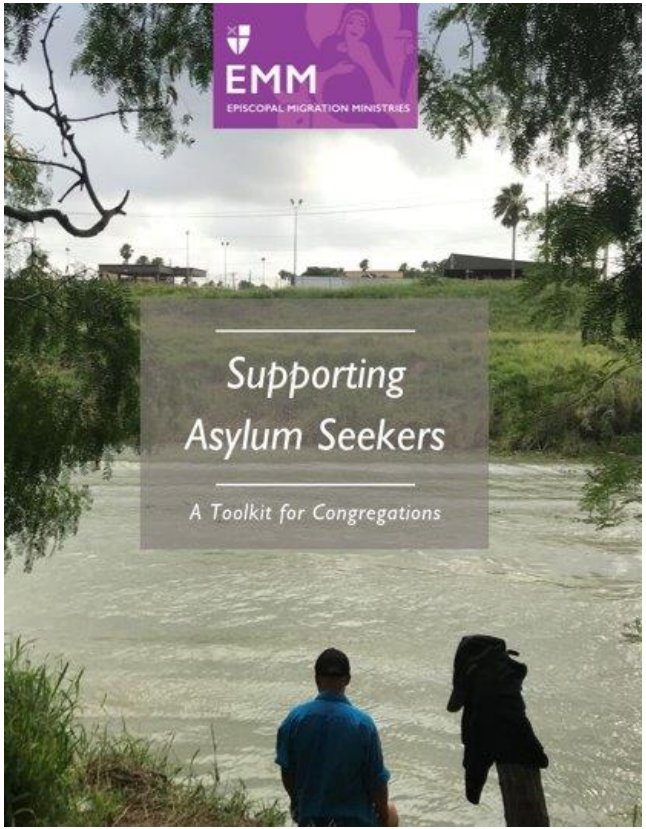
- Empowering guests to be part of the process
- Addressing potential challenges for guest participation
- Recognizing boundaries and possibilities
- Teaching staff / volunteers HOW to engage

Resources

Organizations have a variety of resources available, based on years of experience from staff, volunteers, and guests.

MINISTRY MODELS & OPPORTUNITIES

Allison Duvall, Manager of Church Relations & Engagement, Episcopal Migration Ministries



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Request

Supporting Asylum Seekers: A Toolkit for Congregations:
episcopalmigrationministries.org/asylum-toolkit/

Save the Children

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS WHEN HOSTING FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

Barbara Ammirati
Sr. Specialist, Child Protection in Emergencies, Team Lead US Border Response

AGENDA

I. PROTECTION RISK FORMULA

II. UNIQUE NEEDS OF CHILDREN, ESPECIALLY IN CRISIS

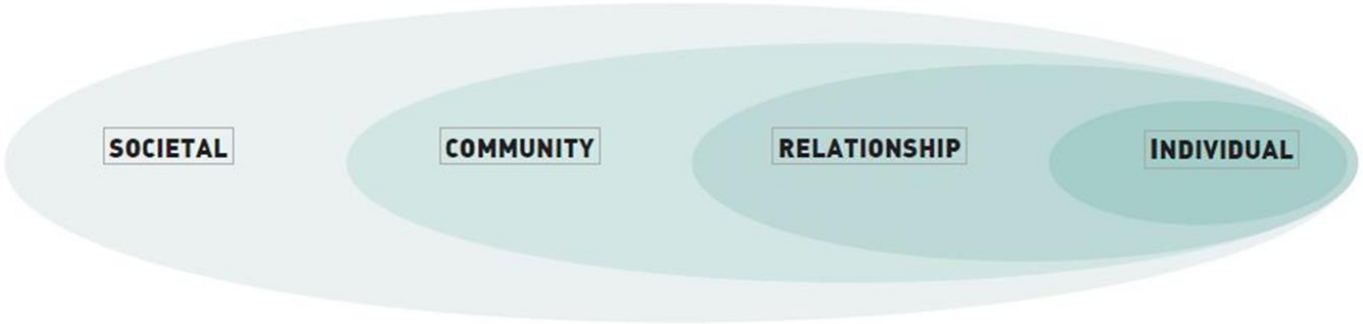
- PHYSICAL, EMOTIONAL, & DEVELOPMENTAL

III. CHILD SAFEGUARDING

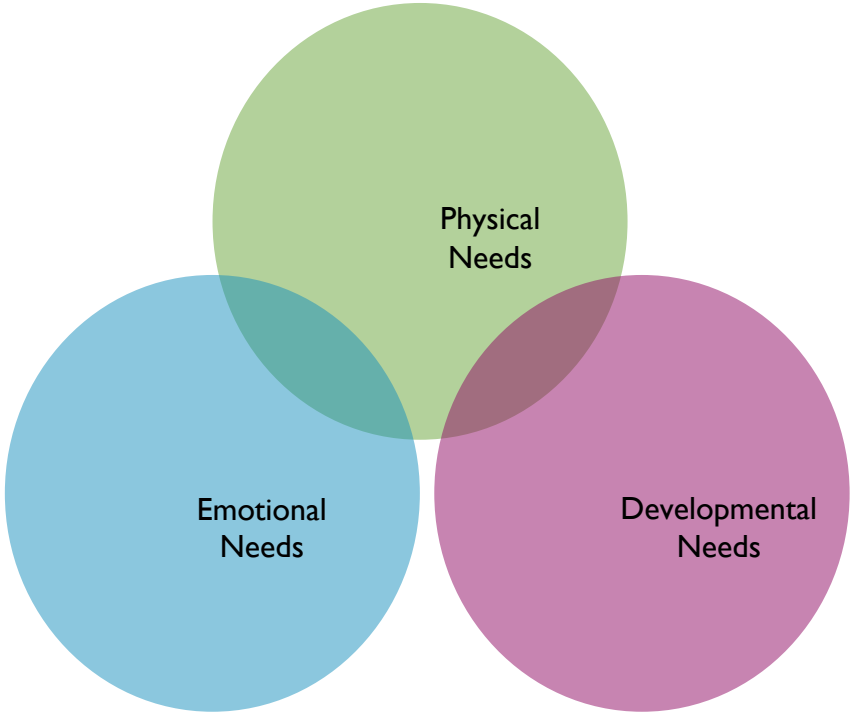
PROTECTION RISK FORMULA

RISK = THREAT x $\frac{\text{VULNERABILITIES}}{\text{CAPACITIES}}$

Child Protective Factors



Children are not just “little adults”



Physical Needs

- Physiological
- Mobility and Coordination
- Nutritional
- Safety and Protection
- Reliance on Caregivers

Emotional Needs

Emotional Differences

Routine and Comfort

Role of Caregivers

Developmental Needs

- Communication and Identification
- Educational Continuity
- Social Relationships
- Regressive Behaviors

What is Child Safeguarding?

Child Safeguarding is about making our environments *safe* for children.

Who? All of us are protecting children from the risk of *or* actual harm/abuse created by adults around them

What? Keeping **ALL** children safe from child abuse, exploitation *and* mitigating risks to harms and abuses, as well as ensuring that environments and processes adequately protect children

When? 24/7

Where? In our congregations, the communities we serve, online, and in our home

THANK YOU!

Prompt

You are the leader for your team of 8 congregation members who have been supporting an asylum seeking family with minor children. One member of your team has been trying to convince the parents to transfer their children from their current school into a different school with a better funding. You know that this new school does not send a bus to the area so the family would be dependent on rides to and from school each day. The parents seem to have been convinced by your team member to do the transfer despite their children being 3 months into the school year. What do you do?

RESOURCES FOR ASYLUM SEEKERS

ASYLUM SEEKER PROGRAM SITES

Church World Service (CWS)	HIAS	International Rescue Committee (IRC)	Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS)
Locations			
• Houston, TX Interfaith Ministries for Greater Houston 713-382-5045 • Jersey City, NJ & New York, NY CWS - Jersey City 201-856-1453 • Miami, FL CWS - South Florida 305-774-6770	• Silver Spring, MD HIAS (301) 844-7300 • New York, NY HIAS New York (212) 967-4100 • Philadelphia, PA HIAS Pennsylvania (215) 832-0900	Asylum Seeking Families (ASF) • Dallas, TX • Elizabeth, NJ • Phoenix, AZ • San Diego, CA • Tucson, AZ Email Daniel.Bloch@rescue.org for information Survivor Wellness Center • Denver, CO Email SOTDenver@rescue.org for information	• New York, NY Lutheran Social Services of New York (212) 870-1100 • Seattle/Tacoma, WA Lutheran Community Services Northwest (206) 901-1685 • Phoenix, AZ Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest (480) 396-3795 • Las Cruces, NM Lutheran Family Services Rocky Mountains (575) 265-0836

Thanks to Basel at Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services and to staff at CWS, HIAS, and IRC!

SPECIAL POPULATIONS

https://www.acf.hhs.gov/orr/state-programs-annual-overview

CUBAN AND HAITIAN NATIONALS SHOULD BE REFERRED TO A RESETTLEMENT AGENCY

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

LIRS Asylum Seeker FAQ:

https://www.lirs.org/assets/2474/asylumseekers_english.pdf (Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service)

CWS Call Center:

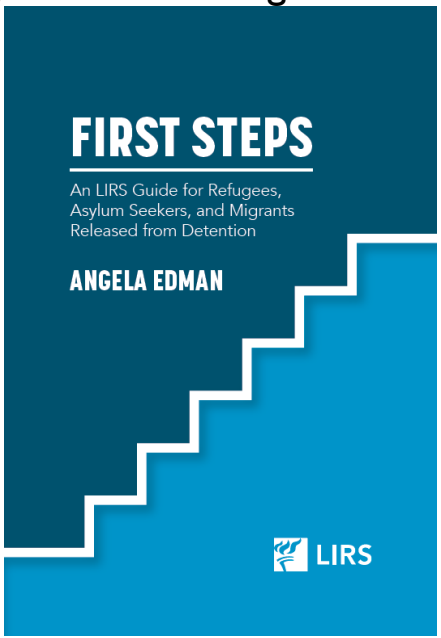
800-375-1433 (Church World Service)

City Based Resource Navigation Tool:

https://find.usahello.org/#/resources

United Way:

https://www.211.org/



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES CONT.

Sponsorship Forum:

Episcopal Diocese of West Texas &

Southwestern Texas Synod ELCA

Sponsoring Asylum-Seeking Families and Individuals:

The Election is Over...Now What?

A forum for anyone considering embarking on this sacred journey.

Deciding to become a sponsor is a leap of faith and a gift from the heart. However, you can never fully prepare for the joys and challenges that may present themselves along this journey of solidarity and grace.

Join us for our next sponsorship forum to explore how the election results and changes to policy will impact sponsoring relationships.

This will not be a conversation about politics or an opportunity to lament losses. We will focus on identifying the policy issues that have a direct and practical impact the sponsoring journey after a person is admitted to the country.

November 10th 2020
5:00PM – 6:30PM
Click Here to Register

Hosted By:

IMMIGRATION MINISTRIES

Southwestern Texas Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

In Partnership With:

Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service

TEXAS BORDER COLLABORATION NETWORK
RED de COLABORACIÓN FRONTERIZA de TEXAS

Interfaith WELCOME COALITION

Q&A with Andrew and Mary

Challenge

One of our first presenters today, Kari, went to school in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Using the USAHello site at https://find.usahello.org/#/resources I want you to find for me the Resettlement Services office in Sioux Falls and post in the zoom chat their phone number listed in the description.

When you finish, feel free to look up your city and see what services have been uploaded to USAHello.

CLOSING PRAYER

A prayer for asylum seekers and refugees

God of justice, we give thanks for this opportunity to gather here to learn about how we can strengthen our accompaniment of our migrant brothers and sisters who are asylum- seekers. Give us courage to continue on this journey of discernment and bring us together with others in our communities with the needed gifts for this accompaniment.

In Jesus name we pray.

Amen

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US

Contact information

Border Servant Corps

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Children's Coordinator

Kari Lenander, Executive Director

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Social Media:
https://www.facebook.com/borderservant/

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BORDER SERVANT CORPS

Save the Children

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Email: bammirati@savechildren.org

U.S. Border Response

Save the Children Action Network: Children at the Border

Save the Children

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US

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