

*Would you harbor me? Would I harbor you? Would you harbor a Christian, a Muslim, a Jew? A heretic, convict, or spy? Would you harbor a runaway, woman, or child?
Would you harbor me? Would I harbor you? [Sweet Honey In the Rock](#)*

Asylum-Seekers in Wilmington Need Our Help

WHO? A family of 2 – a mom and an 11-year-old son from Tanzania are seeking asylum in Wilmington, DE. The son has been receiving treatment for sickle-cell anemia at Nemours Hospital and is now stable. He recently began attending a local elementary school and speaks English. The mom speaks Swahili and is starting to learn English. She does not have any formal education.

CURRENT SITUATION? The family is unable to return to Tanzania due to the risk of violence there for them. Nemours Hospital has obtained emergency housing for the family at the Hope Center and JFS Delaware has paid for 10 days (until January 27). Nemours was also able to connect the family with pro-bono legal counsel to file their asylum application.

WHAT IS NEEDED NOW? \$MONEY\$! We are seeking donations to pay a month or two of rent at Hope Center which charges \$50.00 a day for \$1500/month. This will give us more time to find a more permanent housing solution for this family.

Donations should be made to First Unitarian Church:

- [Click here to make a secure online donation](#)
- Send a check with “Asylum-seekers” in the memo line to:
730 Halstead Road
Wilmington, DE 190803

WHAT IS NEEDED LONG-TERM? HOUSING & DAILY SUPPORT! We are looking for a more stable housing solution for this family for about a year. The mother will not be able to work for at least 9 months while the lawyers process her asylum application and obtain a work permit.

- Could someone welcome this family into their home for a year?
- Does anyone have an apartment or in-law suite that is not occupied?
- Could enough money be raised for living expenses (e.g., rent, utilities, food, etc.) for the family, if affordable housing could be found?

WHAT IF AN INDIVIDUAL/CONGREGATION WANTS TO HELP LONG-TERM?

Choosing to be in solidarity with and provide housing and daily support to an asylum-seeking family is a large commitment that should be considered carefully. Asylum-seekers need housing and basic needs for at least a year. The Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) offers a Congregational Accompaniment Project for Asylum-Seekers (CAPAS) program. Any individual/group – even non-faith-based groups – can receive support from CAPAS. CAPAS provides multiple ways for congregations/individuals to provide much-needed solidarity to asylum-seekers. There is a network of people that can support others interested in the transformative experience of living in solidarity with an asylum-seeking family. Visit uus.org/capas to learn more.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS: Contact Becky Laster, Chair, First Unitarian, Human Rights Task Force, blaster102@verizon.net or 302-750-8524, especially, if you have ideas for permanent solutions for this family.