

UUSC's Congregational Accompaniment Project for Asylum Seekers (CAPAS)

First U's CAPAS Project Information & Volunteer Needs

We have welcomed a family, mother and son, from Tanzania to live in Delaware. As you may already know, we moved them from the shelter where they were living into an apartment at the end of March. The family is so thankful for all the items we gave them for their apartment. The move has been very positive, as evidenced by their big smiles and laughter. It is heartwarming!

The Core Volunteer Team, other HRTF members, and your donations have been invaluable! We have accomplished so much in a short amount of time. The family is seeking asylum here and we found and hired a lawyer willing to take their case. We found a local legal translator willing to help the family and lawyer communicate to complete the asylum application. We have recently connected the family with their faith at a Roman Catholic Church. This Parish has a community of Swahili-speaking people for them to connect with.

We are seeking more volunteers to help the Core Team Leads with specific tasks. Each team could use 2 or 3 more volunteers. Some teams could use as many volunteers as are willing to help!

Come talk with Core Team Members on Sunday, April 9 in coffee hour. If you are unable to attend church on Sunday and are interested in more information or in volunteering, please contact us by email. Thanks!

Core Volunteer Team for First U CAPAS

Admin/Project Lead:	Becky Laster	blaster102@verizon.net
Daily-Living Team Lead:	Renee Anderson	reneejeann@verizon.net
Legal Team Lead:	Pam Finkleman	pamfink30@comcast.net
Housing Team Leads:	Kim Tull & Cynthia de Leon	geisttull@comcast.net cdeleon3@gmail.com
Finance Team Leads:	Doyle Dobbins	d.dobbins@verizon.net

Daily-Living Team Lead By: Renee Anderson reneejeann@verizon.net

Description: This team is focused on the daily living, educational, and social needs of the family. We are coordinating rides for them to a Catholic church, to grocery stores, and to other community events. We also want to bring the family to First U for some events and find other ways for the family to engage in the local community in meaningful ways. Most of the volunteers on this team will interact with the family. As such, First U will need these volunteers to complete a form so that we can obtain a criminal background check and keep it on file. If you are not comfortable with that, please volunteer for a different team that does not interact directly with the family.

Daily-Living Team Volunteer Needs:

- Direct contact with family
 - Drive family to a Catholic church in Bear that has a group of Swahili-speaking people
 - Walk with the family to the shopping center close to where they live
 - Take the family grocery to the international grocery store, Target, or other shops
 - Take the bus with the family to convenient shopping centers to help teach the bus system
 - Walk with the family at a park near their house
- Identify Frist U events to bring family to (likely not Sunday services, as they are Catholic)
 - Plan best way to introduce the family at the event
 - Bring family to First U
- Brainstorming and community events and activities for family to participate

Legal Team**Lead By:** Pam Finklemanpamfink30@comcast.net

Description: This team has found and hired a lawyer and Swahili translators to help the family submit their asylum application. Submitting the application is a big job and we could use more help with office management tasks. This team will assist with organizing the asylum application and possibly work with some translators to get documents prepared for the application. No legal experience is necessary to volunteer for this team.

Legal Team Volunteer Needs:

- Office support:
 - Copy documents
 - Organize documents to send for translation
 - Organize documents for the family and the lawyer
 - Research Tanzanian culture that could supplement the family's application

Housing Team**Lead By:** Kim Tull
Cynthia de Leongeisttull@comcast.net
cdeleon3@gmail.com

Description: The family is currently living in an apartment through the end of the school year and a generous donor has contributed this rent money. However, the rent for the apartment is high and not sustainable long-term. The goal would be to find something more affordable and longer term before the next school year. UUSC's CAPAS program recommends finding two host families who would be willing to bring this family of two into their home for 6-months. The team is also investigating and looking for housing options through other local programs.

Housing Team Volunteer Needs:

- Publicity and outreach:
 - Create interest within our congregation in becoming a host family
 - Outreach to other congregations to find host family
- Brainstorm and pursue more housing options:
 - Make phone calls to programs and other possible housing options

Finance Team**Lead By:** Doyle Dobbinsd.dobbins@verizon.net

Description: So far, fundraising has been very successful! However, the expenses for the project are great, so the money raised has already been spent on rent, daily living, and retaining the lawyer to help with the asylum application. This team will focus on fundraising and managing the money for the project.

Finance Team Volunteer Needs:

- Numbers-minded people to help:
 - Develop parameters for spending money
 - Keep the project on budget
 - Organize a Faithify campaign (crowd-source fundraising) with UUSC

Administrative Team**Lead By:** Becky Lasterblaster102@verizon.net

Description: This team will help with general organization and communication for the project.

Administrative Team Volunteer Needs:

- Help coordinate various teams and their tasks
- Write E-news to keep the congregation informed
- Write updates for the Executive Team and the Board
- Coordinate and orient new volunteers