

## Wesley Monumental UMC

### **Mission Program Profile: Refugee Ministry**

#### *Name of Program/Organization*

Refugee Ministry

#### *Target Population*

Primarily U.N. vetted Refugees from countries not limited to but including Syria, Iraq, Burma, Congo, Afghanistan who are relocated to Savannah area via Inspiritus (Formally Lutheran Services of Georgia). Over the last 3 years 200-250 refugees have been resettled. During the current fiscal year 2017-2018, only 37 refugees have been resettled. Most recently, the organization helped resettle 2 Afghani, 1 Ertrean, and 2 Congolese families.

#### *Agency Mission/Purpose*

Provide ongoing resettlement support to new refugee families in the Savannah area via a Wesley-based team of volunteers (and including members of Mickve Israel or other congregations that would like to participate)

Newly resettled refugee apartment set-up, apartment furniture/item collection, Transportation to Doctor's appointment/job interviews, English language lessons  
Showing hospitality and love to refugee families in the Savannah area. Communicating that love transcends culture and religious boundaries.

#### *Organization Contact*

Lauren Cruckshank Inspiritus of GA (Formally Lutheran Services of GA): 912-353-8875

#### *Wesley Contact*

Holly McCormick: 912-856-6982

#### *Nature of Spiritual Purpose*

It is an opportunity to live out our faith as disciples of the Word.

It is multi-faith: Christians/Jews/Muslims

Our commitment to love and serve others is a living testament to our faith in Christ. As relationships with refugee families continue to strengthen, so do opportunities to witness – including prayer and sharing of scripture.

#### *Sources of Funding*

Local foundations/fundraising

Wesley Monumental UMC Refugee Ministry

Opportunity for "Taste of Welcome" dinners as fundraisers

#### *Organization Activity*

Goal is outreach to newly resettled and current refugees in the Savannah area

Wesley UMC Missions Committee reviews the organization. Documentation of reviews and audits occur as needed with the Missions Committee.

### *Non-financial Needs of Organization*

#### Volunteer opportunities:

- Ongoing: "Ya'll Haul" furniture and apartment setup needs (families arrive with a suitcase of clothes and very few belongings)
- As needed: Apartment setup for newly arrived refugees (coordinated in conjunction with Inspiritus and advance reminders will be sent out)
- As needed: Doctor appointments, etc. transportation (coordinated in conjunction with Inspiritus or independently once a relationship is established with a family)
- As needed: English lessons for families (Nelle is certified to teach and train)\_
- As needed: After school tutors (a once per week commitment via Inspiritus 4:45-6:00 pm for children of refugee families)

#### Professional needs

- Inspiritus may require a formal background check and driver's license for transporting families. After school tutoring program may require background check.
- Wesley Monumental UMC Refugee Ministry helps provide resources to refugee families during transitional periods such as job transition and basic day to day needs (e.g., bus passes for transportation to a job, short term grocery needs, etc.)

#### Prayer needs

- That we may witness to local refugees the love of Christ through our actions and words.