

# SANCTUARY MOVEMENT PARTICIPATION OPTIONS

## **Church Defining Options**

Two forms of participation require a church defining commitment. These forms of participation, expressing the sense of the congregation, are approved by the Vestry and publicly commit the Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit as a body to particular forms of action.

### **A. Host Church**

The Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit publicly declares its decision to provide shelter within the church for immigrants (and potentially their families) under an imminent threat of deportation. In most cases, the immigrant will have exhausted all possible avenues for a new legal status before he or she enters sanctuary. The goal, therefore, is to secure for such a person or persons a stay of the deportation order. While a stay of deportation is being sought, the person or persons in sanctuary would be offered legal assistance, financial support, advocacy on their behalf etc. The plan is that each host church does not work in isolation but is supported by a nest or cluster of other congregations.

### **B. Supporting Church**

The Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit publicly declares itself a Supporting Church and, along with other congregations, assists a particular host church. The specific character of that support is a function of the expressed needs of the host church, but would likely include financial support, volunteers, and advocacy.

## **Non Church Defining Options**

These are activities undertaken by individuals or groups within the church without requiring express congregational and vestry sanction. This list is illustrative rather than exhaustive. Possible activities include ongoing outreach to the immigrant community, providing transportation, advocating on behalf of the immigrant community with county and local police officials, contacting state and federal legislators, accompanying immigrants to court or to ICE (Immigration Customs Enforcement) check-ins in Charlotte, helping to secure legal representation, hosting legal clinics, assuming power of attorney for individual immigrants etc.