

Notes from Migration Ministries Network 9-16-2021

Attendees: Armida Zapien, Sally Craige Christensen, Lesley MacKellar, Heather Barta, Silvia Huth, Fran Board, Michael Booker, Fatima Yakubu-Madus, Carol Elvery

Opening Reflection and Prayer: Offered up by FatimaYacubu-Madus

Introductions and local news:

Silvia shared that the Michigan Immigrant Rights Center is supporting 60 Afghan youth whose families have not yet come to the U.S. There is a question of how long the youth will be treated as parolees or will receive support. Hopefully they will be reunited with their families but, if not, they will be sent to different areas of the country.

Welcome to Carol Elvery from St Mark's, Waupaca, Wisconsin.

Border and Migration Ministry Virtual Summit: Lesley presented information on the summit and suggested that it, if possible, we attend. There is a \$75 registration fee and it may be possible to get scholarships from Province V if needed. There are 3 workshop tracks and more information is included in the link below.

<https://episcopalmigrationministries.org/border-summit-registration/>

<https://www.provincev.org/scholarships.html>

Information on Education Presenters for our network:

We discussed the type of information we would like and need. We need both basic information on language used, needs of the communities, resources available and also the more intense and complicated information that a lawyer could provide. We have some resources through the EMM Asylum and Detention Ministry Network. I have attached a sheet that Silvia sent after our meeting.

Carol said that she could reach out to Mother Julia who has a wealth of experience and knowledge and is currently working to support those at the Fort McCoy, one of eight military bases that are housing people who are refugees from Afghanistan.

We agreed that that would be wonderful.

BPG Discussion:

The Big Provincial Gathering takes place 4/29 and 4/30 2022.

Migration Ministries network has been given one slot for a workshop on the 30th.

We had spoken about providing introductory education about Migration Ministry and the work of supporting people who are migrating for all reasons to our country.

Important dates: **Dec. 15 deadline for our workshop title and description**
Jan. 1, 2022 registration opens for the gathering

We spoke of the resources available for many of us both in the work we do and through the Asylum and detention Network of EMM. We also discussed the many pieces and types of work being done, TPS, Different groups from different countries coming for our country's support and refuge for many reasons, Pathways to Citizenship, DACA, Essential workers including Farm Workers....

Carol is following up with and will connect Armida and Mother Julia.

Closing Prayer: offered by Michael Booker

Postnote: The meeting was not recorded so I was not able to access the Chat. Recording has pluses and minuses and we can discuss if we want to record at our next meeting. In the meantime, please, let me know if I left anything out and also share any links that I have not included. I will be uploading some to our website:

<https://www.provincev.org/migration.html>

Links:

[Donate to Neighbors Welcome: Afghan Allies Fund](#)

[Map of EMM Affiliate Partners](#)

[Resources for Afghan Allies - Information for Afghan Allies in Need of Evacuation](#)

<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/ministries/office-government-relations/>

<https://www.detentionwatchnetwork.org/take-action/communitiesnotcages>

Haitian Bridge Alliance and Human Rights First released a [factsheet](#)

Black Alliance for Just Immigration (BAJI): <https://baji.org>

Haitian Bridge Alliance: <http://haitianbridge.org>