



## St. James Cathedral Immigrant Assistance

The immigrant assistance ministry at St. James strives to promote an inclusive society and advance justice for refugees and immigrants through education, advocacy, building solidarity, and by helping refugees and immigrants to learn English, become citizens, and connect to community resources.

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ARCHDIOCESE  
OF SEATTLE

Christopher Koehler, Director  
Immigrant and Refugee Ministry

*Supporting parishes, Advocacy,  
and Special Initiatives*



### *How we got started*

1975 – Sr Terence Reilly with 5 Vietnamese refugees.

1980 – adopted by Cathedral; funds a 10hr/wk. coordinator.

1990's – grows significantly with fundraising and AmeriCorps.

### *Funding \$200,000*

65% St. James Cathedral

25% City of Seattle (citizenship)

10% Individual donors and Grants

**ESL Tutoring** Clients work together with their tutor and our staff to develop an individualized plan of instruction including goals, lesson topics, and assessment.

**Citizenship Preparation** Clients prepare for their naturalization exam by learning U.S. civics and history through individual tutoring.

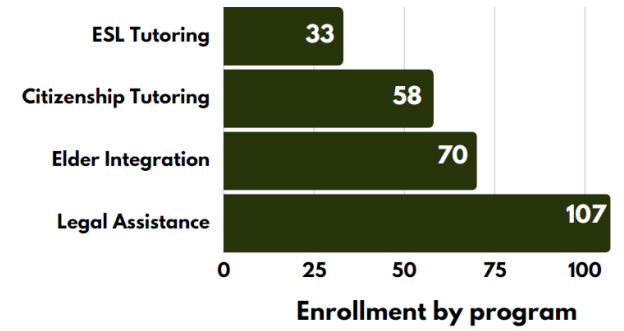
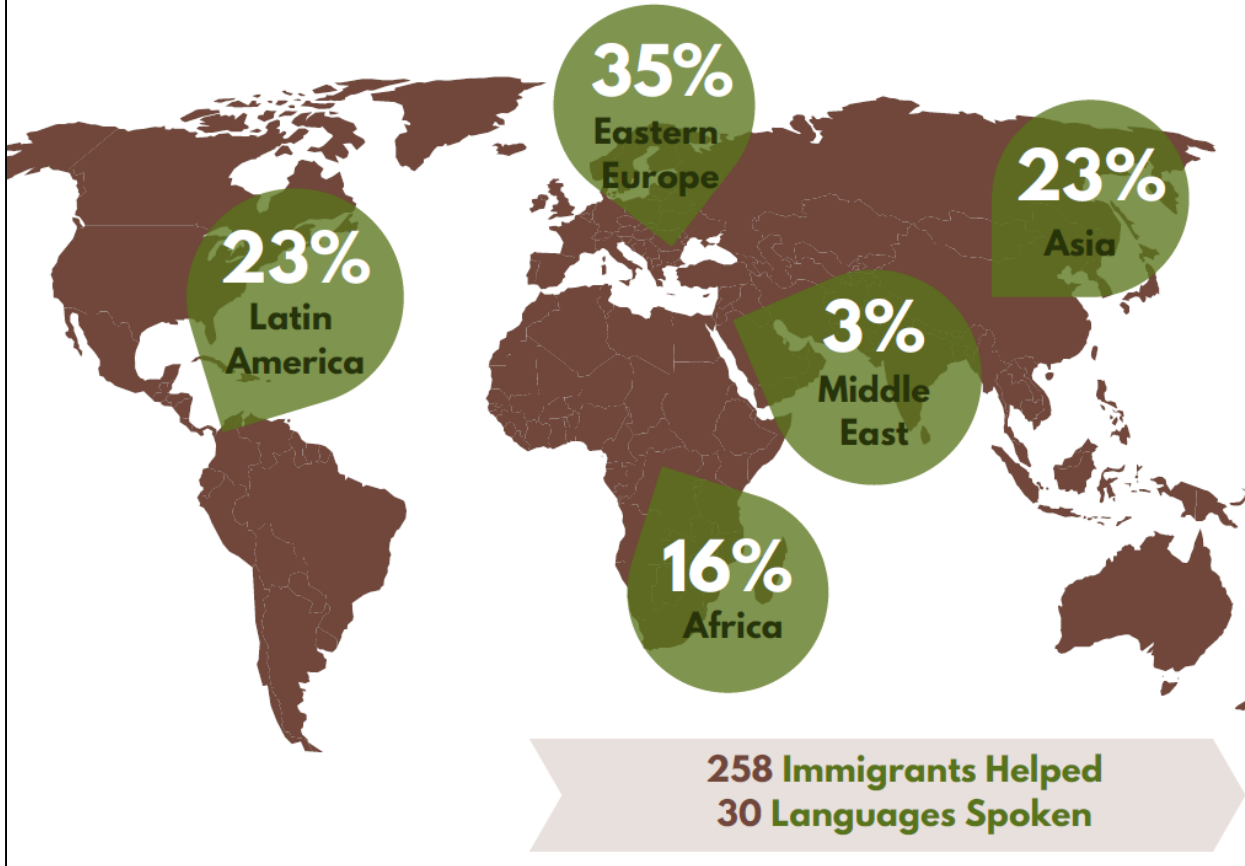
**Naturalization Assistance** Clients receive help to complete and submit their N-400 applications for United States citizenship.

**Elder Integration** Refugee and immigrant seniors attend workshops, field trips, and take part in civic engagement activities.

**Groopt** join our online team to respond to specific ways to help immigrant individuals and families with tangible items and short term assistance.

**Advocacy and Awareness-raising** Action alerts, presentations, events, and other efforts.

Our clients come from all over the world...



102 people volunteered





Past services have included:

Talk Time conversation groups, CPR, conversation skills classes, ESL through yoga, ESL for personal finances, public speaking  
ESL for the blind, DACA application assistance, women's discussion groups, etc.

Past awareness-raising and advocacy have included:

Immersion trips, Islam series, Catholic-Muslim dinner, JustFaith *Exploring Migration*, movies, book clubs, panel presentations, etc.

Upcoming new activities: refugee support team

# Interested in being a Tutor?

Contact Tammi Murray at [tmurray@stjames-cathedral.org](mailto:tmurray@stjames-cathedral.org)



# Join our Groopt Team

Email Chris Koehler at [ckoehler@stjames-cathedral.org](mailto:ckoehler@stjames-cathedral.org)

Connect with each other while supporting immigrants. Fulfill requests from immigrants for specific needs, respond to virtual events, share immigration related news, recommend books or movies, share some good news and good acts, etc.

Event Chris Koehler 7 days ago

Event Title  
Gather for Agape

Date  
6/16/2021, 6:00 PM

Description  
Agape Service Project serves migrant farmworkers in Whatcom County. ([archseattle.org/agape](http://archseattle.org/agape)). Celebrate and support their work, hear inspirational stories, and play Loteria (similar to bingo) for a chance to win prizes.

Event Link  
[www.facebook.com/events/1945986872234110?ref=newsfeed](https://www.facebook.com/events/1945986872234110?ref=newsfeed)

Tap to respond  
**RSVP to Attend**

Assistance request Chris Koehler one month ago

Request type  
#Misc. Item

Situation  
Immigrant Family at Children's Hospital

Description  
Can you help an immigrant family whose baby and young son are receiving treatment at Children's Hospital? Both kids have a rare genetic disorder and treatment is ongoing, including a pending bone marrow transplant. They've been here in Seattle for 2 years and are finding it difficult to meet basic needs. They've asked for the following donations: Cetaphil skin cleanser, Cetaphil moisturizing cream, clothes for and 1 year boy and a 7 year old boy, soft play mat and toys, a walking harness, a high chair, and a baby walker. If you can help, email me at [ckoehler@stjames-cathedral.org](mailto:ckoehler@stjames-cathedral.org) so I can put you in touch with the mom.

Assistance request Chris Koehler 13 days ago

Request type  
#Employment Request

Situation  
Seeking live-in Nanny position

Description  
One of our SJIA tutoring clients is looking for a live-in nanny position. She has 7 years experience. She says she would love to work and live with a Christian family, but would welcome the opportunity to be a nanny to other families as well.

Tap to respond  
**Email Chris if interested.**  
[ckoehler@stjames-cathedral.org](mailto:ckoehler@stjames-cathedral.org)



Refugees & Asylum Seekers  
Family Separation  
Unaccompanied Youth  
Human Trafficking  
ICE & Enforcement  
Remain in Mexico  
Border  
Deportations  
Detention  
DACA  
Courts and Justice System

To sign up, go to our website at  
[www.stjames-cathedral.org/immigrant](http://www.stjames-cathedral.org/immigrant)  
On the bottom of the page, click on



# Solidarity

“... is not a feeling of vague compassion or shallow distress at the misfortunes of so many people, both near and far. On the contrary, it is a firm and persevering determination to commit oneself to the common good; that is to say, to the good of all and of each individual, because we are all really responsible for all.”

*Saint Pope John Paul II, “Sollicitudo Rei Socialis” (1987)*

