

Migrant House

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Casa del Migrante was opened to provide a safe haven for those individuals leaving Guatemala and migrating to Mexico, and ultimately to the U.S. Headed up by Salvadorian priest Padre Ademar Barillo, this migrant house in Tecun Uman serves over 800 individuals per month. Migrants receive food, shelter, social services and legal aid. Mass is celebrated each day. They are oriented to their rights as migrants and are encouraged to report any human rights violations that they incur in their travels. Migrants are advised of the significant risks involved in the decision to migrate, and are encouraged to seriously think about their families and their safety as they consider their decision. Casa del Migrante documents any human rights violations and seeks prosecution of the assailants.

HOW SOLIDARITY CAN BE ACHIEVED THROUGH THIS PROJECT

By helping to make sure that individuals migrating from Guatemala are appropriately counseled on the decision to migrate, and are properly instructed on their rights should they decide to migrate, you are respecting the dignity of our sisters and brothers taking this very risk-filled journey. It is our Catholic Christian duty to feed, shelter, and protect the least of our brethren without adverse judgment toward them.

WHAT OUR DIOCESE HAS DONE:

Parishes and individuals have raised funds to provide basic needs of food and shelter for the migrants without judging their reasons for crossing.

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

- ❖ Develop a relationship with a Guatemalan living in the Diocese of Wilmington who used the services of Casa del Migrante, or a Guatemalan who has recently arrived in our area.
- ❖ Pray for the safe journey of immigrants
- ❖ Help to promote the rights of immigrants.
- ❖ Consider contributing funds to support the services provided to a migrant using Casa del Migrante.



Please contact Fr. John Hynes of St. Catherine of Siena and Chair of the Solidarity Committee (302-633-4900) for more information. Inquiries may also be directed to Mary Jo Frohlich of the committee, at maryjofrohlich@gmail.com.