

Greater South Sound Faith Network for Immigrant and Refugee Support

STATEMENT OF MUTUAL AID

As communities of faith we have a commitment to protect people experiencing hate, violence, persecution, profiling, and fear. We therefore stand together in solidarity with our immigrant brothers and sisters and their families, and identify ourselves as the Greater South Sound Faith Network for Immigrant and Refugee Support. We are dedicated to the safety and well-being of all in our community regardless of their immigration status. We recognize the need for short- and long-term sanctuary housing for persons facing family separation or deportation, and we pledge to support any member faith community that is able to provide physical sanctuary to immigrants and refugees in need.

We will strive to provide the needed services and funding to any faith community giving physical sanctuary. We will establish a communication system to respond to requested needs in a timely fashion.

We respect that each faith community offering short or long-term sanctuary can set individual sanctuary rules and can decide to whom they will extend sanctuary. We agree that a threat or an attack against any member faith community providing sanctuary will be considered an attack against all of us and that we will stand together and, if need be, respond together to any such acts.

We assert that supporting people in sanctuary is not an act of charity. It is a partnership of equals acting in solidarity. We will always remember that sanctuary is not something that we do for our undocumented neighbors; it is something we do with them.

We welcome the support of the larger South Sound community in realizing these efforts, and invite other organizations and individuals to offer assistance.