



Kids2kids Urgent Project: Children at the Southern Borders

“Men, women, and children are joining their voices together to stand up for the brave refugee children who fled violence and hardship in Central America, seeking a chance to grow up in the United States and live happy, healthy lives.”

“Kids, you may have heard on the news or from grown-ups talking that there are children and teenagers from Mexico and Central America who have made long journeys to come and live in the United States. There have been a lot of pictures in the news of these children in places called detention centers. Detention centers are places where people can stay for a short time while they figure out if they are allowed to live in the U.S. and where the best place is to go once they get permission to stay. At these centers the people coming over the border meet with Immigration Officers who help them learn about their rights and help them find a safe place to go. The United States has a law that allows people whose lives are in danger in their own country to come and find safety here. This will be important to remember later!

Detention centers are made to be places where people go for just a short time. Because their home country is not a safe place right now, 52,000 children and teenagers have come to find help and safety in the U.S. but this happened too fast! Detention centers do not have enough immigration officers, cooks, beds, and other resources to help all these kids at once! People are trying to do their best to figure out what to do. Jesus tells us to welcome our neighbors and to be creative in hospitality. We think it is important to help the children find a safe place to live here in the U.S. and we want to help... ”



Kids, here are ways YOU can shine Christ's light and be a neighbor...

p.s. Please let us know what you do! Send us pictures or write us an email and we will pass the word on to encourage other children and churches to make a difference! You can reach us at

jkramer@dhm.disciples.org

1) Gather and Send Needed Items!

Saguaro Christian Church in Tucson Arizona,
The Good Shepherd UCC in Sahaurita, Arizona,
and Rincon UCC Church in Tucson Arizona all
support an organization called Borderlinks.

Borderlinks is asking for the following items for the children who are detained

- Instant ramen soup (cup-of-noodles)
- Bottled water and Gatorade
- Bananas (good potassium)
- Flavored Pedialyte (for dehydration)
- Sweaters or hooded sweatshirts for
children and adults
- Socks for children and adults
- Children's blankets
- Diapers (size 3 and 4)
- Toothbrushes and toothpaste
- Toiletries - Feminine sanitary supplies
(sanitary napkins especially needed)
- Clean stuffed animals



Here are a few ideas for ways you can gather
these items... **use your own ideas too!**

A) Create Care Packages

Find a box and look for or buy
items on the list above to put in
the box. You can do this with your
family, friends, church, or by
yourself!



B) Challenge your church to see how many of one or all of the items listed above they can gather in two weeks!

For example you can have a "Diaper Dash!" How many diapers can people dash to the church to get sent out before the time is up!



C) Make Blankets- you can find easy no-sew blanket patterns and picture directions here-

<http://www.confessionsofahomeschooler.com/blog/2011/12/no-sew-fleece-tie-blanket-tutorial.html>



D) Go through your room and pick a stuffed animal to donate. Remember they asked for it to be clean!



E) You can always do a fundraiser too!

Car wash, bake sale, lemonade stand...

YOU CAN SEND THE ITEMS THAT YOU GATHER TO:

Catholic Community Services
140 W. Speedway, Ste. 230
Tucson, AZ 85710

www.ccs-soaz.org

They will make sure they get to the right places!

If you want to find other places on the border to send items to you can visit the Disciples Refugee and Immigration page. They will keep telling people where items are most needed.

<https://www.discipleshomemissions.org/dhm/dhm-ministries/refugee-immigration-ministries/>



2) Write to your Representatives

"Remember how I said that there is a law that protects people who come to the U.S. who are in danger in their own country. The law is called the TVPRA Act. Some people in our government would like to change this law so that the children and youth will be sent back to their own country. People want to do this because they are afraid we can't help all of the children and that we don't have enough resources to give the children. They are worried that they will take too much from our country. **We would like to tell them that we can share!** A very important way you can help is to write a letter to your State Representative"



YOU CAN WRITE A LETTER THAT SAYS:

THIS SPACE FOR WRITING MESSAGES

POST CARD

THIS SPACE FOR ADDRESS ONLY

PLACE STAMP HERE

"Please Protect the Children. We can find a way to share our resources. We are asking you to keep the TVPRA Act in place. "

From: (Your Name)

Age: (Your age)

State: (that you live in)

You can find the name of your representative and their address at the link below.

<http://www.house.gov>

Look at the top right of the page where it says

"Find your representative"

There is a box that asks for your zip code. Put that in and the names and addresses of your representatives will come up. Write their name and address on an envelope and put your letter inside. Put it in the mail to go out.

Ask an adult to help if you need it!



3) Make a Card or Video

Kids, a third thing you can do is submit a letter or video message for the children and teenagers to let them know you are thinking of them. Click on the link below and follow the directions! Ask an adult for help to submit the letter or video when you are ready. You can tell your friends at church about it too and maybe you can make a video together!



<http://www.theyarechildren.com>

Ways You can Learn More!

1) You can become a CitizenKid! Click on the link below to learn how you can begin to make changes in our world

<http://www.citizenkidcentral.com/Act/BecomeaCitizenKid.aspx>

2) Go to the Borderlinks and Humane Borders websites and read what they have to say!

What are some ways you could fundraise for these organizations?

<http://www.borderlinks.org>

<http://www.humaneborders.org>

