

How You Can Help Immigrants in Clark County: A Guide to Organizations and Ways to Get Involved

You are invited to use this guide as a starting point to engage and help our immigrant neighbors in and around Springfield. The guide lists organizations and volunteer groups, including contact information, so you can find ways to connect and contribute your time, skills, and financial assistance. There is a place for everyone. As always, we strongly encourage you to support immigrant and minority-owned businesses.

The guide includes faith-based, civic, and service organizations and groups. It takes the whole community to help our neighbors in times of personal, family, and social crisis. The concept Love Your Neighbor: Make it Local requires compassion and empathy to meet the moral demands of the moment. We welcome your efforts to be a part of the caring majority as together, we help our neighbors.

United Way of Clark, Champaign and Madison Counties - Unity Fund

Donate at <https://givebutter.com/SpringfieldUnityFund>

Haitian Community Help & Support Center

<https://haitiansupportcenter.org>

haitianhelpcenterspringfield@gmail.com

(937) 408-8251

Contact: Pastor Viles Dorsainvil, President

***Types of support needed:** donations and volunteer work

Provides guidance and assistance to refugees and immigrants, especially Haitian nationals residing in Clark County and surrounding areas—housing, interpreting, job search, welfare assistance, and more. Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61557361812945>

*Note: this group is focused on the more recently arrived Haitians. Most of those it supports have limited English skills and have material needs. The Center hosts English classes, distributes donated materials to those in need and connects arrivals with social and employment agencies. They also work with young people in multiple ways.

Pastor Viles Dorsainvil shared the following as needs of the Springfield Haitian Community

a) Advocacy

1. The Haitians are peaceful citizens
2. The Haitians are community focused
3. The Haitians boost the local economy

b) Legal training to let the Haitian community know their legal rights.

c) Haiti is not yet safe for Haitians to return or be sent back.

d) Employment opportunities, especially for the recently arrived.

e) Funds to support Center sponsored community activities.

Springfield Neighbors United

SpringfieldNeighborsUnited@gmail.com

***Types of support needed:** donations, volunteer work

Rooted in Love Your Neighbor values, SNU supports immigrants and their families in times of crisis. Federal immigration enforcement actions often leave families, including children, without

access to necessary items needed to survive. SNU assists in helping with food, transportation, and other critical needs.

DONATE: send an email to ysforspringfield@gmail.com with DONATE in the subject line. We need donations of shelf-stable food and toiletry items.

ASSIST: To help with transportation or other needs, send an email to snuaidingteam@gmail.com with ASSIST in the subject line. We need help with transportation and general assistance.

NEWSLETTER: To get our weekly e-newsletter and other communications, send your name, phone, email address along with your area of interest to SpringfieldNeighborsUnited@gmail.com with ADD NAME or INFO in the subject line.

The Nehemiah Foundation: Care Portal in Clark County

<https://nehemiahfoundation.org/>

info@nehemiahfoundation.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/springfieldshope>

Contact: Amy Willmann, Executive Director

102 West High Street, Springfield, OH 45502, third floor, entrance at back of building.

(937)325-6226

A network for Christian churches and ministries to amplify their positive impact. It is active in supporting the Springfield Haitian Community.

St. Vincent de Paul:

Springfield District Council SVdP

<http://www.WeSharegiving.org/app/giving/WeShare-2851>

***Types of support needed:** General donation of goods, Toiletries, non-perishable foods, canned goods, size 4 & 5 diapers, formula.

SVdP Community Center

2415 E High Street, Springfield, OH 45505

(937) 323-4277

svdp@svdpspfld.org

Contact: Casey Rollins – District Council Executive Director & Board V.P.

SVdP suggests a "general donation" to allow St. Vincent's flexibility in meeting great and changing needs. For example, Springfield St. Vincent's has regular requests for distribution of new beds. SVdP provides food, clothing, rent, utilities, and other emergency assistance. Birth certificates are available for all people in need. Diapers and formula are provided for all children in need.

Passports are provided for American-born immigrant children. Legal referrals and limited assistance are provided for immigrants seeking guardianship/POA changes.

Advocates for Basic Legal Equality (ABLE)

<https://www.ablelaw.org/support-our-work/>

Dayton, OH

***Types of support needed:** donations toward legal services

A non-profit regional law firm providing high-quality legal assistance in civil matters to help low-income individuals and groups in Ohio. Conducts free legal clinics to assist Haitians with applications for work permits, asylum, and Temporary Protected Status; represents Haitians in due process and civil rights violations.

Haitian Bridge Alliance

<https://haitianbridgealliance.org>

<https://haitianbridgealliance.org/donate-button/>

A nonprofit organization advocating for Haitian and other Black immigrants in the U.S. The Alliance is involved in legal actions to protect the rights of Haitian immigrants in Ohio.

Clark County Literacy Coalition

<https://www.clarkcountyliteracy.org/>

102 West High Street, Springfield, OH 45502

Provides personal tutoring for English language learners, citizenship naturalization, adult and child reading, and GED preparation. Conducts English classes for Haitians in Springfield.

Clark County Literacy Coalition/ Warden Literacy Center

137 East High Street, Springfield, OH 45502

staffrep@cclcnet.net

sue@cclcnet.net

(937) 323-8617

Tutoring. Four primary programs: Adult Basic Literacy Education, English Speakers of Other Languages, Teaching Children to Read, and Certified Volunteer Tutor Training.

Rocking Horse Community Health Center

<https://www.rockinghorsecenter.org/>

***Types of support needed:**

Rocking Horse suggests you choose one of the following options for your contribution:
Deaconess Association Women's Health/Prenatal Services Grant; Dental Contribution; Patient Advocacy Services, PIC (Parent Infant Center - provides diapers, formula, clothes, parenting classes)

Second Harvest Food Bank of Champaign, Clark, and Logan Counties

<https://www.theshfb.org/>

Centered in Springfield, Second Harvest alleviates hunger in Clark, Champaign, and Logan Counties by sourcing and distributing nutritious food to people in need, building community partnerships, and mobilizing the public to support hunger relief.

NAACP Springfield Unit #3201

<https://www.naacpspringfieldohio.com/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/naacpspfldohbranch>

Contact: President Denise Williams

(937) 521-2650

president@naacpspringfieldohio.com

Among other things, the NAACP is organizing a driving school under the guidance of a former police officer. This group also held several Forums at the Springfield City Hall building to debunk lies and rumors about the Haitians in Springfield.

Ohio Immigrant Alliance

<https://ohioimmigrant.org>

Donations: <https://bit.ly/4eqQ1gW>

Ohio immigrants and citizens working together to protect the dignity and rights of all Ohioans—regardless of race, religion, gender expression, age, ability, and citizenship status.

Rose Goute Creole Restaurant

1881 S. Limestone Street, Springfield, OH 45505

***Types of support needed:** patronage

KEKET Bongou Caribbean Restaurant

1137 Sunset Ave. Springfield, OH 45505

***Types of support needed:** patronage