

Uncage & Reunite Families Coalition Minutes – January 7, 2021

Meeting called to order 10:34 a.m.

Esther Lumm

Attendees:

Linda Bates, Jana Granillo, Mary Montalvo, Carolyn O'Connor, Dianne Post, Pat Stoneburner, Kay Grams, Mary Jo Miller, Esther Lumm and Roberto Reveles

Treasurer's Report:

Beginning Balance	Mary Montalvo \$1,247.67
Donation, Madonna Interfaith Community	400.00
Expenses: Monthly service fee	14.00
Current Balance	\$1,633.67

Committee Reports:

Legal:

Dianne Post

No report

Humanitarian:

Linda and Reuel will continue to deliver supplies to Mexicali

Mary Jo reported that the holiday gift giving project exceeded all expectations and they were able to serve 700 children thanks to the help of volunteers

The church storage Refugee Aid has been using wants to rent it out so they will have to find a new location

They have a room at the Welcome Center but its not conveniently located for volunteers Convent was suggested...not possible because the nuns moved back

Will try to push supplies to storage in Mexicali

Need volunteers to drive supplies to Mexicali

Advocacy:

Kay Grams

Sub-group, Roberto, Dianne, Jana, Mary Jo, Pat, and Kay prepared presentations on six focus area for a meeting with Luis Heredia from Mark Kelly's Office. Esther arranged the meeting of Jana, Mary Jo, Kay (also zoom host) and herself with Luis Heredia on December 16,, 2020, and presented the document on "Immigration Policy Recommendations: Family Reunification, Protection of Children and Border Policy."

Jana did a power point presentation

Luis seemed receptive and interested in topics brought up

He requested additional information that Jana will send

Kay asked if ok to the send report to Asylum Round Table ...all agreed to share

Esther will request a follow up meeting for end of January

Roberto shared that the reason the meeting went so well was due to the very impressive professional presentation

There is a zoom meeting scheduled tomorrow at 3:30 as a follow up to meeting with Luis and discussion on who to send the report to.

Some suggestions:

Ann Kirkpatrick has been very helpful in the past
Congresswoman from El Paso, Veronica Escobar, has been very involved in
immigrations issues. Will decide tomorrow who should get the report

Mary Jo shared that, although interested, Senator Kelly would proceed with caution given his short term in office. Therefore, it will be up to URFC to advance the immigration agenda.

Rescue Aid will continue to focus on 3 areas:

- Homeless kits distributed through the Latino churches
- Distribution of food to locals
- Distribution to Mexicali

Media:

Praises for the weekly newsletter send out by DJ

URFC store still not operational...Mary will follow up with DJ

Update on Asylum Table:

Kay Grams

Welcome Center will meet with Biden transition team and county health department to see about providing off site housing for migrants who test positive.

Casa Alitas, in Tucson has the ability to do on-site COVID testing. About 30% of incoming migrants **test** positive.

The County has enough rapid tests to provide some to the Welcome Center. The center will inquire to see if on-site testing is possible.

Mary Jo will check with department of health to see if vaccines can be available for volunteers.

Catholic Coalition for Migrant Justice:

Pat Stoneburner

CCMJ is in the process of setting up meetings hopefully by the end of January, with each office of the Arizona U. S. Delegation to seek their support and their relaying ASKS to the new administration. CCMJ's ASKS in the following three area on which background reports are being prepared:

- Separation and Reunification of Separated Children and Families
- Protecting Dreamers and Their Families (DACA & DAPA)
- Restoring Asylum

Other

Jana will forward email to Carolyn.... Request to sign on to ADP Resolution: "Racism is a threat to Public Health" Carolyn will forward it to members. Jana requested that all pass on to state committee members and other organizations.

Jana will send the letter from Children Action Alliance request to expand Medicare for children of immigrants

Roberto ...motion to adjourn

Linda....second

Next meeting

February 3, 2021 @ 10:30