



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

**Refugee Support Days sponsored by Global Impact Initiative (GII), and supported by Austin Jews and Partners for Refugees (AJPR):**

Dear Volunteers and Supporters,

Due to the recent federal funding freeze, GII, an Austin-based nonprofit, lost all of their grant funding on January 28. Over seven hundred families from Cuba, Ukraine, and Afghanistan were left without monthly stipends they rely on for basic needs such as rent, groceries, and stability. Two hundred fifty-nine of these families arrived in Austin after the federal shutdown and have not received any financial support at all under the Refugee Resettlement Program (RPP).

AJPR is partnering with GII to provide volunteer services and emergency funds to support as many of our newly-arrived neighbors as we can. The AJPR Board approved funding to allow GII case workers to continue providing life sustaining services to refugees. Additionally, we will provide up to \$12,500 in grocery gift cards to families in need.

**In order to help refugees meet basic needs we need your help. We are prioritizing these 250 clients through an Emergency Walk-In Support Program on Wednesday, February 26<sup>th</sup> and Thursday February 27<sup>th</sup>.** Learn more and register [HERE](#)

Soon after registering, you will receive an email with location and the day-of check-in instructions. **There will be a few staff from GII as well as AJPR volunteers to assist on both days.**

## **VOLUNTEERS-**

- Provide HEB or Walmart gift card (client choice, 1 per family)
- Interview parents addressing their emergency needs (we will provide a form and a place to meet with parents). Needs may include food, housing, job assistance, medical/dental, ESL tutoring, school registration and other issues.
- Let families know that the Needs Forms will be addressed and we will follow through as best we can.
- Note: Majority of families are Spanish speaking, so we encourage Spanish Speaking volunteers to sign up. The GII Case manager will assist you if you need help!
- Contact clients via call or texting

**PLEASE UNDERSTAND THAT THIS PROGRAM IS ONLY OFFERED TO DESIGNATED CLIENTS OF GII. REFUGEE CLIENTS HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED IN ADVANCE. DO NOT BRING OTHERS-CHECK THE AJPR/SHALOM AUSTIN VOLUNTEER PORTAL FOR OTHER OPPORTUNITIES TO SUPPORT REFUGEE FAMILIES IN AUSTIN.**

Thank you,  
Nancy Wolf, Vice President, Austin Jews and Partners for Refugees