

UPDATE on Immigrants receiving help from us.

July 8, 2025

I have been in contact with several Honduran immigrants: Agustin, Belkis and Keysi. Agustin is a single guy who receives SSI and Medicare because of his delicate physical condition. He is a permanent citizen in the United States. He has a car and a drivers license and car insurance. He recently lost his SNAP benefit and has looked into getting it back, but for now he has to scrounge for food. Fortunately he has friends who give him food to eat.

He told me that the immigrants he knows are living in fear and languishing for want of a job. Some have been laid off because the work boss is afraid of having undocumented immigrants working for him or her because of the trouble he or she could get into with ICE. Agustin should not have to fear ICE but still he takes precautions because he knows—from personal experience—that ICE does not respect his residency and will detain him. Agustin uses his car to transport people, but undocumented people are not seeking his services.

After I saw Agustin, I spoke with two Honduran women. They are struggling. One, Kendi, was at work. So, she decided to working was worth the risk. The other woman, Belkis, did not go to work because she was let go by her boss because he fears repercussions from ICE. Both women are young with children, so not working makes it hard to pay the rent. Belkis told me that their rent was \$2000 monthly and that if it is paid late, \$25 is tacked on for each day late. She was not sure if they were going to be able to pay the rent. I believe both have husbands who are working and, hence, at risk from ICE. Belkis told me that she knew of people who had returned to Honduras because of the untenable situation here in the U.S.

Some NSM accompaniers—seven I believe including myself—accompanied a young man, Brayan, from Guatemala last week. He needs to find a lawyer to plead his case, a difficult proposition since he overstayed a visa. Brayan is not indigenous. If he were, in the past most indigenous Guatemalans received asylum. His chances are virtually zero.

Here's Agustin Aguilar next to his car at 10th St. and Spring Garden. He says he often has back pain, but he makes himself and his car available every day. Too bad there are few takers. I gave him a few dollars for food or whatever. PLEASE KEEP HIM IN YOUR PRAYERS.



I was at Solanni's house last Sunday. She, of course, is not there. She had asked me to talk to the kids in English to explain what's happening. They are really good kids. You can tell they are happy because they are receiving good care. Altagracia, pictured, and an uncle tend to their needs mostly. Their grandma, who is undocumented, works all the time. The kids are quite aware of where their mother is. Solanni will be finished with her basic training July 17th. She will have use of her phone then. After July 17, she goes to Virginia for 9 weeks. Then she can return home.



The New Sanctuary Movement Committee of St. Vincent de Paul Church

NSM@Saint-Vincent-Church.org