



June 2020

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## BETHANY HOUSE OF HOSPITALITY

### Offers housing and support services to young immigrant women as they journey to independence

*Since October, 2017 Bethany House of Hospitality has housed more than 40 women and 7 children from Central America, Africa and the Middle East. The average length of stay has been 6 months.*

#### Black Lives Matter

In this time of social upheaval in this country and globally we want to add our voices to the many calls for equality and justice for those whose lives are ravaged by racial injustice and oppression. Women at Bethany House have experienced violence and vulnerability at the hands of systemic forces in their countries of origin and, too often, in the U.S. immigration system as well. We cry out with the families of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery and countless others whose lives are cut short, as well as those whose life opportunities are limited by the color of their skin or where they were born.

While the news is filled with headlines of pandemic and protest, changes are quietly being made to this country's immigration system that will make it almost impossible to receive asylum. Desperate asylum seekers at our southern border—including unaccompanied children—are being immediately deported without legal process, sometimes in as little as two hours.

Even as we recognize the many manifestations of systemic racism as well as personal prejudice, we also see signs of hope in the many persons and organizations who have, in the words of Mahatma Gandhi, "become the change they wish to see in the world."

Monetary donations can be mailed to:

Bethany House of Hospitality  
c/o Patricia Crowley OSB,  
7430 N Ridge Blvd.  
Chicago, IL 60645

We at Bethany House are trying day by day to live the change we wish to see. At this moment we offer a safe home to eleven women and two of their children from 9 different countries of origin. We live together and seek to create a family spirit of support

for one another that encourages each resident to use her gifts and pursue her dreams. Half of our staff are first or second generation immigrants.

We are grateful for the support of Catholic sisters and interfaith groups who express their desire to transform this world into one of justice, respect and unity that we all long for. We are thankful to the Muslim Women's Association who gifted us with food and gifts during Ramadan as

well as ongoing support, to the university students who share their time and talent to tutor and mentor our young women, and all of you, our volunteers and donors who are making a difference in the lives of the women here.

Many of you have prepared a meal or special treat for us. Some have sent masks, hand sanitizer or hard-to-find household and paper products. Others have sent bedding and towels from our Amazon wish list: [Bethany HH Wish List](#), or gift cards for groceries. We want you to know that you are signs of hope and steps toward the new world we are working together to build.



Learn more on our website:

[bethanyhouseofhospitality.com](http://bethanyhouseofhospitality.com)

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