



IDAP: Immigrant Detainee Accompaniment Program

The mission of the Immigrant Detainee Accompaniment Program (IDAP) which began in 2009, is to accompany immigrants who have committed no violent crimes but have been detained by the Department of Homeland Security for being in the United States without proper documents. IDAP volunteers visit them during their time at the Douglas County Department of Corrections facility located on 16th and Jackson in downtown Omaha. Many of them are parents worried about their families. They usually have no one to visit them and can feel very isolated.

IDAP volunteers provide a source of friendship and support to these immigrants during their time of being detained. Volunteers must undergo a background check and then attend a Saturday morning orientation session at DCDC. Once oriented by experienced IDAP visitors, the time commitment consists of an hour (or more if possible) a week visiting the detainee(s) to whom he/she has been assigned. In addition, volunteers meet together on a monthly basis to share experiences and support one another in this ministry.

Both English speakers and Spanish speakers are needed.

If interested, please contact one of the following:

Kathleen Erickson RSM: Kerickson@mercywmw.org

Kathy Havlik: kathy.kuehl.havlik@gmail.com.



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