



Dominican Sisters
Grand Rapids, Michigan

We Raise Our Voices for Justice

Cry out as if you have a million voices, for it is silence that kills the world! -- St. Catherine of Siena

June 26, 2018

Dear Sisters, Associates, and Friends,

This week, instead of letters, we are asking for a direct appeal for the children separated from their parents. Many of them have come into care here in Grand Rapids at Bethany Christian Services.

HOW CAN WE HELP? Bethany's response to our request to help:

Our local assessment center are continually accepting youth who are in need of backpacks, school supplies – notebooks, pencils, folders (each youth who arrives receives these items). They also want activities for the older youth to keep busy during the summer months. Younger students need board books (Spanish/English preferred), craft activities and outdoor sports (Frisbees, sprinklers, water balloons etc.) Another ask is that they want to put together fruit baskets to foster parents as an appreciation for taking on these kiddos. They have a challenging job keeping the kids feeling safe and loved. They've stepped up and accept these children with 24 hour notice and only knowing their gender and age. The turnover of their children is frequent. We will be collecting fruit baskets July 9 and 10. Our goal is to obtain 35 baskets full of fruit to give to these families. Gift cards for foster parents are also a really nice option.

HOW CAN WE HELP?

A basket will be placed on the second floor by the mailboxes and in the Chapel to accept donations – cash or checks made out to Bethany Christian Services or you can click on the link below to make a donation.

For more information or volunteering click on “Support Reunification of Children Separated from their Parents”

https://www.bethany.org/campaigns/refugee?utm_source=Bethany&utm_medium=website&utm_campaign=refugeecrisis-homepagebanner

Bethany is also looking for help in childcare for the refugee children (Spanish speaking) for some Wednesday mornings (dates below) while we train our EFC (Enhanced Foster Care—our highest needs kids) foster parents in a new parenting model. Location: 901 Eastern Ave NE.

Wednesday, June 27 9:30-11:30am
Wednesday, July 11 9:30-11:30am
Wednesday, July 25 9:30-11:30am
Wednesday, August 8 9:30-11:30am

Thanks to everyone who is responding.

Emboldened by faith, serving with joy

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