

# HOPE

for the Holidays™



Global Refugee



Friends,

We are thrilled and grateful that you have chosen to participate in this year's Hope for the Holidays™ program. Year after year, our amazing supporters across the country come together to share hope with those seeking safety in the United States.

Our new neighbors have persevered through incredible challenges to find refuge in the United States—and while many are no longer in immediate danger, their journeys are far from over. They are now navigating the ever-changing policies that threaten their security in their new communities and the challenges of maintaining their immigration status. And unfortunately, many may never reunite with their families.

In light of these changing policies and realities for our immigrant neighbors, the Hope for the Holidays program we all know so well is undergoing some changes, too. Since we are no longer able to send cards to our siblings in detention centers, and since our typical avenues for sending them via our staff and offices are restricted this year as well, we decided to divert this program's card-writing energy toward a more timely recipient this year: your elected Representatives. This year, Hope for the Holiday participants have two choice for their cards (you may chose one or both!):

1. **Request free Global Refuge postcards** with prompts to write and send to your elected officials, and/or
2. **Purchase blank Global Refuge holiday cards** to write holiday greetings to your own friends and families. The second option is simply a way to get some visibility for our immigrant neighbors during the holidays season, reminding your loves ones to keep immigrants on their hearts and minds.

Now more than ever, we want our elected officials, and Americans all over the country, to remember the contributions of immigrants to this country and learn how to support them and continue to advocate for them.

By participating in Hope for the Holidays, you are making your voice heard to those whose job it is to represent your voice to the government. During a time of uncertainty, your generosity and kindness assures our newest neighbors that they are still welcome. Your messages of hope remind our friends that they are not forgotten.

As we enter a season of friends, family, and celebration, let us share the gift of our voices with our elected officials. Let us remember those who may be thousands of miles away from family and the homes they were forced to flee. Join us in sharing support, welcome, and hope for the holidays.

Blessings,

Rev. Dan Beirne  
Director, Mobilization and Faith Relations  
Global Refuge

## Use the following steps to write holiday cards for your elected officials in your communities:



In addition to requesting postcards, you are invited to purchase Global Refuge holiday cards from the **Global Refuge Shop** to send to folks in your communities whom you would regularly send holiday cards or end-of-year letters to.

If you'd like to support our work and spread our message by sending cards to your own loved ones and friends, please order them in time for you to send them based on whatever works best for you.

### STEP 1:

**Fill out this form** and order your free postcards by November 8th. Write to your congressional representatives, and other representatives of your choice, using the prompts below. **Please address your postcard to your elected representative at one of their district (state) offices.**

### STEP 2:

**Visit this form** to fill out an electronic cover sheet. Please include the number of cards you are sending! Once the electronic cover sheet is submitted, you'll receive information on where to send your cards. You don't need to worry about stamps.

### STEP 3:

Gather your community's cards together and mail them as a group to the address provided by **December 4th**. Our Hope for the Holidays™ partners will make sure that your cards are received by your congressional representatives.

### STEP 4:

Help support newcomers during this time of year by donating at [globalrefuge.org/GiveHope](https://globalrefuge.org/GiveHope) or pick a few items from the **Global Refuge Gift Guide** in your holiday shopping this year!

### STEP 5:

Invite your family, friends, and faith community to write their own cards as well!

# How to Write Advocacy Postcards to your Elected Officials

Start by Finding Your Representatives and their district mailing addresses (one of their local, in-district offices): [https://ballotpedia.org/Who\\_represents\\_me](https://ballotpedia.org/Who_represents_me)

*This is sample language to provide an idea of what you could write to your representatives. The more you can customize it to your own experience, the better! If you are using a Global Refuge postcard, please leave the blue box at the bottom of the postcard blank for mail processing purposes.*

## **Cards to representatives who SUPPORT immigrants and refugees:**

[Your Name, Address, City, State]

Dear [Sen. {Last Name} OR Rep. {Last Name}],

**As a constituent and a person of faith from [City, State], I'm profoundly grateful for your support of refugees and immigrants. Please continue to recognize the humanity of refugee and immigrant families as rightful image bearers of God by speaking out on the importance of congressional oversight over DHS detention facilities.**

Sincerely,

[Name]

## **Cards to representatives who DO NOT SUPPORT immigrants and refugees:**

[Your Name, Address, City, State]

Dear [Sen. {Last Name} OR Rep. {Last Name}],

**As a constituent and person of faith from [City, State], my faith calls me to love my neighbor. I therefore urge you to recognize the humanity of refugee and immigrant families as rightful image bearers of God by speaking out on the importance of congressional oversight over DHS detention facilities.**

Sincerely,

[Name]

**Cards to governors who DO NOT SUPPORT immigrants and refugees:**

[Your Name, Address, City, State]

Dear Governor [Last Name],

**As a constituent and person of faith from [City, State], I'm urging you to stand by our historical American values of faith and freedom by limiting our state's collaboration with Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Please place robust limits on how state programs share personal data — including with federal immigration agencies.**

Sincerely,

[Name]

**Cards to governors who SUPPORT immigrants and refugees:**

[Your Name, Address, City, State]

Dear Governor [Last Name],

**As a constituent and person of faith from [City, State], I want to thank you for your continued support for immigrant and refugee families. Please continue protecting newcomers by enacting legislation that prohibits immigration enforcement activities at sensitive locations, including schools, hospitals, and childcare centers.**

**Your courageous leadership is more important now than ever.**

Sincerely,

[Name]

**Cards to sheriff's departments:**

[Your Name, Address, City, State]

Dear Sheriff [Last name],

**As a constituent and a person of faith from [County, State], I ask you to oppose any formal collaboration with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement through the 287(g) program. Expanding collaboration with ICE does not make our communities safer, but does harm to our immigrant and refugee communities, regardless of legal status.**

Sincerely,

[Name]



# Thank You!

**Global Refuge is proud to serve immigrants and refugees, and we cherish our network of unwavering supporters.**

Thank you for joining us as we advocate with hope for welcoming policies. This year, it is more important than ever to be a beacon of welcome and kindness for those who sought safety on our shores. We all have a unique opportunity to change the harmful narratives about newcomers and instead celebrate the gifts refugees and other immigrants bring to communities across the country. To support you in this important work, Global Refuge has developed a number of resources that can be shared with your congregations, community groups, family, friends, and whoever else wants to join the work of welcome. .



## **Enroll in *Faith Alliance***

Join a safe welcome training for communities of faith who want to learn more about welcoming immigrants: [globalrefuge.org/faith-alliance](https://globalrefuge.org/faith-alliance).



## **Hold a Vigil for the Taken**

Name, recognize, and remember members of your community that are disappeared, detained, or deported: [globalrefuge.org/vigil-for-taken](https://globalrefuge.org/vigil-for-taken).



## **Learn and Perform “*Here I Stand*”**

Share your support for your immigrant neighbor through song with your community. [Listen to the song here.](#)



## **Explore Disinformation Resources**

Learn the facts about our newest neighbors and combat harmful rhetoric with facts, stories, and more: [globalrefuge.org/GetTheFacts](https://globalrefuge.org/GetTheFacts).

**Global Refuge is here to support you!**

Email [mobilization@globalrefuge.org](mailto:mobilization@globalrefuge.org) with any questions you may have and visit [globalrefuge.org/Get-Involved](https://globalrefuge.org/Get-Involved) to explore all the other ways you can support the work of welcome.

**Peace and many blessings to you  
and your families this holiday season.**



# Global Refuge

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