



Center Global

DC's LGBTI Asylum Network

Providing Welcome to LGBTI Asylum Seekers/Asylees/Refugees

Center Global's primary mission is to provide a welcome to LGBTI asylum seekers arriving in the Washington, DC area. This has principally been individuals fleeing situations in countries that are not accepting of LGBTI persons. However, we also open our arms to those who have been granted asylee and refugee status. As a volunteer run organization, that is a program of the DC Center for the LGBT Community, our efforts are limited to the time available to provide assistance and the funds are able to raise. Our services are tailored to the individual needs of the person – some forms of assistance include:

Legal Assessment and Referral – our volunteer attorneys are available to meet with asylum seekers to conduct an in-depth assessment of a potential asylum claim and provide referrals to appropriate legal services, including pro bono programs or experienced immigration lawyers.

We will also provide letters of support for asylum applications and interviews for those individuals who have been participants in our various programs.

Housing Assistance – using volunteer hosts we have assisted approximately ten individuals with both short and long term housing needs. In seeking hosts we ask for the following: A private room, accessibility to public transportation, internet access and commitment of a minimum of three months of hosting.

While we do not expect the host to provide meals or other assistance, we have been grateful that some hosts have chosen to do so. We are available to provide assistance in helping both the host and guest address various cultural and adjustment issues.

Financial Support – Center Global has been able to provide limited financial assistance to asylum seekers. This has consisted of grocery store cards and Metro cards. Our ability to provide this help is dependent on available financial resources and is not always available.

There is a requirement for program participants to undergo a social work assessment to receive either housing assistance and/or financial support. This assessment will be arranged by the Center Global team and provided by licensed social worker.

Case Management and Support – Center Global has provided social support and limited case management services. This includes referrals to health services, language training and other social service programs. We have developed a strong relationship with Whitman Walker Health to support their medical and mental health needs. We also sponsor a monthly Support Meeting/Dinner on the third Saturday of the month. The meals have been provided through the generosity of local faith communities and civic organizations.

For further information, log on to thedccenter.org/centerglobal send us an email: centerglobal@thedccenter.org; or contact the DC Center direct line: +1-202-682-2245.



2000 14th St. NW, Suite 105 | Washington, DC 20009 | (202) 682-2245