

CHRISTIAN-BASED REFUGEE CENTRES IN ONTARIO

The centres listed in this section provide support for new immigrants and refugees but without the capacity to provide shelter although they can refer clients to local shelters. However, the organizations listed in "CHRISTIAN-BASED REFUGEE SHELTERS IN ONTARIO" provide shelter plus settlement assistance and support.

Inter-Church Immigrant Support Group is located in Durham Region and is a collaborative project of various churches in the region. It is run entirely by volunteers. They assist immigrants with transportation, moving, clothing, furniture, advocacy, community resources, friendship, orientation and education. Contact Glenda Brown in Oshawa at 905-723-6528; daveglen@rogers.com and Jack Hutchinson in Whitby at 905-668-9711; jackhutchinson26@sympatico.ca. Contact Garth and Alecia Bagnall in Pickering at 905-683-4721 or garthnalecia@hotmail.com; and Angela Mason in Ajax at 905-686-4450 x165.

Oasis Dufferin Community Centre is located at 1219 Dufferin Street, Toronto, ON, M6H 4C2. The phone and fax numbers are 416-536-4431 and 416-536-0122. Genoveva Ibarra is the intake worker. She speaks both English and Spanish. The centre operates a Food Bank that is open once a week on Wednesdays from 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM. It does advocacy work for new immigrants and refugees, providing immigration information and referrals, English/Spanish translation services, counselling, discipleship, mentoring, volunteer placement programs and job training for cashiers and bank tellers. It is a training ground for Urban Ministry Experience, Internships and is about to start a church on the premises. For more information visit www.oasisdufferin.org.

Lighthouse Community Centre is located at 1008 Bathurst Street, Toronto, ON, M5R 3G7, Canada. The phone and fax numbers are 416-535-6262 and 416-535-3293. Rob Datema (rob@lighthousecentre.ca) is the Executive Director. Rita Wong (rita@lighthousecentre.ca) is the Chinese Coordinator. Samia Saad (samia@lighthousecentre.ca) is the Hispanic Coordinator. Thuy Tran (thuy@lighthousecentre.ca) is the Vietnamese Coordinator and Janet Elliott (janet@lighthousecentre.ca) is the Ministry Support. Programs that the centre offers are counselling, immigrant settlement, refugee sponsorship, children's programs, senior's programs and support programs. The centre is a ministry of the Christian Reformed Church. For more information see www.lighthousecentre.ca.