

## Our Mission

### **Purpose**

Sussex Help is a volunteer-driven effort to support immigrant families in Sussex County, DE that are in temporary and acute crisis as a result of a family provider's deportation or detention, or because of the current immigration enforcement environment. Most often, those left behind are women with young children.

We help to meet basic subsistence needs (food, diapers, baby formula), transportation to medical appointments or grocery shopping, and help with rent and utilities expenses. We provide coaching and guidance to help families regain their independence, and we work with Delaware Volunteer Legal Services (DVLS) to offer legal protection and defense support.

**Sussex Help includes three sub-groups that focus on specific aspects of our support.**

### **Direct Support Group**

The Direct Support Group coordinates with Community Support Organizations (CSOs: churches, community centers, and medical centers) that are in direct contact with the affected population. Each CSO communicates specific family needs to the Sussex Help Direct Support Group, which aggregates the needs and communicates them to the rest of Sussex Help.

The Direct Support Group works with Community Resource Organizations (CROs: food banks and pantries, churches, community organizations) to procure resources to meet the community's needs. Direct Support advises the larger group of immediate needs, which it mobilizes to meet. Direct Support leadership submits funding requests to the Sussex Fund Managers for equitable distribution to CSOs and families.

The Direct Support Group's transportation task group moves product from CROs to CSOs, community pantries, and temporary storage facilities. Transportation volunteers also provide transportation to appointments and grocery stores as needed. Donated gift cards are used to pay for groceries.

The Direct Support Group vets and manages **new volunteers** to meet Sussex Help's ever-growing needs.

### **Legislative Support Group**

This **Legislative Support Group** attends legislative sessions and lobbies state legislators to create and pass pro-immigration legislation, and it informs the larger group of legislative actions and progress.

### **Legal Assistance Group**

Working with DVLS, the **Legal Group** helps with Power of Attorney documents, *habeas corpus* petitions, and other legal assistance as needed. They also accompany immigrants to check-ins and hearings.

### **Sussex Help Fund**

The Sussex Help Fund is established at the Greater Lewes Foundation, a non-profit that enables volunteer and philanthropic groups to receive tax deductible donations, with transparent reporting and an internet link for one-time or recurring donations. All donations are used to fulfill funding requests from the Direct Support Group. Funds are used strictly for rent, utilities, and limited, approved emergency needs of the affected community, and all funds go directly to affected families' expenses.