



## Hosting an Immigration Paperwork Clinic

### December 2025/Kislev 5785 | Tristate Area Synagogue

We have a clinic that works with immigrants in getting their papers in order. **When they are here, we have very specific procedures:**

1. We put “private space, please do not enter” on the doors at the entrance to this program. And those doors remain closed.
2. The guard and rabbi have a list of the only people allowed into the building at the time. The guard can only let these people through the gate.
3. If anyone wants to enter, the rabbi will be called to go out and speak with them and confirm they can enter. No one else can do this as much of our staff are either naturalized citizens, the children of immigrants, and/or people of color.
4. The guard has a walkie talkie in case there is a situation at the entrance. He/she will be in touch with people inside who will ensure that the asylum seekers are inside the private area and as protected as possible. Immigration lawyers are on hand to help.

#### Other Practices

1. We check in with all of our staff to see if they need help for themselves or within their extended families.
2. We make sure people know that we will support them and be as safe a space as possible. And we have [Know Your Rights](#) cards in English and Spanish.
3. We have reached out to all known immigrants in the synagogue.
4. We continue to host Refugee Shabbat, which has been a major event for years. Work on behalf of immigrants/asylum seekers is a regular part of our social justice work.