



EMPOWERMENT JUSTICE CENTER

7530 GEORGIA AVE, NW, WASHINGTON DC 20012 (CASA RUBY BLDG)

March 4, 2019

Dear Bishops, Pastors, & Colleagues in Faith Work:

Bishop Allyson Abrams,
President

Toni Brooks,
Vice President

Silvester Stokes,
Secretary

Adam Abrams,
Treasurer

Arlene Brooks,
Executive Director

Empowerment Justice Center, in collaboration with Casa Ruby, has an urgent need from your churches and faith communities to address a crisis at Casa Ruby in the District of Columbia.

On Thursday, February 28, Casa Ruby in collaboration with the Empowerment Justice Center (EJC) was asked to take responsibility from ICE Homeland Security 15 LGBT immigrants. Upon agreeing to assist with the 15 young adults and adults whom were in the possession of ICE in San Antonio, TX after being bounced between 5 detention centers and were thus not accepted for placement at those detention centers, Casa Ruby was called and agreed to accept the 15 clients upon release.

Ruby Corado, with the assistance of EJC, flew to San Antonio, TX to receive the 15 LGBT immigrants and began to coordinate their return to Casa Ruby in Washington, DC. Due to budgetary restraints it was decided to rent a van and drive from San Antonio, TX to Washington DC with the 15 LGBT immigrants.

EJC in collaboration with Empowerment Liberation Cathedral (ELC), Bishop Allyson Abrams and Ruby Corado coordinated clothing, food and shelter during the travel. The caravan with the 15 immigrants received assistance through the LGBT network in Houston, TX, Birmingham, AL, and Atlanta, GA before arriving at Washington DC at 1:30am Monday morning.

We are requesting assistance from your congregations to address the need for food, clothing and shelter to stabilize these 15 immigrants. Bishop Abrams will host a site visit for any interested on Tuesday, March 5 between 2p and 4p at Casa Ruby, 7530 Georgia Ave NW, WDC. You may drop off clothing, food and make cash donations at that time. We are responsible to find permanent housing, mental health stabilization and immigration processing for these 15 immigrants. (A GoFundMe page has been established to receive community donations.

https://www.gofundme.com/4gnp8v-project-faith-help-save-lgbt-lives&rcid=r01-155173575955-99f5ac2980124ae7&pc=ot_co_campm_gmt_w)

Help us, help them and show the love of Christ. Please respond in regards to your capacity to attend and/or assist.

**See photos attached*

In the work of justice,

+Bishop Allyson Abrams

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"Educating and advocating for justice for all"