

Immigrant Hope

BROOKLYN

6501 6th Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11220

www.immigranthope.org/brooklyn

Winter, 2013

Pray for Immigrant Hope - Brooklyn



Praise God for a client who is now able to bring her niece to the U.S. The paperwork for the niece had been unduly held up by the consulate in her home country. Through prayer and the work of Immigrant Hope - Brooklyn the niece's visa was granted by her country and she will be in the U.S. soon. Pray for her quick adjustment to life in the U.S.

Praise God for the many Deferred Action clients He sent us. So far we have heard from 2 clients that they have been granted Deferred Action and work permits. Praise God for opportunities to share the Gospel with these clients and invite them to special events at First EFC, Brooklyn, NY.

Please pray about supporting the work of Immigrant Hope - Brooklyn. One way you can support us is by supporting one or more of the missionaries that work with Immigrant Hope - Brooklyn. By our staff raising their personal support, we can keep costs low for the immigrant clients we serve. This is important to those clients. Ask God what He would have you do to help.



Immigrant Hope - Brooklyn Grand Opening



At Left: Roy Larsen, Immigrant Hope - Brooklyn Site Director and Associate Superintendent in the Eastern District of the EFCA, speaks to those gathered for the Grand Opening.



Above: Immigrant Hope - Brooklyn Legal Director, Lisa Yeung, is joined by one of our clients to cut the ribbon at the Grand Opening ceremonies.

Immigrant Hope - Brooklyn had a wonderful opportunity to celebrate this fall! We had been open and seeing clients for one year, and were officially able to celebrate our 501 (c)(3) status with a grand opening celebration on October 18, 2012.

People came from the EFCA National Office (Immigrant Hope - National) and the Eastern District Office of the EFCA. Also, local politicians and leaders of some of the local EFCA churches and ministries were able to attend. In addition, we were featured on cable TV's Brooklyn news channel 12.

Immigrant Hope - Brooklyn received community recognition from Senator Marty Golden (photo at right) and NY Assemblyman Vincent Gentile.



Immediately Above, L. to R. at the Immigrant Hope - Brooklyn Grand Opening: Alex Mandes, Director, Immigrant Hope (National); Renee Young, Admin & Communications, IH - Brooklyn; NY State Senator Marty Golden; Lisa Yeung, Legal Director, IH - Brooklyn; Roy Larsen, Site Director, IH—Brooklyn and Assoc. Superintendent, Eastern District of the EFCA. Immigrant Hope - Brooklyn accepts recognition from Sen. Golden.

IH Staff in Focus



Michelle Adams - Volunteer Pro-Bono Attorney

Michelle A. Adams is a pro-bono attorney with Immigrant Hope. She enjoys participating in the ministry center one day a week to see clients, research cases, and discuss them with the supervising attorney.

Raised in Michigan, Michelle was blessed to grow up in a strong Christian family and attend a very missions-minded church. After attending Cedarville College, she was able to find a crossing between her natural love for studying the law and participation in evangelical missions. Since graduating from Regent University School of Law, Michelle has maintained a solo practice specializing in nonprofit/tax exempt issues for Christian evangelical ministries. She has been able to maintain her goal of providing affordable fees for these special organizations by working out of her home and keeping interactions as paperless as possible.

Even though she considers her daily office tasks to be Kingdom work, Michelle feels it is important for every Christian to be involved in some kind of one-on-one ministry. It is good to support ministries financially or through background efforts (such as the practice of law), but unless that Christian is able to look into a neighbor's face, witnessing God's love for them in both word and deed, he or she will miss out on the great privilege and plan that God has laid out for His followers.

Also important to Michelle is her volunteer work at the Brooklyn Arab American Friendship Center down the avenue from Immigrant Hope. This is an amazing and unique opportunity to pour Christ's



Immigrant Hope - Brooklyn Volunteer Michelle Adams and her Husband Rob

love into the lives of Arab women from all over the world whom God has placed in Bay Ridge, Brooklyn for a particular purpose.

Michelle is grateful to have learned about the work of Immigrant Hope just as it was getting started, since she had long envisioned branching her practice into immigration law for the purpose of sharing the Gospel through this tangible service. She believes this is one of the most effective yet neglected avenues to reach internationals for Christ.

Michelle and her husband Rob live in Manhattan where Rob is completing his training as a pediatric cardiologist at NYU Medical Center. They attend First Baptist Church of New York City. Their New York sized apartment is shared by two cocker spaniels and a cat. Some of their favorite hobbies include traveling, photography, and primitive hiking/camping.

Immigrant Hope - Brooklyn Advocates in Problematic Consulate Case

Immigrant Hope - Brooklyn successfully completed the first major advocacy case for a client who is in fact the first one whom we helped to pray to receive Christ. The client had petitioned for legal residency for a relative family of five from overseas. However, only the parents and two of their children were issued the immigrant visas from the U.S. consulate and their oldest daughter (the client's niece) was left behind unjustly. The immigrant visa case of our client's niece hit a problem at the consulate level because of two unfortunate mishaps: our client had hired an unauthorized practitioner to handle her case and there were probable corruption activities in the home country of her relative family. Through intense advocacy efforts and with the help of a local senator, Martin Golden, we were able to re-open the case with the U.S. consulate and ask for an immigrant visa interview. Finally, an immigrant visa has been granted to the niece, and now she will soon arrive in the U.S. as a legal resident and be united with her family after more than two years of separation! As the relational bridges have been built up, we hope to be able to share the saving grace of Christ to her and her family at her arrival.

Client Stories

Immigrant Hope - Brooklyn serves a diversity of clientele. We not only help them with their immigration needs but we are sometimes able to share the gospel with many of our clients.

- A homeless person came to us for help last year. We were able to pray with him to receive Christ. We first met his felt immigration need, helped recover his identity documents, then connected him to a Christian program that provides meals to him during the day. As our caseworkers developed the relationship with him, they were able to invite him to make a commitment to Christ.
- Through the recent Deferred Action program we provided services to a number of young people. In many instances we were able to give out Bibles and tracts and openly share the gospel with them. **Please pray** that our caseworkers will be able to follow up on these relational bridges that have been built.