



# FAITHACTION INTERNATIONAL HOUSE

*TURNING STRANGERS INTO NEIGHBORS!*

705 North Greene Street ♦ Greensboro, North Carolina 27401  
Telephone: 336-379-0037 ♦ Website: [www.faithaction.org](http://www.faithaction.org)

## FaithAction Impact Report 2018

FaithAction had one of its most challenging, yet impactful years in our 21-year history in 2018. While we are in the midst of one of the most difficult times around immigration in our nation's history, FaithAction staff, board, volunteers, and donors have stepped up in remarkable ways to serve, educate, love, and protect our newest neighbors. This work would simply not have been possible without your tremendous kindness and support. ***Thank you friends for loving your neighbors as yourselves - it certainly needed and appreciated now more than ever.***

### Services

The majority of our immigrant clients face significant barriers, including: learning a new language and social service system, living near or below the poverty line with no access to government benefits, discrimination and devastating immigration policies. FaithAction's services provided hope, dignity, and shelter from the storm in some life changing, even life-saving ways for over 1,950 of our newest immigrant neighbors from over 50 different countries.

We kept hundreds of families healthy and safe through our direct help with food, housing, healthcare, and emergency financial assistance, while accompanying and advocating alongside hundreds more affected by family violence and devastating detention and deportation policies.

**We received an overall satisfaction rating of 4.8 out of 5 (5 = excellent) in our client evaluations, and clients shared:**

#### Client Feedback

96.5% of FA clients found services very helpful and useful



95% of FA ID card holders said they feel safer and more part of the community



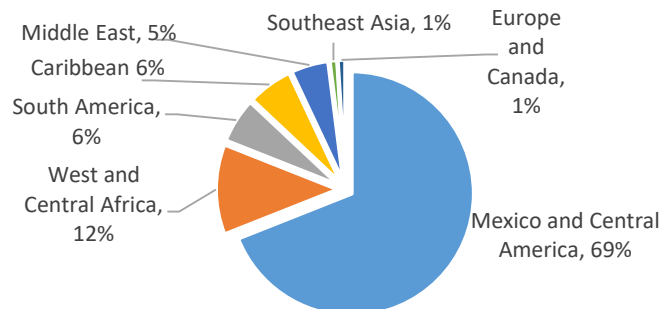
98% of clients now have a clear pathway forward and want to give back to the community

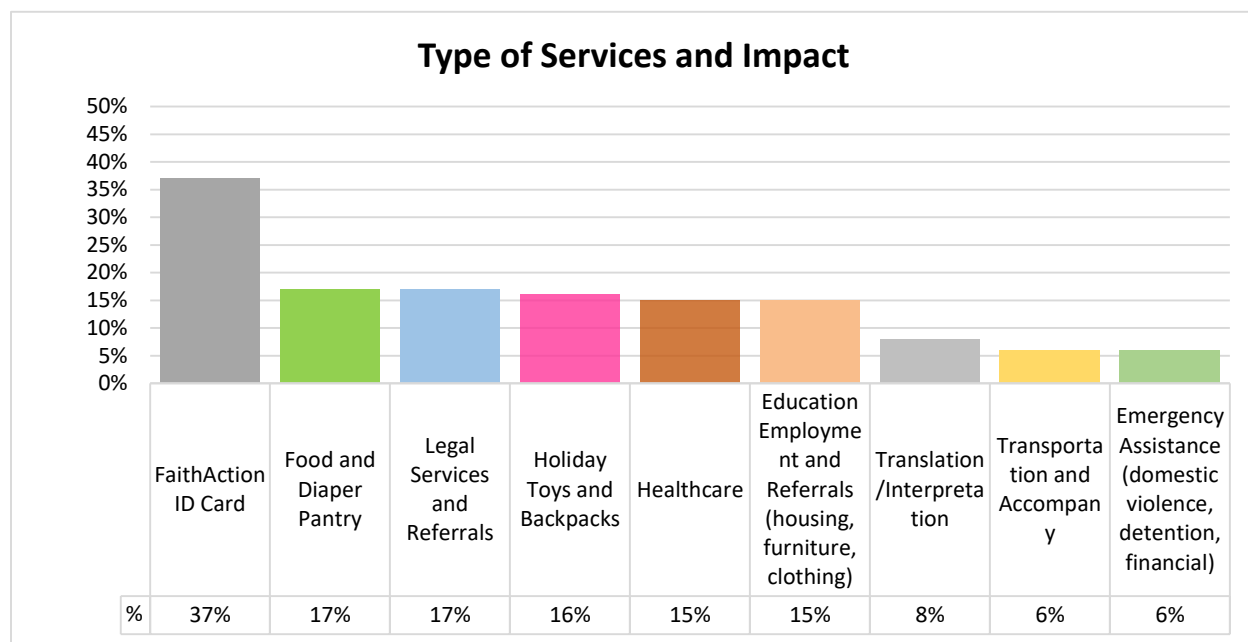


*I cannot even begin to express how loving, caring, understanding, compassionate and welcoming your staff really is. I feel so lucky and thankful to be surrounded by people like you guys and I hope that one day God will bless me so that I too can return the same favor.*

*You extended your hand and heart without knowing me or where I came from. You made the impossible, possible for my child and I, and we won't forget it.*

#### Diverse Populations we served





## FaithAction ID Program

We provided an additional 1,150 FaithAction ID cards to immigrants and citizens from 60 nations and over 125 cities, providing crucial access, while building trust with law enforcement, health centers, schools, businesses, and cultural arts organizations throughout North Carolina. Over 95% of those surveyed found the ID cards to be very useful, and helped them feel safer (more willing to contact law enforcement if victims of a crime), and more a part of the community. Card holders shared:

*I am much more willing to contact the police.*

*I feel like more people are concerned about my health than my status.*

*I feel much more included in my community - thank God for my FaithAction ID.*

We additionally provided trained groups in Gainesville, Florida and Ames, Iowa to replicate the FaithAction ID card program, and will soon be expanding the program to Charlottesville, VA, Hood River, OR, and West Palm Beach, FL – putting Greensboro on the map as a leader in finding local solutions to immigrant integration and police/immigrant community relations.

## Trainings and Stranger to Neighbor events

While FaithAction is perhaps best known for its services, we also provided 70 trainings and presentations across North Carolina in 2018. Over 2,500 immigrant and faith leaders, health and social service workers, law enforcement, city department employees, school teachers and students received crucial education on immigration and diversity, and training on how to build greater understanding, trust, and cooperation with our newest neighbors.

A small sample of groups we trained and presented for include: YMCA of the Triad, Alamance County Department of Social Services, First Presbyterian Church – “God Talks,” NC A&T, UNCG, and Guilford College.

**We received an overall satisfaction rating of 4.7 out of 5 (5 = excellent) in our training evaluations, and trainees shared:**

**Trainee Feedback**

95% of FA trainees gave an excellent value rating of our Immigration 101 training



95% of FA trainees gave an excellent value rating of our How to Build Understanding, Trust, and Cooperation training



*Faith Action's "Serving Latinos and Immigrants" training was a powerful catalyst for change in our community. Not only did the training provide important resources and ideas for engaging the Latino community, but it brought together agencies and individuals that share a common interest of providing social services to the underserved. There has been a buzz of networking and collaboration in our county since hearing what Rev. Fraccaro and other community members had to share about their experiences working with immigrants. I highly recommend this training to domestic violence agencies, non-profits, public health*

*programs, law enforcement, and any community looking to inform themselves on the challenges Latinos/Immigrants face and receive actionable advice on how to respond with compassion.*

*The Stranger to Neighbor Training we received was eye opening and a truly impactful event! The information was so insightful, and it helped me to view things from the stand point of a person or family who is risking everything to find a safe haven, to give their loved ones a chance at a life without terror or danger. We have received numerous requests to hold another Stranger to Neighbor training, and more and more people who have gotten involved now refer to new immigrants and refugees as neighbors.*

We also held our annual Downtown Unity Walk and Festival, and Multicultural Thanksgiving events. Nearly 1,000 diverse community participated in these wonderful events that helped build positive relationships across lines of culture, faith, and nationality – turning strangers into neighbors!

**S2N Participant Feedback**

90% of participants said they feel more connected to my newest neighbors



92% of participants said they feel more motivated to stand up to stereotypes and advocate alongside my newest neighbors

4.7/5 (92%)



## FaithAction Advocacy and New Initiatives

Unfortunately, we continue to experience a significant increase in the detention and deportation of our clients and friends, and many of our clients continue to experience tremendous fear and anxiety. In response, we mobilized our community to speak out and take action to serve, love and protect our newest neighbors in need.

This momentum led to the creation a “Friends of Triad Detainees” advocacy group, which coordinates bi-monthly visits to our clients and friends in detention in Southern Georgia to break up their isolation, along with the establishment of a new \$10,000 emergency legal consultation fund. We have also experienced a significant increase in emergency financial assistance requests from immigrant and refugee families directly affected by these changes. In response, we worked with an incredibly kind group of two-dozen FaithAction volunteers and congregations that provided over \$18,000 in emergency funds for rent and bills to keep immigrant and refugee families from becoming homeless.

\$10,000 Legal Fund established for detained clients and friends



Over \$18,000 in Emergency Funds (rent and bill assistance) for our newest neighbors in need

Friends of Triad Detainees group plans bi-monthly trips to visit our detained clients and friends at the Stewart Detention Center (GA)



FaithAction featured in national press, including: NBC News, The Washington Monthly, and YES Magazine.

We also held and participated in several press conferences in reaction to the Executive Orders on Immigration, the end of the TPS and DACA programs, and the concerning conditions of the Stewart Detention Center. Our service and advocacy work was covered by numerous local and national press, including: Univision, Qué Pasa, and the News and Record, as well as NBC News, the Washington Monthly, and YES Magazine.

## Financial growth

Finally, our annual budget goal for 2018 was \$352,700. We exceeded expectations and brought in \$366,000, largely driven by kind and generous donations from people like you. 50% for income came from local and state grants, 40% came from individual and congregational donations, and 10% came from program generated income. This increase set the foundation for us to sustain the legal and emergency fund for our detained clients, as well the creation of a new Director of Community Education and Advocacy position - to strengthen our proactive education with the immigrant community, as well as crucial state and national advocacy to address the root causes of immigrant injustice and to fight for fair and humane immigration reforms!

