

Ulster Immigrant Defense Network

Because We All Belong

Thanks for considering UIDN! Some of our volunteer work is project-based and can be done at your convenience. Other tasks need to be done in person or on a regular schedule. We know your time is valuable and we want to find the best way for you to share your interests and skills. If you want more details or if you have something in mind but don't see the right opportunity here, email Debi at UIDN@ulsterimmigrantdefensenetwork.org.

HOUSEHOLD SUPPORT. Newcomers often need food, school supplies, household goods, and more. Volunteers can:

Help at UIDN's Kingston food pantry in two- or three-hour shifts on Wednesdays. Families pick up groceries and other items, socialize, and learn about community resources.

Use your vehicle to pick up and deliver food and furniture as needed.

Donate or identify sources for needed items and deliver by prior arrangement.

Use your organizational skills to recruit and manage a standing crew to move furniture and large boxes of food on relatively short notice. Set up a communication system so they can assemble quickly as needed. We will provide leads and ideas.

HEALTH CARE is often hard to access. We need remote and in-person volunteers to:

Research health care resources.

Distribute information.

Participate in events and activities.



IF YOU'RE A PEOPLE PERSON & NOT BILINGUAL YOU CAN...

Drive families to local appointments.

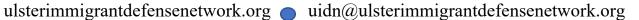
Table at local events.

Offer one-on-one reading or tutoring.

Volunteer in classrooms with English language learners; requires regular schedule.

Support families as a "cultural mentor," e.g., help them use WIC at the supermarket, clean an apartment to get a deposit back when leaving, take kids to parks or free community events, and so on.





FUNDRAISING. Our immigrant community needs more programs aimed at self-sufficiency. That means staff and money. UIDN needs volunteers with experience in one or more of the following:

Campaign development or event planning.

Donor communication and tracking.

Graphic design for print and materials.

Contacts with local artists, musicians, venues, businesses, and major donors who might provide event support, in-kind or cash contributions, and/or sponsorships.

COMMUNICATIONS. Help UIDN explain how immigrants contribute to our community, publicize our work, explore related issues, recruit volunteers, and more.

Connect by phone with current and potential volunteers.

Data management. UIDN uses Every Action but does not make optimal use of information collected. Can you take a deep dive and recommend improvements?

Help update or refine, the website.

Write thank you notes.

Improve outreach via social media or other.

Contribute articles or interviews.



2022 Chronogram readers voted UIDN "top social justice" group.

IF YOU'RE BILINGUAL...

Join our helpline. Work shifts of two hours or more per week, remotely or at our office. After orientation, you'll provide help and resources by phone, choosing your hours.

Help families complete applications and forms of various kinds.

Tutor adults for the written driving test, other licensing exams, and the like.

Help families communicate with landlords and utility companies.

Accompany families to meetings where interpreters may not be available.

Interview families and tell their stories for our newsletter, website, or local publications.



UIDN often campaigns with other groups to expand the rights of immigrants regardless of their legal status. Successes have included Green Light legislation and the creation of an Excluded Workers Fund aiding those who were ineligible for unemployment benefits during the pandemic.