



# NEW SANCTUARY MOVEMENT OF PHILADELPHIA

2601 Potter St, Philadelphia PA 19125  
[www.sanctuaryphiladelphia.org](http://www.sanctuaryphiladelphia.org)

## **WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR MY CONGREGATION TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE NEW SANCTUARY MOVEMENT OF PHILADELPHIA?**

The New Sanctuary Movement of Philadelphia is an interfaith, multicultural immigrant rights organization. We welcome the participation of individuals and congregations who covenant with us to:

- put faith into action
- uphold values of hospitality, dignity, and justice for immigrants in our community
- build a new community based on strong and mutually supportive personal relationships among diverse religious, ethnic, and cultural groups

### **Why should we become a member of the NSM coalition?**

Perhaps most importantly, through NSM membership your congregation will become a visible, prophetic witness and leader in our community by making an intentional public stand that declares your faithful commitment to “welcoming the stranger” in our midst.

### **Your public affiliation with NSM connects you to a dynamic social justice movement and a diverse network of Philadelphia congregations and individuals among whom you will**

- build personal relationships across faiths, ethnic groups, and cultures
- interact and share ideas with experienced faith leaders and community organizers
- access trainings and resources to equip your work for justice for immigrants
- develop leadership skills that can be transferred to other contexts
- become involved in decision-making about NSM programs and strategies
- give and receive mutual support through prayer, action, and sharing of resources
- put your faith into action on a local, regional, and national level
- have the opportunity to accompany an immigrant families facing deportation
- create a new, beloved community grounded in God’s vision for the world.

### **NSM Member Congregations receive:**

- Connections to a wide range of advocacy organizations, community agencies, and faith networks working on many issues in support of immigrants and immigration justice
- Regular updates and calls to action on important legislative and policy issues
- Invitations to inspiring shared worship experiences hosted by member congregations
- Access to NSM speakers at your congregation for travel costs only
- Acknowledgment in the congregation listings in a special section of our website and on facebook, with a link to your own website or Facebook homepage
- Opportunities for leadership and participation in program development and strategic planning to guide NSM
- Opportunities to shape NSM's future and vision by nominating congregation members for consideration as NSM Board members to direct the organization

### **We expect NSM Member Congregations to:**

- Provide visibility for immigration issues in general and for NSM in particular within your congregation
- Participate in NSM's programs for education, leadership development, advocacy, and accompaniment
- Host other NSM congregations for a time of renewal and inspiration through shared worship in your own faith community's tradition
- Invite other congregations and individuals to get to know about and take part in NSM
- Designate at least two contact persons to act as liaisons to receive and distribute information from NSM to your congregation
- Financially support the work of NSM with an annual contribution. We understand that congregations have varying resources and suggest a range of \$500 to \$2500 per year which might come through a designated offering, a line item in your budget, or a special fundraising event.
- We encourage NSM Member Congregations to form an action group within the formal structure of your congregation as a helpful way to keep issues of immigration justice alive and vital in your community, and as a way for your congregation to relate to the on-going work of the New Sanctuary Movement. Our member congregations have developed a variety of models and can share ideas that can help you discern the best way to become active in your own context.

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Congregation Representative