

Providence has always provided me with opportunities to help others. My latest ministry, Outreach to Refugees, is truly among the poor and vulnerable populations! I work with Refugees from countries in Central Africa: Burundi, Congo, Cameroon to name a few. These families have crossed many borders and barriers and have experienced hardships, even death of family members, seeking freedom for their families and a country they can call their own.

I teach some basic aspects of living in the United States: having electricity and running water; going shopping and practicing daily hygiene. I walk with them through governmental, medical, and educational agencies. I been able to obtain financial assistance for families during major medical crisis. I accompany pregnant women from their first prenatal visit through labor and delivery. I have been privilege to be the first to hold the baby and later to say a prayer as I hand the baby to the family. I get calls at any time, night or day, for the sick and injured, from broken lawnmowers and toilet seats to no heat or water. I help get jobs, fill out forms of all sorts, and prepare applications for the Permanent Resident card (Green card) and for Citizenship. I chauffeur children to after school activities and am an active spectator at their sports programs. I feel privileged to be used by Providence for those who often feel like the stranger in a foreign land.

Sr. Mary Dudley - Cincinnati