

Witness Commission Meeting Minutes

June 5, 2019

Attendees: Chair, Peg Over, Mandy Hileman, Peggy McFarland, Amy Karr, Jordan Eberhart, Pastoral Liaison Greg Davidson Laszakovits

Discussion:

Isaiah Fwam Lokai – Friend/tenant of Jeff Eisenbise. Isaiah is a current nursing student at HACC. His goal is to obtain citizenship in order to work to continue to pay for his schooling. Nigeria “Taken” is made up of 15 denominations (ie. COB, Church of Christ, etc.). He has been the media coordinator for 11 years. They work to support widows and orphans whose lives are in danger.

Came to the US in 2016, would like to go back to Nigeria to support medical care (ie. Mobile Clinics).

Isaiah has a student visa as long as he remains in school. He is currently in school full time. Isaiah can work 20 hours/week at HACC but also has transportation costs to get to work. He does have a benefactor who provides some employment opportunities, but the work is not consistent.

Isaiah’s school is \$3,500/semester plus the cost of books. Currently he owes \$1800 from last semester although he is current on this semester. His immediate needs are for \$1,800 (back due) + \$450 books.

Witness commission discussed being in favor of submitting a request to the board for approval.

Bucket updates:

The filled buckets are being loaded in trucks and taken to Harrisburg on June 6, 2019. Excess supplies are being donated to ECHOS, Community Cupboard and/or Pre-school.

Manchester and Chiques have responded to the challenge to date.

We used \$580 from O&M for bucket shipping. Peg to follow up with Frank regarding using the O&M overage from last year.

Amy is to provide a thank you to the congregation and newsletter update.

Camp Swatara:

Members working as staff will be provided a stipend at the end of the summer.

Kitchen - \$250/person (x1)

Staff - \$750/person (x4)

Community Cupboard:

Peg states that we have had a good response. UCEA rep (oversees Community Cupboard and Community Place on Washington). Judith Gibbel is leaving and needs the position replaced, Peg suggested Donna McDoughnah. Peg will reach out to Donna.

“Big Idea”: How do we continue to engage the congregation for outreach/mission? Use 5th Sunday forum to get input/ideas from the congregation and bring those forward to Witness Commission for further discussion. Group discussed providing bulletin announcements and/or examples for the congregation.

Updates:

We are skipping our July meeting and we will meet next on August 7, 2019 at 7pm.