

# Interfaith Action of Central Texas

iACT (Interfaith Action of Central Texas) cultivates peace and respect through interfaith dialogue, service, and celebration.

In addition to making a donation, you can volunteer to help out with iACT:

- [Hands on Housing – Handy Helpers](#)
  - **Who:** Anyone with the necessary experience and skills is welcome to apply.
  - **What:** Handy Helpers utilizes experienced volunteers with repair skills, to help seniors and low-income Austin residents in need of minor home repairs. These repairs often include (but are not limited to) things like replacing door handles, faucets, and window panes; and minor painting/carpentry.
  - **When:** Year-round; for questions about specific volunteer shifts, apply at the link above, and contact 512-386-9145 ext. 307, or [hoh@interfaithtexas.org](mailto:hoh@interfaithtexas.org).
  - **Where:** At various homes throughout Austin.
  - **Requirements:** Volunteers need to have some experience and competence with basic home repairs, and need to apply via the link above.
  - **Recommended Group Size:** Applications are on an individual basis.
  
- [Hands on Housing – Raise the Roof and Spring Blitz](#)
  - **Who:** Anyone 15 or older
  - **What:** Raise the Roof and Spring Blitz are both annual events, wherein 10 Austin homes in need of assistance are selected and painted, along with some minor carpentry and siding repairs.
  - **When:** Spring Blitz takes place in March, and Raise the Roof takes place in October.
  - **Where:** At various homes throughout Austin.
  - **Requirements:** Volunteers must be 15 or older, and able to paint.
  - **Recommended Group Size:** 10 or more people
  
- [iACT for Refugees](#) – Adult ESL Classes
  - **Who:** Anyone 18 or older
  - **What:** iACT's teaches English as a Second Language and various other cultural skills to newly-arrived refugees, in order to make them feel welcomed, and help them establish roots here in their new hometown.

- **When:** Classes occur year-round, in morning and evening sessions
  - **Where:** Zoom, Central Presbyterian Church, and/or the downtown YMCA.
  - **Requirements:** Volunteers must be 18 or older, must be able to teach English to refugees who speak little-to-no English, and must commit to volunteer once a week for 3 months. Volunteers should contact [mwright@interfaithtexas.org](mailto:mwright@interfaithtexas.org) to apply.
  - **Recommended Group Size:** This opportunity is open to individuals.
- [iACT for Refugees](#) – iLearn Youth Summer Program
    - **Who:** Anyone 15 or older
    - **What:** iACT's youth program, iLearn, provides English and math instruction, cultural orientation, and outdoor recreation to over 50 refugee youths every summer.
    - **When:** Every June and July, weekdays from 10am to 12pm.
    - **Where:** at Central Presbyterian Church
    - **Requirements:** Volunteers must be 15 or older, and must be equipped to help tutor youth who speak limited English. Volunteers should contact [mwright@interfaithtexas.org](mailto:mwright@interfaithtexas.org) to apply.
    - **Recommended Group Size:** Open to individuals and small groups.
- [iACT for Refugees](#) – Youth Mentorship Program
    - **Who:** Anyone 18 or older
    - **What:** iACT's "youth mentors" provide one-on-one mentorship to refugees, ages 15-24. Mentees receive tutoring support, learn important life skills, and plan their futures. Mentors also work with the families, to make sure they are providing an environment conducive to the mentee's learning – the goal of this program is to take a holistic approach in supporting refugee youth.
    - **When:** Year-round
    - **Where:** At the refugees' homes
    - **Requirements:** Volunteers should contact [mwright@interfaithtexas.org](mailto:mwright@interfaithtexas.org) to apply.
    - **Recommended Group Size:** This opportunity is open to individuals.
- [Host a Red Bench Conversation](#)
    - **Who:** Anyone 16 or older
    - **What:** The Red Bench is an ongoing dialogue program designed to address one of the most pressing needs of our time: improving interfaith understanding and civil discourse in our society. Everyone is welcome to participate, and each

“table” at these conversations is “hosted” by one or two people who are trained to facilitate the conversations in deep and affirming ways. You may reach out to be trained as a host [via the contact form on their website](#).

- **When:** Check the “Host a Red Bench Conversation” link above for upcoming events and details.
- **Where:** Check the “Host a Red Bench Conversation” link above for upcoming events and details.
- **Requirements:** Nothing is required; iACT will provide everything you need to know in their training.
- **Recommended Group Size:** This opportunity is open to individuals

- [Misc. Year-Round Volunteer Opportunities](#)

- **Who:** May vary based on activity
- **What:** If you would like to help iACT through the donation of your time and effort, they’ll find a way to use your help! From helping with office work, to assisting in cleaning storage sheds, there’s always something to help out with.
- **When:** Check the link above to see what opportunities are currently available.
- **Where:** Check the link above to see what opportunities are currently available.
- **Requirements:** May vary based on activity
- **Recommended Group Size:** May vary based on activity

- [Annual Volunteer Opportunities](#)

- **Who:** Anyone 15 or older
- **What:** iACT has multiple annual events, which require volunteers to help with various tasks, such as registration, setting up, food management, etc.
- **When:** The [Hope Awards](#) are in April, [World Refugee Day](#) is in June, [A Night Under One Sky](#) is in October, and the [Interfaith Day of Thanks](#) is in November.
- **Where:** TBA closer to the date of each of the events, [on the iACT website](#).
- **Requirements:** Volunteers should contact [mwright@interfaithtexas.org](mailto:mwright@interfaithtexas.org) to apply.
- **Recommended Group Size:** This opportunity is open to individuals and small groups.