



## Resource Guide for Haitian Families

### Medical Resources at BMC

- o Every member of your family who wants to get medical care at BMC will need to register as a new patient. To register, call 617-414-6060
- o Every immigrant in MA is eligible for insurance coverage, regardless of immigration status. To sign up for insurance, call 617-414-5155
- o The Immigrant and Refugee Health Center (IRHC) at BMC offers specialized services for immigrants, including medical care, mental health counseling, and women's health. To become an IRHC patient, call 617-414-1994

### Immigration Legal Resources

- o Free legal resources are very limited, but there are non-profit organizations in Boston that can sometimes provide free legal support:
  - Political Asylum/Immigration Representation Project (PAIR): 617-742-9296, [www.pairproject.org/gethelp](http://www.pairproject.org/gethelp)
  - Greater Boston Legal Service: 617-603-1808, [www.gbls.org/get-legal-help](http://www.gbls.org/get-legal-help)
  - De Novo: (617) 661-1010, [www.denovo.org/legal](http://www.denovo.org/legal)
- o The Cities of Boston and Cambridge also have free immigration legal consultations available over the telephone:
  - City of Boston: 617-635-2980
  - City of Cambridge: 617-405-5479

### Mental Health Resources

- o In the same way that your primary care doctor treats your physical body, a mental health provider will help you take care of your heart and mind.
- o Therapy is a time and space to share your feelings, and the things that you are going through that you might not feel comfortable sharing with everyone; a therapist will teach you skills to process thoughts and emotions, and help you heal emotionally
- o The Boston Center for Refugee Health and Human Rights (BCRHHR) at BMC specializes in working with immigrants who have survived trauma in their country of origin. To become a patient, call 617-414-1994, [www.bcrhhr.org/](http://www.bcrhhr.org/)
- o The Haitian Mental Health Network is a Boston-based group of mental health providers: email [HMHnetwork@gmail.com](mailto:HMHnetwork@gmail.com), [www.hmhnetwork.org/mental-health-clinics-centers/](http://www.hmhnetwork.org/mental-health-clinics-centers/)

### Employment and English Resources

- o These organizations offer job training programs, employment assistance, skills development, educational opportunities and English classes.
- o International Family Services Institute (IFS): 857-251-9806, <https://www.ifs-usa.org/programs>
- o Jewish Vocational Services (JVS): 617-399-3131, <https://www.jvs-boston.org/>

### Social Supports

# Key Resources for Haitian Families

- o These organizations are community-based non-profits that offer a variety of supports and services to the Haitian community in the Boston area.
- o Association of Haitian Women in Boston (AFAB): 617-287-0096, [www.afab-kafanm.org/wp/](http://www.afab-kafanm.org/wp/)
- o Everett Haitian Community Center: 617-213-5058, [www.theehcc.org/](http://www.theehcc.org/)
- o A Better Tomorrow Inc.: 616-381-0300, [www.facebook.com/abtiservices/](https://www.facebook.com/abtiservices/)

*Certain immigrants from Haiti are considered “Haitian Entrants” and are eligible for additional benefits/services. Haitian immigrants who have been detained at the border, or those who have filed an asylum application, are considered “Haitian Entrants”.*

## **Resources available only to “Haitian Entrants”:**

- Refugee Resettlement Agencies
  - o These agencies can provide assistance enrolling in benefits, including food stamps and cash assistance
  - o Catholic Charities of Boston (CCAB): 617-464-8122, [www.ccab.org/refugee-services](http://www.ccab.org/refugee-services)
  - o International Institute of New England (IINE): 617-695-9990, [www.iine.org/contact-us/](http://www.iine.org/contact-us/)
- Emergency Shelter (for families with children)
  - o If your family does not have a safe place to spend the night or needs emergency shelter, contact the DHCD Family Shelter hotline: 866-584-0653

## **Temporary Protective Status (TPS)**

- Haitian immigrants who were in the US before May 22, 2021 will be eligible to apply for TPS—a status that allows access to work permits and protection from deportation for at least 18 months
- TPS applications are not currently open, but many legal services organizations will be helping with applications once they are open
- Rian Immigrant Center is accepting referrals for legal consultations with the TPS application process: 617-542-7654
- In the meantime, Haitian immigrants can prepare for the application process by gathering and translating key documents:
  - o Haitian passport (and apply to renew passport if it is expired);
  - o Haitian birth certificate (make sure to obtain a "National Archives" version of birth certificate);
  - o English translation of birth certificate;
  - o Any and all evidence of presence in the U.S. on May 21, 2021 or as close to that date as possible (receipts, bank transactions, bills, hospital records, mail—anything with name and the date to indicate physical presence in the U.S. on May 21)
- IFSI can support with gathering documents and getting them translated, call 617-207-2148 for help