



## Engage with The Branch of Nashville in 2017

### **Project Engagement**

**Practice English** – have a conversation with English learners to help them practice. This will be led and guided by a teacher. Classes are on Monday and Tuesday mornings 9-11 and the same evenings 6:15-8:15. There are other English classes meeting all during the week if a different time is needed. Come once a month or more often if you wish!

**Do a yard project** – this could be planting, mowing, cleaning, and gardening, and so on.

**Food drive** – Hold a food drive in your church or neighborhood or local store (with their permission, of course). Make it fun. Make a contest out of it. Collect rice, pasta, sugar, flour, oil, spaghetti sauce, black beans, and canned tomatoes. Then come and stock the shelves.

**LOVE 1** – Adopt 1 family and just be their new American friends. This could be a family who has come as a refugee or perhaps has come to make a better life for their family because things were so difficult in their home country. This can be as simple as texting and checking in or being available to answer questions by text or as involved as including them in activities you have, asking them to family events and so on. Be assured that they will invite YOU over for a meal. (They are great at hospitality!) They are lonely and they just want to build new community.

**Collect school supplies** – Begin collecting school supplies that we can hand out as we get closer to the start of school. Come hand them out on a pantry day if you would like to! Also collect at off times so that we can replenish the kid's school supplies.

**Develop a "Grow Kids" pack** – This is a project that needs someone who enjoys being creative and developing. We encounter hundreds of kids a month and are brainstorming how to love on them when we have limited time with them. These are kids who may be disadvantaged and quite vulnerable. Our initial thought is that this may be a pack of things we hand to every single kid that we encounter in a month. (could be 500!) Perhaps it would have a nutritional snack, a book, crayons or pencils, a small toy and a note that tells them how valuable they are. We are working on how to develop this in a way that gives churches/groups/organizations, the ability to take on one month of kid's packs.

**CARE projects** – put together Care packs that we can give to our guests. They could be hygiene items like toiletries or they could be fun little gadgets and gum and candy or homemade cookies! Use your imagination but this is an opportunity to express love and care to those who are having a hard time.



## **Weekly/Monthly Engagement**

**Work at Pantry** (this is on Tuesday 4-6 or Saturday 9:30-11) – may be stocking shelves, handing out food, helping people “shop” for their food, praying with someone, loading their car, and so on. Churches or Organizations can form a team and be on schedule once per month or Individuals can come as desired.

**Assist an English Teacher-** be present once a week for an English class so that you can assist the teacher and students. This could be running errands or having one on one conversation with students. Great chance to build relationships.

**Adopt an English Class** – Adopt one class for a semester or a year. Be text friends (just text occasionally to check on them and give them practice with their English. Make a snack for them to enjoy in class. Write them notes of encouragement. Plan a party for them. These are just ideas.

**Tutoring/Mentoring kids** – Come on Tuesday evening to assist children with their homework and be a part of their lives. It’s an incredible investment in the future.

**Building care** – We need people to make regular commitments to come clean and straighten in the building. We depend on volunteers for this.