



I AM MIGRATION AWARENESS AND ADVOCACY TABLE HOW-TO GUIDE

This resource provides all of the materials and guidance you need to set up a table on campus to share stories of refugees and migrants and to invite fellow students to take action. It is a way you and your campus can participate in Pope Francis’s International Migration Campaign and be part of a network of campuses across the country taking action. This is an alternative to hosting an event where you have to focus on recruiting attendees, as a visible campus table allows you to meet other students where they are already at, walking through the campus quad, in the dining hall, or in a busy campus building. It uses a visual display to draw attention, provides a way for people to engage in learning and advocacy on the spot, and provides recommendations for the inclusion of social media and raffling off a CRS Ethical Trade product. Please feel free to use this resource in its entirety, or you can also adapt and revise it as necessary or incorporate pieces of it into other campus events and activities. Please reach out to university@crs.org with any questions.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	Page 1
Materials	Page 2
Pre-Tabling Event Preparation	Page 3
Tips and Talking Points During Event	Page 4
Post-Tabling Event Follow Up	Page 6
Shoe Letters Instructions Sheet Sample	Page 7
Shoe Letters Instructions Sheet Template	Page 8

MATERIALS

FOR ADVOCACY

- [I am Migration Shoe Advocacy Letter Templates](#) (Each person needs 3 shoe cut-outs to send to each of your campus's 2 Senators and 1 Representative)
- Pens for writing Shoe Advocacy Letters
- Several copies of "I am Migration Shoe Advocacy Letters Instructions Sheet" (find at the end of the document), edited/filled in with your university information
- *Alternative:* If you would rather simply have participants sign an online letter, you would need a laptop computer set to Advocacy Letter (link can be found at <http://university.crs.org/migration>) and internet access.

FOR VISUAL DISPLAY

- [I am Migration Table Central Poster](#) (ideal to print in color on 11" x 17" paper)
- [I am Migration Story 1-Pagers](#) (ideal to print each of 6 in color on 8.5" x 11" paper)
- Optional: Bible, open to a migration-themed bible verse or print-out(s) of migration-themed prayers:
 - Prayer: [To Reach Across Borders](#)
 - Prayer: [A Moment for Grace](#)
- Table and chairs (and tablecloth if you have one)
- CRS Student Ambassador Program Cardboard Tri-Fold (if you have one)
- Depending on the type of display you wish to create, you may need additional materials, including: string, tape/glue, clothes pins or safety pins large sheet or other large surface for attaching shoes

FOR RAFFLE

- 1 pair of CRS Ethical Trade Migration Campaign Socks (find link to purchase at <http://university.crs.org/migration>). The socks will be available starting late September. If this timing doesn't work out, you can raffle off other products from our [CRS Ethical Trade partners](#) because intentional purchasing to uphold the dignity of people and their work can contribute to alleviating push factors and root causes of migration.
- Small slips of paper for raffle & pens
- A raffle basket

FOR SOCIAL MEDIA

- Camera/phone
- #ShareJourney & #IamMigration

PRE-TABLING EVENT PREPARATION

SPACE

- Be sure to reserve a space in a high-traffic area far enough in advance of the event. Reserve it for at least a half an hour before and after you plan to have the table open to leave room for set-up and take-down.

TIME

- You may choose to host this table for a few days in a row or every day for an entire week. You may also choose to host it one day a week for a few straight weeks, or just one day. You can choose the hours that are best for the location that you'll be using.
- You may also want to choose timing based on being able to use this table to promote an upcoming event that you have. You could hand out flyers or tell people to get more involved by coming to a future event or meeting.

ADVERTISING

- In theory, you may not need to advertise for the event, given that its purpose is to be in a place where many people will already be passing by. Yet, it never hurts to tell people what to expect and invite people to stop by. You could do this via flyers, a Facebook event, email, or other marketing tactics that work well on your campus.

ROLES

- Planning: be sure that someone is on point to coordinate what the table will actually look like and ensure that all materials are printed off, ordered and ready to go.
- Scheduling: be sure that someone is responsible for the table schedule, so that it is "staffed" well by other CRS Student Ambassadors during all hours you wish for it to be open. You will also want to be sure someone is responsible for set-up, take-down and storing the materials before and after the table is open. During open table hours, you may also want someone to be the point person for social media, taking "Reach Out" pictures of people with their arms outstretched in welcome and documenting the engagement and advocacy.

LOCAL CONNECTIONS AND ENGAGEMENT

- You may also want to make some local connections during this tabling event. Here are a few ideas, but you will likely know your campus and local community context best:
 - Reach out to local Catholic Charities contacts or agencies to find out if they are involved in refugee resettlement or support in the local community. If so, see if they would like to send a staff person to share more information at the table.
 - Find out if anyone has connections to people in your local or campus community who are themselves refugees and migrants to invite them to come share their stories as part of the table.
 - Investigate to see whether there are any potential engagement or volunteer opportunities to support migrants and refugees in your local community, and share information on how to get involved for those who are interested.

TIPS TO USE DURING THE TABLING EVENT

Be sure that participants get a chance to engage each of the dimensions of the table that you are offering. Here are some tips and talking points to get you started.

WELCOME

- Be sure to welcome and draw people over to your table. It's always good to start by introducing yourself and asking them about themselves. You may say something like:
 - Hey, how's it going? I'm [insert name].
 - What made you interested in stopping by?
 - Are you familiar with Catholic Relief Services?
 - Are you interested in learning about and supporting migrants and refugees?
 - Journeys are part of everyone's lives. I'm sure you can think of a recent journey you've been on, long or short, near or far... maybe even just your walk across campus today. This table displays some of the journeys and stories of people who are currently migrants and refugees. I hope you can take a few minutes to learn about their journeys and then take action to support them.

EDUCATION AND STORIES

- Encourage visitors to the table to take a look at the stories of migrants from around the world and to reflect on them. You may say something like:
 - You can see some quick examples here on the main poster about 6 people and families from around the world who were forced to flee their hometowns. Then, you can read more details on the one-pagers you see displayed.
 - There are lots of differences in the stories and also some similarities. It's helpful to put ourselves in the shoes of migrants and refugees and to try to understand some of what they experience as they struggle for safety for themselves and their families.
 - [After they read] What did you notice? Did anything strike you?

ADVOCACY

- You will need plenty of Shoe Advocacy Letters and pens. You will also want to print copies of the adapted instructions sheet, but you will also want to help walk people through the process. You can guide them based on the following talking points.
 - Now that you've had a chance to read some stories of the realities that migrants and refugees experience, you can take concrete action right now to positively affect the policies that our country has around migration. [Here, you can reference some of the talking points and asks from the current I am Migration Advocacy Letter/Ask, which can be found here, and which you will include on the instructions sheet.].

- It's up to us to use our voices to call for change. We are one of over 100 campuses across the country participating in CRS's I am Migration campaign, so you're one of many students from coast to coast taking action in this way.
- We are going to mail [or "deliver"] this entire collection of shoes to each of our 2 senators and 1 representative to make an impact, but first they will be used to continue to add to our display here today to show others on campus how many of us care.
- You can see on the instructions sheet that all you need to do is take 3 separate shoes. On each, write our University's mailing address and then write out a few points describing your desire for our country to support migrants and refugees. Each of the letters can be exactly the same, but need to be addressed to the 3 separate legislators we are sending to. You can just copy some of the points from the instructions sheet as well as reference the stories you've read or your own experiences.
- Then, you can add your shoe to the display [provide instructions and materials for pinning, taping, etc.]
- *Alternative:* Instead of or as an option in addition to the Shoe Advocacy Letters, you can also have laptops available for table visitors to quickly sign an online I am Migration advocacy letter, which will go automatically to their senators and representative.

RAFFLE

- You may want to use a raffle for an incentive or just for fun.
 - Incentivizing signing advocacy letters: You can tell people that if they sign advocacy letters, they will be entered into a raffle for the CRS Ethical Trade product(s) you are giving away.
 - Incentivizing getting contact information: If you are looking to grow your email list so that you have names and contact information to invite people to your next event, you can collect that information in exchange for entering the raffle.
- If you are raffling off a CRS Ethical Trade item, you may want to learn a little bit about the story so that you can share this with table visitors. You can also share that purchasing ethically sourced products supports people to earn a fair wage as well as works against climate change by supporting environmentally friendly practices. Lack of employment and climate-related disasters are often some of the push factors for migration and will continue to exacerbate the migration crisis. People with access to jobs that pay a fair wage are often more resilient than those who are unpaid or underpaid for their labor. Additionally, those experiencing migration are more vulnerable to being trafficked for sex or labor. Purchasing from CRS Ethical Trade partners and other intentional consumption can help to ensure that there's no support for products made with trafficking in their supply chains.

SOCIAL MEDIA

- Part of Pope Francis's International Migration Campaign includes the gesture, spirituality, and mindset of "reaching out" to others in hospitality and welcome. During the tabling event, invite people to extend their arms in a gesture of welcome and post these pictures using #ShareJourney and #IamMigration.

POST-TABLING EVENT FOLLOW-UP

ADVOCACY

- Make sure to actually send or deliver the Shoe Advocacy Letters to the proper Congressmen and Congresswomen. Here are some tips:
 - Your letters will have the most impact if they are hand delivered to local offices. [Check out these tips](#) on how to set up a meeting with your member of Congress.
 - If you can't hand deliver the letters to members, it's best to mail them to their local or district offices. Send them in bulk to the Representatives and Senators for maximum impact. You can find senators' addresses by visiting www.senate.gov, and representatives by visiting www.house.gov.

RAFFLE/CONTACTS

- Have a drawing for the CRS Ethical Trade raffle item (Refugee Campaign socks or other item) and give the recipient his or her prize.
- If you gathered contact information for new people, be sure to reach out to them to thank them for stopping by and taking action. And, don't forget to invite them to your next event or meeting.

I AM MIGRATION SHOE ADVOCACY LETTERS

INSTRUCTIONS SHEET

NOTE: THIS IS A SAMPLE; FILL IN THE BLANK TEMPLATE ON THE NEXT PAGE WITH YOUR INFORMATION WHERE YOU SEE YELLOW HIGHLIGHTED INFORMATION BELOW.

1. **TAKE 3 SHOE ADVOCACY LETTER TEMPLATES + A PEN.**
2. **WRITE YOUR NAME & COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY ADDRESS ON ALL 3.**
 - CHRIS LACKEY
SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
700 TERRACE HEIGHTS
WINONA, MN 55987
3. **ADDRESS THE LETTERS TO THE 1 REPRESENTATIVE AND 2 SENATORS THAT REPRESENT YOUR CAMPUS. [YOU CAN TYPE IN YOUR ZIP CODE [HERE](#) TO FIND THEIR NAMES]**
 - REPRESENTATIVE NAME: **TIM WALZ**
 - SENATOR 1 NAME: **AL FRANKEN**
 - SENATOR 2 NAME: **AMY KLOBUCHAR**
4. USE THE FRONT AND BACK TO **WRITE YOUR LETTER**. IT SHOULD BE SOME COMBINATION OF:
 - Who you are and who you represent (college students, your campus, CRS)
 - Why you care about the issue (something from a story that touched you, a personal experience, a personal conviction, your faith)
 - What you want your legislator to do. Current asks that CRS recommends are: [you can pull them from the most updated *I am Migration* advocacy letter at [HTTP://UNIVERSITY.CRS.ORG/MIGRATION](http://UNIVERSITY.CRS.ORG/MIGRATION)].
 1. PROTECT FUNDING FOR POVERTY-FOCUSED HUMANITARIAN AND DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE.
 2. FIND DIPLOMATIC SOLUTIONS TO SOLVE THIS GLOBAL HUMANITARIAN CRISIS

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 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
 - 4.