Nueva Esperanza accompaniment program works with congregations to form an accompaniment team made up of 5 people that walk alongside newly arrived immigrants from 6 months - 1 year in their local community

- 5 volunteers comprise a team

- Teams need a strong Team Lead. The team lead will facilitate monthly team meetings to navigate group dynamics and coordinate tasks according to each team member's role.

- Ensure a congregation is committed to supporting your team. This congregation will be called upon for resources, fund-raising, emotional support, and encouragement. Communicate your intentions and motivations, get their acknowledgement and buy-in, and have an accurate sense of how they are willing to support.
  
  ▶ For those who are not strongly connected to a congregation, there are opportunities to join a pre-existing team as interpreter, offer housing hospitality, or be in solidarity with immigrants through other IM4HI programs

- Accompaniment requires flexibility, time, endurance, and commitment. Teams require high levels of endurance and compassion when things get tough. Be sure each other are on-board to stay committed, and understand each other's motivation
  
  ▶ Minimum 6 month commitment to walk with a family
  
  ▶ Requires approximately 3-4 hours per week, per person
  
  ▶ Monthly team meetings and check-ins with the Coordinator after three and six months of accompaniment
  
  ▶ Flexibility and openness to attending to urgent and crisis matters as needed

- All team members must be fully trained to be matched with a family. Accompaniment trainings are held throughout the Bay Area 2x/year.

- It is highly recommended to have at least one team member who can communicate in the family's preferred language in as the team interpreter. There may be volunteer interpreters we can pair with your team if needed.

For more information, please contact the NEAT Coordinator, Kelly Younger, at kyounger@im4humanintegrity.org