

Support Diatha and Jean Simon's Family to get to Safety



Jean Simon was separated from his pregnant wife, Diatha, and three daughters at the border, 2021. He met his newborn son months after he was born.

After leaving Haiti due to unsafe, unstable conditions and gang violence the Bell family fled to Chile where they spent years trying to work to provide for their family. Without proper work authorization this became increasingly difficult, and the family decided to make their way to the United States. Having only enough money for Diatha and their daughters to make the trip, they made the difficult decision to have Jean Simon and their son Jeffley stay behind in Chile to continue working until they were able to fund the trip for their reunification.

Diatha and her daughters went through an incredibly perilous journey to the United States and spent a week under the Del Rio Bridge at the Texas border without food or water. At the time, Diatha was pregnant and was in immense pain due to the conditions she was facing. She was able to get authorization to enter the United States with her daughters and they were finally able to travel to Oakland, CA. After weeks of feeling discomfort, Diatha was able to seek medical care and her family's journey in the United States began with housing, medical, and employment issues. After months had passed, Jean Simon and Jeffley were eventually reunited with the rest of their family (and new baby!) and have been well connected to social services in the Bay Area through Interfaith Movement for Human Integrity.

Read these articles about Daitha and her family to learn more:

12/13/21 Article when Diatha first arrived here:

<https://www.sfchronicle.com/eastbay/article/A-Haitian-family-risked-their-lives-to-make-it-to-16695358.php>

2/15/22 Article update when Jean Simon reunited with Diatha

<https://www.sfchronicle.com/eastbay/article/Is-a-Haitian-family-s-struggle-to-reunite-in-16827232.php>

Fundraiser detailing more of Diatha's story:

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/haitian-family-in-oakland-seeking-support>

Pictures of family members they hope to reunite with!



Diatha's older sister, 38, in hiding



Jean Simon's sister, Marionese, hopes to join her brother in Alameda, CA



Father-in-law to Diatha's brother who wants to come to Oakland to be with his daughter and four grandchildren, including their newborn