



Advocates For Immigrants in Detention Northwest

NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2020

AIDNW office : 1915 S Sheridan Ave Tacoma, WA 98405



YOUR DONATIONS AT WORK AUGUST 2020

Immigrants served	10
Stays at the Hospitality /Hotel	0
Welcome backpacks handed out	8
Letters written to detainees	75
Transportation given	3
Volunteer hours	528



422 SKEINS OF YARN!!!

On September 4, Visitation volunteer Martha delivered to Stephanie, a Welcome Center volunteer, an AMAZING amount of donated yarn. Deborah Cruz, Program Manager, met with ICE officials and received permission to set up an arts and craft bank for the detainees.

Katherine, our Visitation Coordinator, put out the call; collection and delivery were coordinated by Deborah, and the office intern. The hospitality volunteers sorted, logged and packed the donations and Martha and Mary Clare, another visitation volunteer took care of the deliveries !! Many willing hands helped deliver 422 skeins (so far!) to the Detention Center.

It is with much gratitude and joy that we say **THANK YOU** to all of our

donors and volunteers who sprang into action to make this happen!

Detainees have received yarn and other supplies and are calling our hotline to **THANK AIDNW** for helping them to use their time constructively.

WANT TO LEARN MORE?



Awareness is a critical part of the work of AIDNW.

Our Speakers Group is currently presenting

VIA ZOOM

to Churches, Synagogues, Temples, Mosques, Service Clubs, Schools and others who might be interested in learning about immigration, detention, the Northwest ICE Processing Center and the work of AIDNW. If you would like a presentation please contact:

EMAIL: dcruz@aidnw.org



RE-LAUNCH FOR OUR fb PAGE



In an effort to reach out more effectively on social media, we have **launched a new** facebook page (www.facebook.com/aidnwtacoma) and INSTAGRAM page. Go to the site! **LIKE IT!!** And **SHARE IT** with you friends, neighbors, family!!

The more folks know about us and our mission, the more we can accomplish; so **SPREAD THE WORD!**



Fall Fundraising Dinner Cancelled

We will not be able to hold our Fall Fundraising Dinner this year, given the health risks. We are grateful for your continued support of AIDNW, and we look forward to seeing you at next year's event.

WELCOME CENTER STORY

Many of the Welcome Center volunteers relate stories about how grateful the detainees are for the help we can offer. Here is a recent story:

"the man told me that he was so upset when he got here because conditions were so bad in the Ca ICE facility, he was nervous about what he would find here. He said "In the CA one, you needed God to get through it." Then he found out he was being released and was not even sure where he was and how would he get to his friend etc. He finally confided in someone who said "Just go to the RV. The people there are very nice and will help you with anything you need." He was skeptical and asked a few others who gave him the same answer! He said "Now I see that they were right. You people are doing such a service! You do not treat me like a criminal. You are helping me. " If we could have, I would have hugged him! "



<https://aidnw.org/how-to-donate/>

NEXT COMMUNITY MEETING

Register now for our next Community Meeting on Wednesday, September 16th from 9:30-11:00 A.M, on Zoom, featuring Guest Speaker Sarah Jackson, Executive Director of Casa de Paz in Denver Colorado.

Casa de Paz serves immigrants released from the Aurora Detention Center. She is also the author of "The House that Love Built".

AIDNW Program Manager Deborah visited Casa de Paz in 2018 and will also be sharing what she learned there. Register by sending an email to officevolunteer@aidnw.org , and a Zoom link will be sent to you the day before the meeting .



Changes to our programs under COVID 19

The AIDNW **Welcome Center** is working outdoors and we are taking all necessary precautions to protect both our volunteers and our guests.

Hospitality House is only accepting people who are released who need to wait a few hours for transportation. No overnight stays are allowed at this time.

PDAN volunteer drivers are busy taking released immigrants to the airport or to hotels for overnight stays before airport travel.

Visits are not allowed inside the Detention Center, but our volunteer visitors continue to connect with detainees by writing letters.

Clothing and other in-kind **donations** are being accepted only through our Amazon Wish list and can no longer be dropped at the house.

Monetary donations are accepted through the mail and the website <https://aidnw.org/how-to-donate/>