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.
**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!"

**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/](https://aidnw.org/how-to-donate/).