



Advocates For Immigrants in Detention Northwest

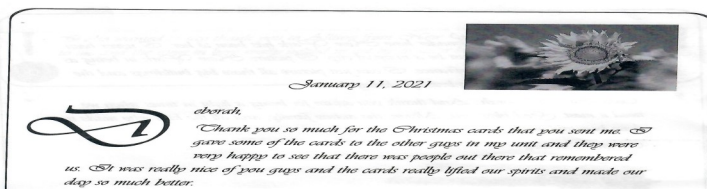
NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2021

AIDNW office : 1915 S Sheridan Ave Tacoma, WA 98405
253-572-9659



OUR WORK IS APPRECIATED!



In January, Program Manager Deborah Cruz, received a letter from a person who had been in the Detention Center. He wrote about how long and dreary the days were. He and those in the center were very grateful for the cards and letters that were sent to them." It was really nice of you guys and the cards really lifted our spirits and made our days so much better."

He wrote about how lonely it was with no one to talk to, "Receiving your letters let us know that we are not forgotten. Your generosity also gives us hope and motivation to also help others when we can."

This program is overseen by Katherine Niall, another wonderful volunteer at AIDNW. She organized the visitation program until COVID closed that program down. Not to be deterred, Katherine turned this into a vibrant letter writing program. Many volunteers write monthly, send holiday and birthday cards and stamps. As our correspondent said "I honestly think you guys are angels sent from above."

Thank you to Katherine and all those who work to stay in communication with those detained.

YOUR DONATIONS AT WORK	
FEBRUARY 2021	
Immigrants served	17
Hospitality House	4
Stays at Hotel	1
Welcome backpacks handed out	14
Letters written to detainees	80
Transportation	6
Volunteer hours	554.95
Host Home	1

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



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

SPOTLIGHT ON VOLUNTEER JAIME CONLON



Jaime has been a volunteer with the AIDNW visitation program for the last year, shortly after she moved to the Pacific NW from Georgia. She is also a hotline volunteer for WAISN—the Washington Immigrant Solidarity Network. A visit to an immigration detention center in Georgia was a transformational moment for her, when she heard firsthand about the trauma people inside endure. She was glad to find something similar in Washington, and “doubly glad to find such a caring, passionate community of all kinds of individuals like me at AIDNW.” She really enjoys getting to meet people and hear about their lives throughout the Visitation Program, “especially when so many people inside are made to feel like no one cares or wants to listen.”



BRUSH UP ON YOUR SPANISH

A small group of AIDNW and World Relief volunteers meet through Zoom every Wednesday at 4 pm to practice their Spanish. Conversations have ranged from travel stories to the music of Mexico. Participants have intermediate to advanced level conversational Spanish. If you would like to join in, send an email to: Aviva9999@gmail.com



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NEXT COMMUNITY MEETING

Register now for our next COMMUNITY MEETING
If you would like to attend this meetings ,please email
officevolunteer@aidnw.org.

COMMUNITY MEETING APRIL 21.2021, 9.30—11 AM

A link will be sent out a few days 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 While overnight stays to traveling immigrants are no longer possible, we now offer extended stays of 3 – 6 months to immigrants who plan to make their home in the area (COVID test required).

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/>