



NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2021

AIDNW office : 1915 S Sheridan Ave Tacoma, WA 98405

253-572-9659

NEW HOSPITALITY HOUSE

HOST COORDINATOR



Franklin is from Nicaragua. He won asylum and stayed at the AIDNW hospitality house in 2019 for a couple of months until World relief was able to find him permanent housing. Deborah had remained in touch with Franklin over the years and when Franklin heard about the position he applied and after the interview process, he was hired! Franklin said he was very happy to be able to help people who had struggled to get to this country as he did and on his first day, he cooked a Peruvian meal for his first guest, a gentleman from Venezuela. They enjoyed a meal and Franklin took him for a ride to the waterfront after so he could clear his head from all of his struggles. We are very blessed to have Franklin as our new Host Coordinator.



YOUR DONATIONS AT WORK

AUGUST 2021

Immigrants served	459
Hospitality House	0
Hotel Rooms	6
Welcome backpacks handed out	163
Letters written to detainees	80
Transportation	153
Volunteer hours	1614.75
Host Home	19

WISH LIST—UPDATED!

With the dramatic increase in people being released at the WELCOME CENTER, also come the need for more items to help them.

Click on this site for the updated wish list.

https://www.amazon.com/gp/registry/wishlist/24RV3TX9BJ6KN/ref=cm_wl_huc_view

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Court Orders ICE to Test Detainees

On August 23, a federal district court ordered ICE to test detained immigrants before transporting them to the Northwest ICE Processing (detention) Center. The decision came in a case on behalf of a class of medically vulnerable detained immigrants brought by the Northwest Immigrant Rights Project (NWIRP) and the American Civil Liberties Union.

(ACLU). Petitioners argued that ICE was not complying with CDC guidance and knowingly transferred untested detainees, creating the potential for a detainee who unknowingly has COVID-19 to transmit it to others.

AIDNW MATCH CAMPAIGN

The surge in releases has required a surge in supplies, volunteer time and energy, organizational capacity, and institutional bandwidth to support the number of immigrant detainees at our doorstep. To continue addressing the need to the best of our ability, **we are launching an emergency fundraising campaign to run for the next ten days — until Friday, Sept. 17. A long-time donor to AIDNW has kicked things off by offering a matching grant of \$5,000. We now welcome donations in any amount to go toward matching their generous offer.**

The Match campaign is an opportunity to raise \$10,000 or more to cover our increased costs due to triple the immigrant releases since mid June. As the weather turns cool and immigrants continue to be released in double digits, we are in ever greater need of funding to supply temporary shelter, warm layers, transportation aid, food, and phone charging stations to help folks make their way to a safe home. The need is right in front of us and is not slowing down.

For online donations, **Karma Payments** we can accept both one-time and recurring donations, which can be set up at any frequency you choose, using Visa, MasterCard, Discover, American Express or your bank account. Donations may still be made through **PayPal** if you prefer. Through Karma, AIDNW does receive a greater portion of your donation than those made through PayPal, by asking you to pay a processing fee when you donate.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

KATHERINE KEEPS US IN THE KNOW!

Pen pals are needed for immigrants detained in the NW detention center. We have requests, all men, Mexico, China Cambodia and from Philippines. You need to fill out a volunteer application Please call or text Katherine at 480/748-0577 if you want a pen pal!

NEXT COMMUNITY MEETING

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

OCTOBER 20, 2021 9.30-11 am

A link will be sent out a few days before the meeting.

WELCOME CENTER NEWS UPDATE

By **BILL LLOYD**

With the recent increase in asylum seekers being released from detention, volunteers at the Welcome Center are in almost constant motion, working out who needs assistance, and what kind, and how best to meet those needs. In previous years (pre-Covid) the normal shift at the Welcome Center was from 3 – 7 pm with just 2-3 volunteers. We usually greeted from 3-9 released immigrants, often at around 4:30. The guests often went either to the Sikh temple, our Hospitality House, or to the airport bus. Nowadays we have from 3 to sometimes 10 or more volunteers welcoming from 10 to 50 guests! Until the Hospitality House reopens, we're now sending guests without solid travel arrangements to World Relief host homes as available, local shelters, and occasionally to a hotel. Others are assisted with travel arrangements and then taken to the airport bus, or sometimes directly to the airport where they wait for flights. The travel arrangements are often problematic, requiring extra time to process, which puts volunteers working until 9:00-10:00, or later— even 1:30 am in one case! This is all good news, as we welcome new folks to our country and help them along. For us volunteers, it is an exciting time! The joy and gratitude we witness over and over is recompense for the long hours, but it is exhausting. The donated food, backpacks, beverages, clothes and toiletries are being consumed at an alarming rate as well, so please visit our website where you can volunteer or donate to our mission.

Donate

