

OCTOBER 2021

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



Emergency Match Fundraiser a Success!

With the surge in releases and therefore guests outside the detention center this summer, AIDNW has done a lot of quick adapting recently. To keep that momentum, we launched an emergency funding campaign last month, and have once again been humbled by the generosity of so many giving individuals near and far.

The online fundraiser took place over ten days in early September. One long-time supporter offered a matching grant of \$5,000 to kick-start the event, and supporters and volunteers stepped up from there! After the window closed and results were tallied, the total raise came to \$15907.41 -- far surpassing our goal!

AIDNW is continually grateful to all who were able to give at this rapidly changing time in our operations. We also want to extend a resounding THANK YOU to our Welcome Center and PDAN volunteers who have given an extraordinary amount of time and energy to this work over the past several months especially. Much gratitude to everyone for sending us into fall on strong footing.



YOUR DONATIONS AT WORK **SEPTEMBER 2021** Immigrants served 108 **Hospitality House** 7 **Hotel Rooms** 0 Welcome backpacks handed out 81 Letters written to detainees **75** Transportation 100 1090.5 Volunteer hours

WISH LIST—UPDATED!

With the dramatic increase in people being released at the WELCOME CENTER, also comes the need for more items to help them. Please see our updated list on our website:

aidnw.org

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

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 con-

tact: EMAIL: dcruz@aidnw.org



Those Inside With The Outside

People detained in the NW ICE Processing Center can not only request to be matched with visitation volunteers (currently pen pals) from AIDNW but they can also request telephone credits to be able to call their families or legal representatives. We've given \$9,000 toward phone credits this year, in \$20 credits per person per month, and recently increased the yearly budget to \$12,000 to be able to answer the need.

Greyhound will no longer allow warrantless immigration sweeps on its buses in Washington

Greyhound Lines, the nation's largest intercity bus company, will stop letting immigration agents conduct warrantless sweeps of its buses and stations and pay \$2.2 million in legal fees and restitution under a lawsuit settlement with the state of Washington. The new settlement requires the company to take specific steps and document its efforts to do so in Washington, as well as cover the state's legal fees and pay restitution to passengers who were detained, arrested, or deported after immigration agents boarded their bus.

Friday's settlement — filed one business day before trial was set to begin — requires the bus company to create and publicly display a policy not allowing immigration agents to board its buses in Washington without a warrant or reasonable suspicion, to train bus operators on the policy, and to report to the attorney general's office how often immigration agents are boarding its buses in the state.



NEXT COMMUNITY MEETING

Register now for our next COMMUNITY MEETING If you would like to attend the meeting, please email

officevolunteer@aidnw.org.

Our guest speaker will be Mary Fortana, Volunteer Coordinator of Annunciation House in El Paso, Texas. Annunciation House (https://annunciationhouse.org/) offers hospitality, shelter, clothing, food and other services to migrants, immigrants, and refugees in the border region of El Paso.

OCTOBER 20, 2021 9.30-11 am

A link will be sent prior to the meeting.

WELCOME CENTER NEWS - Care To Join The Fun?

Fall has arrived and winter is fast approaching! Thankfully, we are well prepared at the Welcome Center now with two heavy weather tents, both with a heater and lights. We've also gotten a new laptop for the RV to help facilitate travel planning. It's good to know we're adaptable and ready for whatever comes our way, thanks to a great RV support crew, including Scott and Mark (tents, heat), and Ken for the lights. Lately, releases from the detention center have been sporadic, with some nights no releases and other nights up to twenty. With our recent call for volunteers we've gotten quite a few newbies, such that with volunteers, trainees and released detainees it can be quite busy and hectic, but also festive and rewarding, not to mention crowded in spite of best efforts to maintain distancing. We are still seeking to add more volunteers, especially Spanish-speakers, to our roster, so if you're interested, please check our website aidnw.org--where you can find a job description for volunteers and a fillable volunteer application form to fill out. The buzz of activity when detainees are released, and their concomitant joy is a rewarding incentive indeed!

KATHERINE KEEPS US IN THE KNOW!

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