



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

YOUR DONATIONS AT WORK OCTOBER 2020

Immigrants served	15
Stays at Hotel	1
Welcome backpacks handed out	12
Letters written to detainees	45
Transportation given	6
Volunteer hours	137



AIDNW GIVE LIGHT FUNDRAISER STARTS NOW

Today, November 9th, is the official launch of our biggest fundraiser of the year, "Give Light to Northwest Immigrant Detainees." The three-week drive will take place **totally online**.

The fundraiser will culminate on Giving Tuesday (the Tuesday after Thanksgiving), a National Day dedicated to supporting non-profits and great causes. **Our goal between now and December 1 is to raise \$30,000** to support AIDNW's operations and programming throughout the winter and much of next year. We're counting on volunteers and followers to help us reach our goal. To participate, there are two main things we are asking:

1. **Donate what you can.** You can give online through our fundraising page at: <https://secure.givelively.org/donate/advocates-for-immigrants-in-detention-northwest/give-light-to-northwest-immigrant-detainees>
2. **Reach out to friends and family members** to encourage donations from like-minded people in your network. You can use the tools at the link above to set up your own personal fundraising page, or simply forward the link directly. We will also follow up this week with more suggestions and guidelines on how to spread the word about AIDNW's work and the need here in Tacoma.

Please keep an eye out for another email with more details in the coming days! We'll share more on incentives for donations and suggested challenges to bring more awareness on social media. All in all, we hope you will enjoy taking part in whatever way you can!

We appreciate all of you and the various ways that you already give, too. Please contact AIDNW-Donations@aidnw.org with any questions.

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: dacruz@aidnw.org



BOARD CHAIR'S ANNUAL REPORT

Hello AIDNW Community,

The AIDNW Board of Directors has begun the process of discerning goals for AIDNW in 2021. The combination of the Covid-19 pandemic and current Federal immigration policies has significantly impacted our ability to offer assistance to immigrant detainees in 2020. The largest impact has been on our Welcome Center and Hospitality House Programs.

Welcome Center Program: *In September 2020 only Z immigrants released from detention were served by AIDNW. In September 2019 that figure was 99 immigrants who came from 21 different countries. (read more [LINK](#))*

REMINDER: LIKE AND SHARE AIDNW ON fb and Instagram !

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!**



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

Recently, two men were released on the same night. One was from Cuba, and one was from Yemen. One was helped inside the RV, the other was helped in our new winter tent. As we gathered the Cuban man to take him to his friends, the man from Yemen saw him and began shouting. The two ran towards each other and by emphatically shouting “ 6 FEET APART! “ we were able to keep them at a safe distance.

After all the shouting and virtual hugging, they told us that they were “bunkmates’!. One slept on the top bunk and the other slept on the bunk underneath.

They were so excited to see each other and to know that the other was out and safe and moving on to a new life . It was a pleasure to see their delight in each other’s good fortune.

NEXT COMMUNITY MEETING

Register now for our next Community Meeting on Wednesday, November 18, 2020 9:30 – 11:00 a.m. Najib Nazhat, Program Manager of asylum assistance for Refugees Northwest in SeaTac and Basel Moussely Program Manager of migrant services for LIRS in Maryland will be speaking together on how they work together to help refugees and asylum seekers both locally and nationally. If you would like to attend, please email officevolunteer@aidnw.org.

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/>