



FROM KARI GALLOWAY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Happy New Year! Special thanks to everyone who helped Guest House during 2013. Your gifts made the difference -- every day -- for the wonderful women we serve. This year, 2014, marks the **40th anniversary of Friends of Guest House**, founded in 1974 by a Federal parolee, Betty McConkey. Betty and you, our supporters, can be proud of the good you have done. Please continue your support. Let's make 2014 the best year yet! Thanks, Kari

DONATE ONLINE



MEET OUR CLIENTS



TONIA: "Right before I got arrested, I was sitting in my hotel room and I was just tired. Tired of getting high, tired of shoplifting, tired of the life I was living. I didn't know how to get out of it. I prayed and I said, 'God, whatever it is You have to do to get me out of this lifestyle, just do it, because I can't do it by myself.' And three hours later, I was sitting in the Newport News City Jail! It's not what I intended, but ..." [Read more](#)

NEW! MOBILE OUTREACH PROGRAM

Street Outreach: Meeting People Where They Are

Started this fall, the Guest House Mobile Outreach Program takes our services to at-risk people *where they are* -- from "hot spots" of illicit activity to shelters for the homeless. "This is essentially preventive work" ... [Read more](#)



"BAN THE BOX" BILL FOR VIRGINIA

More Job Interviews, More Jobs for Ex-Offenders

For Virginia's 2014 legislative session, Del. Rob Krupicka (45th District) introduced a "Ban the Box" bill to remove questions about criminal history from initial Virginia State Government job applications. Part of a growing national trend ... [Read more](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

**THURS., JAN. 30 * 6:30-8:00 pm
BUSINESS ROUNDTABLE**

"[Hiring ex-offenders makes good sense](#)," says business owner Paul Haire, of Your Dogs' Best Friends. This roundtable explores the business/ex-offender interface: challenges and opportunities. Guest House is a member of the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce. All welcome.

> **Location:** Guest House, One East Luray Ave., Alexandria
> **More info & signup:** Call 703-549-8072 or [send us email](#)

**SAT., FEB. 8 * GUEST HOUSE
VOLUNTEER TRAINING**

> **All volunteers: 9:00-11:30 am**
> **Mentors: 9:00 am - 2:30 pm**
Volunteers needed! [Learn more here](#) and attend our next training.

> **More info & signup:** Call 703-549-8072 or [send us email](#)

THANK YOU, HOLIDAY SEASON SUPPORTERS ...

Year-End Donors

In response to our appeals, holiday season donors contributed more than \$20,000. Many of those donations were [in honor of](#) friends and loved ones. Others sent [gift cards](#), so our clients could buy essential items -- from groceries to warm winter clothes -- at stores such as CVS, Giant Food, Target, Safeway, Shoppers Food Warehouse and Walmart. Thanks to all!

St. Mary's, St. Charles Borromeo Youth Groups

In November, four Guest House graduates -- through our [Speakers Bureau](#) -- made a presentation to Second Sundays @6: a Youth Ministry program at [St. Mary's Episcopal Church](#) in Arlington. In thanks,



the youth group volunteered to decorate the Guest House for the holidays. Joining them were volunteers from [St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church](#), also of Arlington. Beautiful job!

ACT for Alexandria

Thank you, ACT, for featuring Friends of Guest House -- and our participation in Project LEAD -- as part of your 2013 year-end online campaign. [Read more.](#)

Ford Motor Company

Special holiday thanks to the Ford Motor Company for lending us a fleet car, so we could deliver more services to our clients at this busy time of year. [Read more.](#)

Alternative Giving Fairs, First Night Alexandria

Each Sunday before Christmas, Alternative Giving Fairs at Alexandria's [Old Presbyterian Meeting House](#) and [Westminster Presbyterian Church](#) featured Guest House tables -- where our clients and volunteers sold jewelry (made by our clients), signed up volunteers and otherwise spread the word about our cause.

On New Year's Eve, as part of [First Night Alexandria](#), we had a booth at the [Downtown Baptist Church](#) -- attracting new friends, volunteers and funds as well. Thanks to all!

STAY CONNECTED



OUR WEBSITE

www.friendsofquesthouse.org

PROUD MEMBER OF



United Way
of the National Capital Area

UW #8583 | CFC #69155