



NOVEMBER 2013 NEWS

With the holidays near and 2013 winding down, we encourage our wonderful Guest House community ... Designate Guest House in the **CFC** and **United Way** campaigns, before they end. ... **Give directly to Guest House** by clicking **DONATE ONLINE** (yellow box, right) or by mailing us your check. ... Consider giving winter **coats, hats and gloves**: [more info here](#).

Thank you. Happy Thanksgiving from Friends of Guest House!

CONGRATULATIONS!

2013 Aftercare Program Graduates Honored

On Saturday afternoon, October 12, the annual Guest House Aftercare Graduation Ceremony celebrated nine women who had successfully completed the program this year. Held at the Alexandria Grace Brethren Church, the event featured inspiring remarks by Walter B. Ridley, who encouraged graduates to stay on their current paths, work hard and let this transition be an experience they proudly share with their children and loved ones. He shared his own story, too: from growing up in the "projects" ... [Read more](#)



Guest House Executive Director Kari Galloway (left) with a new graduate of the Aftercare Program.

"A NIGHT OF TRANSFORMATION"

Nov. 7 Guest House Fundraiser: Thank You, Supporters and Friends!

More than 100 supporters--donors, volunteers, clients and other friends--attended our second annual fall fundraiser, "A Night of Transformation," held on Thursday evening, Nov. 7, 2013, at Alexandria's Collingwood Library and Museum: once a part of George Washington's River Farm. In total, the event raised more than \$10,000. The night began ... [Read more](#)



More than 100 supporters attended "A Night of Transformation." Find the names of some of the people in the above photo [here](#).

MORE FROM GUEST HOUSE ...

Guest House Clients Inspire Youth at St. Mary's Episcopal Church

On Nov. 10, four Guest House clients made presentations at Second Sundays @6: a Youth Ministry program at St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Arlington. About 32 youths (6th to 12 grades) attended. The women discussed their transitions from incarceration to Guest House and the changes in their lives since returning to society. "I am so thankful for the honesty of the women and for taking time to share their journey with the teenagers," said Sue Cromer, St. Mary's Youth Minister. "Our youth also had a great time." ... [Read more](#)



Youth group listens to clients: (onstage, l. to r.), Tasheika, Deborah, Courtney and Aleyda.

Winter Clothing, Other Seasonal Items Needed

During the holidays, we think of festive gifts like toys for the kids and jewelry for the ladies. **But it's cold outside!** The women of Guest House need practical items, too. Here is their wish list. Donate items you have, take up a collection or purchase new. Contact us at info@friendsofguesthouse.org or 703-549-8072 for specifics about clothing. Or purchase "year-round" gift cards online by clicking the links below.

- > Winter coats*
- > Warm scarves
- > Boots: waterproof
- > Raincoats*
- > Gloves: warm or waterproof
- > Hats: warm or waterproof

*Best sizes: L - 2X

Welcomed year-round: Gift cards ([Target](#), [WalMart](#), [CVS](#), [Giant](#), [Safeway](#), [Shopper's Food Warehouse](#)); [Metro SmarTrip](#)® cards.

STAY CONNECTED



OUR WEBSITE

www.friendsofguesthouse.org

DONATE ONLINE



PROUD MEMBER OF



United Way
of the National Capital Area

[UW #8583](#) | [CFC #69155](#)

MEET OUR CLIENTS



STEFANIE: "Welcome readers to your first residential newsletter made by the community for the community." With those words, Stefanie debuted the *Guest House Grapevine*. Stefanie is a Residential Program client ... [Read more](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

TUES, DEC. 3 * ONE DAY! "GIVING TUESDAY" ONLINE FUNDRAISER

"Black Friday, Cyber Monday... After two days of shopping, a day to give back. December 3rd is #GivingTuesday" through Razoo. Visit <http://www.razoo.com/story/7-Gifts-For-Guest-House> to support Guest House.

GREAT GIFTS! Jewelry and other items hand-crafted by the women of Guest House. On sale at these "alternative giving fairs":

SUN., DEC. 8 & 15 ALTERNATIVE GIVING FAIR

[Westminster Presbyterian Church](#)

2701 Cameron Mills Rd.,
Alexandria; 703-549-4766

> Both days: 9:15 - 1:00

SUN., DEC. 15 & 22 ALTERNATIVE GIVING FAIR

[Old Presbyterian Meeting House](#)

323 S. Fairfax St., Alexandria;
703-549-6670

> On the 15th: 9:30 - 1:30

> On the 22nd: Noon - 2:00