



Terry is an activist for criminal justice reform. A sponsor to ex-offender women. And an ex-offender herself. She's walked a hard road. But today, "People don't see the Terry I used to be. They see the Terry who's striving--for her voter rights back and for a driver's license--being a mom, a grandmother--being an addict in recovery."

Guest House helps Northern Virginia women re-enter society from incarceration. This year, each eNews will share the story of one such woman. Meet Terry Garrett.

## **THE TERRY WHO'S STRIVING**



*A family reunion: Terry with her brother, just after his release from incarceration.*

One Friday afternoon in 2006, we almost lost Terry. Fresh from incarceration, newly arrived at Guest House, overwhelmed and trusting no one, Terry told Executive Director Kari Galloway, "I'm leaving!" Kari urged, "Just stay the weekend. Decide on Monday." Terry did stay, and she now sees that as her turning point: "If I'd walked out, I'd have gotten high and I'd probably be dead today."

And Northern Virginia would have lost an endlessly generous activist, worker, role model and friend--lost her before she'd had a chance to become "the woman God created me to be."...

CONTINUE READING

## **WHO DOESN'T LOVE A COME-BACK STORY?**

Friendly Rewinders Playback Theatre at Sidwell Friends School will present some interesting and inspiring scenes, at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 27. Please join Guest House residents and alums, who



will be in the audience sharing their stories, which "CTRL+ALT+DEL": Please  
Sidwell students will "act out" onstage in a attend! Saturday, Feb. 27  
production called "CTRL+ALT+DEL: Stories of  
Restarting and Remembering."

RESERVATIONS & MORE INFO HERE



*Deputy Secretary Lu (bottom, left) and Alexandria Mayor Allison Silberberg (second row, right) pose with clients and Executive Director Kari Galloway (just behind the mayor) outside Guest House.*

## **DEPUTY LABOR SECRETARY CHRIS LU VOLUNTEERS AT GUEST HOUSE**

"I want to encourage all the women of Guest House, the supporters, employers, local officials--everyone who touches the program--I want you all to know the work that you do here matters. It is good for the women, for their families, for society," stated Deputy Labor Secretary Chris Lu, who volunteered at Guest House on Jan. 15: a Day of Service activity honoring Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday. Alexandria Mayor Allison Silberberg joined us, too. Seeing the program and listening to the women, Lu continued, gave him a greater understanding and "will help inform the work that we do to further Department of Labor jobs programs for ex-offenders."

READ MEDIA COVERAGE - or - VIEW VIDEO

## **CBS RADIO FEATURES GUEST HOUSE**

On CBS Radio's "Washington Report," aired Feb. 20 and 21, host Stevie Bridgewaters profiled Guest House, interviewing Executive Director Kari Galloway and Terry Garrett, a graduate.

Stevie also shared her own story: her sister's addiction, her sister's son's incarceration and how the whole family is affected. A lively discussion!



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## **Friends of Guest House**

Since 1974, helping female ex-offenders re-enter the community from incarceration. Comprehensive. Intensive. Tailored to women's unique needs. "The only program of its kind for women in Northern Virginia" (Northern Regional Director, Virginia Department of Social Services). "They deal with us *from the core*" (former client). Friends of Guest House, Inc., is a 501(c)(3) public charity: Federal tax ID #51-0201327. Gifts to Guest House are tax-deductible as provided by law.

**Please help! Donate, volunteer & more ways here**

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