



## Spring 2015 eNews

FROM KARI GALLOWAY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: I'm pleased to share our latest news. Especially exciting is our Pre-Release Mentoring Program: a proven success that we hope to continue with additional funds. We also hope you'll participate in [June 4's "Do More 24" online fundraiser](#): here is an opportunity to help our community—conveniently, online. Thanks for your great support!

### DONATE ONLINE



### PRE-RELEASE MENTORING PROGRAM

#### Arlington Inmate-Mentees' Feedback "Extremely Positive"; Expansion Funding Sought

National studies have shown: **mentoring decreases re-offense rates by about 35%**. Having long run a Mentoring Program for our Residential clients, in July 2012 Guest House expanded the program to women *before* their release from incarceration. The first site has been the Arlington County Detention Facility. Since 2012, more than 80 pre-release women have become involved. "The response has been extremely positive," says Mary Lou Dunford, the Guest House Program Coordinator. We are now seeking funds to continue the program in Arlington and reach facilities elsewhere, too. [Read more](#)



### Meet Our Clients



**CALLIE:** Callie, now 51, grew up in the Hampton Roads, VA, area. "I had a really nice upbringing," she says, "no abuse issues" (although she adds wryly that she was "probably a little spoiled"). She graduated from high school and embarked on her adult life. But about 15 years later, in the mid-1990s, she started using crack cocaine; "and once I was introduced to that, my life took a terrible turn ...." [Read more](#)

### VIRGINIA "BANS THE BOX"

#### "People Who Pay the Price Should Be Given the Opportunity to Succeed"

On April 3, by Executive Order of Gov. Terry McAuliffe, Virginia became the 15th state to "ban the box"—removing criminal history questions (and the old checkbox) from applications for most state jobs. Said the Governor: "People who make mistakes and pay the price should be welcomed ..." [Read the Governor's statement](#)

## MORE NEWS ...

### Sara Campbell "Fashion Show For a Cause," April 30, Benefits Guest House

Nearly 100 people attended [Sara Campbell's](#) Fashion Show For a Cause, April 30 at Alexandria's Principle Gallery. Guest House was the beneficiary, receiving 10% of sales proceeds from Sara's beautiful spring line--and \$2,500 in "night-of" donations. Thanks to all!



*At the show: designer Sara Campbell, left, with a Guest House client. (Photo, copyright [Steven E. Purcell](#))*



### Whole Foods 5% Day: Over \$7,500 to Guest House

Thursday, April 16, was 5% Day at the Whole Foods Market in Old Town Alexandria. Guest House was the featured charity that day--and received 5% of all the day's sales, providing more than \$7,500. Thank you, [Whole Foods Alexandria](#). And thank you, shoppers!

### Thank You, Spring2ACTion donors!

Friends of Guest House thanks everyone who contributed to [Spring2ACTion 2015](#): you put us over the top of our \$30,000 goal! Those funds will help many re-entering women and their families in our area. Spring2ACTion, held this year on April 22, is an annual online fundraiser sponsored by ACTion Alexandria, an initiative of ACT for Alexandria.

### Meet Kim Bauer, Volunteer Coordinator

To get more involved with Guest House, consider volunteering--a chance to do "literally anything under the sun," as Kim Bauer, our new Volunteer Coordinator, puts it. To learn more, fill a current need or suggest new ideas, contact Kim at [volunteer@friendsofguesthouse.org](mailto:volunteer@friendsofguesthouse.org) (email is best) or phone 703-549-8072. [Read about Kim's background here.](#)



## Upcoming Event

### Thurs., June 4 \* all day! "Do More 24" Online Fundraiser

24-hour online fundraiser. Support Guest House! Sponsored by United Way of the National Capital Area

> [Donate here](#)

> More info: 202-488-2009 or [questions@domore24.org](mailto:questions@domore24.org).

### Stay Connected



[www.friendsofguesthouse.org](http://www.friendsofguesthouse.org)

### PROUD MEMBER OF



United Way  
of the National Capital Area

UW # 8583 | CFC # 69155

Shop for the Cause! Here Are Three Great Ways:



Friends of Guest House helps female ex-offenders in Northern Virginia make the difficult transition from incarceration back into the community. 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.