



October 2013 eNews

Welcome to our first eNewsletter. We're excited to begin sharing our news in this format--and hope you'll spread the word by forwarding it to others. Thanks for your support!

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www.friendsofguesthouse.org

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Major Expansion Begins

Friends of Guest House Launches Fund-Raising Campaign: \$100,000 by June 2014

In December 2012, Virginia's Department of Corrections reached out to Guest House with a proposal: could we add seven beds to our 10-bed Residential Program? On a wing and a prayer, we said "yes"--and this spring, we launched an expansion fund-raising campaign with the goal of \$100,000 by June 2014. ... [Read more](#)

Guest House Plants More Than Just Seeds

AlexandriaNews.org, Sept. 7, 2013:

Friends of Guest House built a backyard garden that provides an opportunity for more than just plants to grow. The community garden is a joint project involving many individuals and organizations, all of whom reap some rewards.

With grant money from the [Virginia Cooperative Extension](#), Friends of Guest House purchased the materials to build a raised-bed garden in a corner of the yard. ... [Read more](#)



Executive director Kari Galloway (left) and master gardener Amy Reed with zucchini harvested from the Guest House garden (Photo: Katie Smythe)

More News

Northern Virginia Alliance League Selects Guest House as Featured Charity for 2013

Thanks to the Northern Virginia Alliance League (NVAL) for selecting Guest House as its 2013 featured charity. NVAL is a group of 42 women dedicated to aiding various charities within the community with financial support achieved through its fundraising activities. [Learn more about NVAL here.](#)



Palermino (center) with Guest House clients and staff.

Guest House Welcomes Jay Palermino, Alexandria Chamber of Commerce

On Sept. 9, we were pleased to welcome Jay Palermino, Membership Services & Sponsorship Investments Director of the [Alexandria Chamber of Commerce](#). Guest House is also a Chamber member. We will be part of an upcoming event for Alexandria's nonprofit and business communities.

Aug. 27 Open House Raises Friends & Support

Longstanding supporter Ann O'Hanlon opened her home for a Guest House "friendraiser" on Aug. 27. About 30 people attended. They generously contributed more than \$3,300 in [funds](#) and "[wish list](#)" items for our clients; also, many signed up to [volunteer](#), for example, helping clients find jobs and teaching fitness/nutrition as part of our life skills training program.

Meet Our Clients



ANGELA: "I am so proud to be standing where I'm standing today, because I'm working, I am able to support my own self and I have the resources which I got from the Friends of Guest House, that I love so much." [View Angela's video](#)

Upcoming Events

THURS., NOV. 7 (6:00-10:00) GUEST HOUSE FUNDRAISER

"A Night of Transformation." Reception, auction, live music & more--benefiting the work of Guest House. Location: Collingwood Library and Museum, in Alexandria. [More info here.](#)

[Auction items needed for fundraiser:](#) Right now, we are especially seeking auction items--from yoga sessions, to art classes, to gift certificates and more. To donate, email us at event@friendsofguesthouse.org

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.

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