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I'd like to give special THANKS to everyone who helped Wings get our new office! I love to go to work and see our beautiful space and lovely furnishings, which were all donated. Because of our office, Deborah Diaz has come to us through the NM Dept. of Aging and is our gifted and organized office manager. Our office allows us every week to have part-time staff and new volunteers come in and help us. Women from Teamworks have helped us do paperwork that would have taken me ages to get to. We have held community meetings at our office and are starting monthly training sessions for our volunteers, so they will be even more equipped to minister and help those we work with. Our office is a GREAT GIFT and as the wall hangings say, we REJOICE with our FRIENDS and are BLESSED!

New Office

— Ann Edenfield Sweet, Executive Director/Founder

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Banquet Sponsors

Gold $1,000 – Silver $500 – Bronze $300

Dinner Tickets $25 each

Keynote Speaker: The Rev. Dr. Pablo Diaz, VP of Ministries—Guideposts

Purchase tickets for yourself or sponsor seating for inmate family members. You don’t have to attend to be a banquet sponsor.

15th Anniversary Celebration Banquet

Friday — July 16, 2010

St. John’s United Methodist Church
2626 Arizona St. NE — Albuquerque
1 block N of Menaul—1 block E of San Pedro

Silent Auction Starts at 5:00     Dinner 6:30 pm

Donations are appreciated for the Silent & Live Auction. Ideas: Time-share vacations, river rafting, tickets to events (sports, theatre, entertainment), pottery, jewelry, arts and crafts, paintings, clothing, books, or gift certificates (hotels, restaurants, beauty salons, etc.)

Upcoming Dates

Donations of cookies, paper supplies, crafts and money for pizza are appreciated for all parties!

♦ Mar. 27—Albuquerque Easter Party— God’s House Wyoming & Menaul
2:00-4:00 set-up & training, party from 4:00—6:30.

♦ April 10—Tennessee Prison for Women—Nashville, TN

♦ May 8—Southern NM Correctional Institution—Las Cruces

♦ July 16—Albuquerque—Wings 15th Anniversary Celebration Banquet—St. John’s UMC—Albuquerque, NM

♦ Aug. 7—Back-To-School Party—Albuquerque

♦ Oct. 2—Springer Correctional Institution—Springer, NM

♦ Nov. 13—Guadalupe County Correctional—Santa Rosa, NM

♦ Dec. 4—Southeastern Correctional Institution—Lancaster, OH

♦ Dec. 11—16th Albuquerque Christmas Party—TBA

Volunteers are needed for all prison parties. Security clearances are required usually one month before date of party. Call 1-505-291-6412 to get your name on the list or email AnnEdenfield@WingsMinistry.org.
Wings for L.I.F.E.—ABQ

Wings for L.I.F.E. (WFL) has had a great start in 2010. We moved to Trinity United Methodist Church because we had outgrown the space at the YMCA. Our average attendance in 2009 was 36 people and in 2010 our average attendance increased to 50!

Workforce Links is a collaboration of State, Federal, City, County, CYFD, and non-profit organizations whose goal is to help returning citizens find and keep employment.

WFL is a part of this collaboration, and every 2nd Monday of each month, representative(s) from Workforce Links are the speaker(s) at WFL. We are not aware of any collaboration like this in the country. Another unique aspect of this collaboration is that the family members of the returning citizens and those on probation and parole are invited and encouraged to attend Wings for L.I.F.E. with their loved one!
Heart Special Thanks to our Sponsors Heart

- Jim Zanios—Food & supplies for Wings events
- Guideposts Magazine—Sweaters, magazines & books
- Family Life Radio—KFLQ, 91.5 FM, Albuquerque
- High Noon Restaurant & Saloon—Albuquerque WFL meals
- Domino’s Pizza, 5109 Coors Rd.—Albuquerque WFL meals
- General Mills—Cheerios
- Cross of Hope Lutheran Koinonia Tapestry
- Hobby Lobby—Crafts & party supplies
- Alicyn Mayes—Albuquerque WFL meals
- BH Capitol LTD—Copying of Newsletter
- Nicolas C. Nello Memorial Fund for At-Risk Children of the Albuquerque Community Foundation
- Pepper’s Ole Fashion BBQ—Albuquerque WFL meals
- The McCune Foundation

Memorial Gifts
Honor Loved Ones

One of the many ways that our ministry partners can honor a loved one or reflect the care that a loved one displayed during his/her lifetime is to make a Memorial Gift to Wings Ministry. We appreciate these gifts and wish to acknowledge them and the loved ones on whose behalf they were given.

In honor of William & Judy Somers
- Melissa Somers
In memory of Marvin Cothran
- Traci Cothran
In memory of Robin Callaway Tillman & Stephanie
- Beverly Zamora
In memory of Arline Goodney
- Elaine Ahonen

2nd Wings Party
Santa Fe Penitentiary—Santa Fe, NM 1-16-10

Families—Friends—Guideposts Magazines—Cheerio Necklaces—Wings Team Members & Praise Band
My overall impression of the Wings Ministry Party at the Grants Women’s Prison was that it was a very good idea. People usually only think of people who have been incarcerated and not so much about the families and friends who have also been affected. I think it’s good that they all have the opportunity to see each other someplace outside of a visiting room and talk face-to-face.

What struck me most about the visit was how happy all of the inmates seemed. In my head I have this picture of hardened criminals who aren’t usually happy or don’t smile or something along those lines. The inmates seemed like they really enjoyed it, even that small little bit of time they had to be with their families.

I was most surprised by how the inmates all had their hair and make up done. They all looked really nice and for some reason, I didn’t expect that. It also surprised me how young some of them were. There were a few who only seemed to be a few years older than me and they had little kids who were two and three.

Before the event I was kind of nervous. I had no idea what to expect, so I could only think of the stereotypical tough gang member type person. I also wasn’t expecting them to be nice or grateful or happy. I’m not really sure why this was since it makes sense that they would be happy to spend time with their families and enjoy that time, but I guess it went along with my stereotype.

At the beginning of the event I was thinking about how much they treasured each moment being together. There was one woman who looked pretty young who went straight to her mom as soon as she came into the room and didn’t stop touching her for the entire time she was there. They hugged for a long time and then they had their arms around each other for a while and she had her head on her mom’s shoulder and they continued like that throughout the entire party.

After the event all I could think of was how grateful I should be to have everything I have and that I can go anywhere and see anyone whenever I want. I thought it was amazing how happy they were to get pizza and for it to have green chili on it. On our way out, I heard an inmate telling another volunteer that they never get chili in any of their food.

What really touched me the most was when this one little girl, who was probably only four or maybe five ran up to her mother who was one of the inmates and she picked her daughter up and hugged her really tight for a long time. From the second her daughter got to her, there were tears running down her face.

(Olympic Relay Champions! Everyone is a GOLD medal winner!

(Comments from a teenage volunteer—

(The author is a member of No Boundaries Praise Band from Central United Methodist Church in Albuquerque.)
8th Wings Party
Grant’s Women’s Prison—Grants, NM  2-6-10

Family photos
Spoon hanging Champs!
Crafts
Signing “Jesus Loves Me”
New pillowcases
& sweaters
Warden Hickson &
Wings Team Members
WISH LIST

Donations towards:

- Office equipment
- Salaries for TN, CO, OH, FL & NM staff (ABQ, Las Cruces, Roswell, Santa Fe, & other parts of the state)
- Storage area—empty garage?

Volunteers:

- HS/college student—Help/website
- Office administrators & assistants
- Kitchen teams & food for Wings for L.I.F.E. Albuquerque
- Grant writers

Enclosed is my tax deductible gift for:
- $25
- $50
- $100
- $250
- $500
- Other $
- I would like to learn more about volunteer opportunities in my area.

NAME: ____________________________
ADDRESS: ____________________________
CITY/STATE/ZIP: ____________________________
PHONE: __________________ EMAIL: __________________

Wings Ministry is a 501(c) 3 not-for-profit organization.
Wings accepts United Way contributions from anywhere in the United States.

Thank You!

*Bureau of Justice Statistics

Winter 2010

www.WingsForLifeABQ.blogspot.com
For information about Albuquerque Wings for L.I.F.E. meetings.

Wings Ministry
2270 D Wyoming Blvd NE #130
Albuquerque, NM 87112

Vision: Christ’s unconditional love shared with all families of prisoners.

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