

Who is AHH?

The mission of the Alderson Hospitality House is to provide support for those incarcerated at the Alderson Federal Prison Camp, their families and friends by providing temporary lodging, meals, transportation, emotional support and education.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Paul Loos	Judy Lucas
Gloria Martin	Evey Ellen Frerotte
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AHH STAFF

Kathleen DeRouen, co-director
Brian DeRouen, co-director
Anjelica Mora, staff

FLIGHT INFORMATION



Raleigh County Memorial

Beckley, WV
www.flybeckley.com
Greenbrier Valley
Lewisburg, WV
www.gvairport.com

AMTRAK INFORMATION



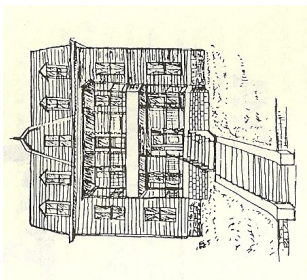
www.amtrak.com

Amtrak stops in Alderson, WV
ONLY Sundays, Wednesdays, and Fridays
From Chicago, eastbound: Train #50
From New York, westbound: Train #51

Non-Profit Org.
Permit No. 579
Alderson, WV
24910

If you would like to be added or removed, please contact us!

ALDERSON HOSPITALITY HOUSE
203 High Street
PO Box 579
Alderson, WV 24910
304.445.2980



www.aldersonhospitalityhouse.org
aldersonhospitalityhouse@gmail.com



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LEARNING TO LISTEN

By ANJELICA MORA

Greetings all! For those of you who I have not had the pleasure of meeting, my name is Anjelica, and I am the newest staff member at the Hospitality House. As of now, I am starting my fourth month, and I can honestly say that my time here so far has been a gift. I am originally from Central Pennsylvania where I grew up in a small town not much bigger than Alderson. Right out of high school, I was hired at a little pie bakery where I worked for over a year. I came to a point where I felt like the life I was leading lacked a greater purpose. I grew up in the Church of the Brethren, so I knew they had a program specifically geared towards young adults who seek to serve not just in their own communities but communities around the world. One of my pastors helped me get in touch with the director of



the Brethren Volunteer Service, and after that, it was only a matter of weeks before I left for my orientation, not knowing where I would be spending the rest of my year. In my second week at orientation, I found out about the Hospitality House and immediately knew that it was where I was meant to be. After an 18-hour train ride from Chicago, I finally arrived at my new home.

I am so grateful to The DeRouen's for embracing and welcoming me not only into this house, but into their family as well. I had never lived away from home before, and they were very intentional in making sure my huge life transition was as effortless as possible.

Since coming here, I have had the honor of meeting and serving so many remarkable people. Brian and Kathleen will be the first to tell you how much of a talker I am, but this job has shown me the beauty in listening. I have had the pleasure of listening to people laugh, and in addition to that, I

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ABOLITION APOSTLES

By DAVID BRAZIL

Connect with a Pen Pal
with Abolition Apostles

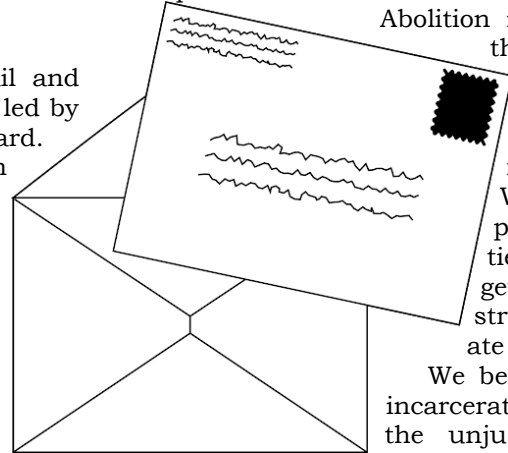
Greetings from Abolition Apostles jail and prison ministry! Abolition Apostles is led by Pastors David Brazil and Sarah Pritchard. We work with dozens of volunteers on the outside to get regular letters through to over 100 incarcerated pen pals in a dozen states (and counting!). It's easy and free to get a letter from us — just write to 501 N. Jefferson Davis Pkwy, #791410, New Orleans, LA 70119. We would love to be in touch with you. Feel free to share our information with anyone you think would benefit from receiving a letter.

Abolition Apostles is a Christian ministry but you don't have to be a Christian to participate.

When you write a letter to Abolition Apostles, it is delivered to our PO Box in New Orleans. Pastors David and Sarah collect the mail to share with our community of volunteers in the city. Volunteers meet weekly to read and respond to our new letters. We try to assign each incarcerated pen pal to an individual volunteer. However, sometimes volunteers can't attend our weekly meeting regularly so you may be hearing from more than one person. We do not receive funding from any government, religious, or political organization. We are entirely volunteer-run and all of our materials are paid for by donation. We are doing this because God told us to!

Pastors Sarah and David were given the vision to found this ministry in 2019 after visiting Sarah's long-term pen pal Luis in Calipatria, California. After years of working in church communities, we felt a call to connect people of conscience on the outside of

the prison walls with those locked up behind them. We were lucky enough to meet another pastor with a tattoo of Harriet Tubman with the caption, "Abolition Apostle." It was the perfect name!



Abolition is the name of the movement that fought against slavery in America before the Civil War. Many people of all ethnicities joined together in the struggle to liberate Black slaves.

We believe that mass incarceration continues the unjust bondage of slavery. And we're not

alone. There is a large and growing modern movement of contemporary abolitionists working to end prisons. As Christians, we stand with the many generations of believers who saw that holding people captive for whatever reason was wrong.

We are inspired by abolitionist heroes of the past like Harriet Tubman and John Brown. Harriet led dozens of slaves to freedom and John Brown was a white man who took up arms to free black slaves.

We moved to Louisiana — the most incarcerated place in the world — because we knew that where the wounds are deepest, that is where God provides His most powerful healing. In less than one year, we have gathered dozens of volunteers to support our many pen pals across the country with letters and, where possible, visitation. We believe that this is only the beginning and we look forward to working with you to discover what God has in store for this ministry.

Write to us at
501 N. Jefferson Davis Pkwy, #791410,
New Orleans, LA 70119! 📧

#TEAMPINK

By ADAM CRAIG

The mission of the Hospitality House is to make our guests feel comfortable and welcome throughout their stay in Alderson, and a big part of that for us is making sure the rooms meet the standard of any other bed and breakfast. My first day volunteering at the house, I specifically remember standing dumbfounded as Brian tried to count off every miniscule detail that must be considered in the seemingly simple act of making a bed. For this reason, I still avoid that job like the plague. Sorry, Jeli.

One service that I could confidently provide, however, was painting. In fact, I find it quite relaxing to sing along to a Spotify playlist while rolling a new color along the four walls of a room, breathing life back into the space. And two rooms that were in need of an update were Rosa Parks and Harriet Tubman. With that in mind, we decided to do some light remodeling, including new comforters and everything. The whole Hospitality House Clan and I began our search for bedspreads by scavenging through all of the retailers that a Beckley shopping plaza had to offer. After some lively debate and convincing on the part of Jeli and I, we toted home a colorful, floral bedding set destined for Rosa Parks. Next step: picking out the paint. While I was not involved in the selection of the shade that would soon take over Rosa Parks, the Periwinkle that Kathleen and Jeli came home with was a perfect complement to the new



comforters. With all respect to who last painted RP, anything would be better than murky hue

of gold in there at the time. Despite our severe difference in opinion on whether painter's tape should be used or not, Jeli and I began our painting journey. Immediately upon rolling my first strip of blueish purple paint, Jeli and I were certain it would look beautiful. After a second coat and vigorous scrubbing of the carpet where some paint had

soaked through our drop cloths, Rosa Parks was a new room.

For Harriet Tubman, we had a little inspiration for redecorating. As many may know, a powerful, albeit grim, portrait of Harriet Tubman hung in the corner of the room, and to honor this work of art, and the subject of the painting, we decided our new paint color ought to match it, guiding me and Kathleen to pick out a satisfying burnt orange. By now Jeli and I had worked out a winning formula, and we whipped out a new room in record time. As an added bonus, HT also features a brand-new mattress and some lovely wall art donated by Kathleen's sister, and the portrait of Harriet now hangs proudly in the center of the room right where she belongs.

Unfortunately, I will be leaving for Tanzania before we could start the next room on the list, Hillary Bennis. If you ask me (and I am perfectly aware that nobody did), we should paint it the brightest bubblegum pink Lowe's can concoct. Why? because pink is awesome, and that is reason enough. Somehow, I can't seem to convince Brian and Kathleen to come to the pink side. If you are like me, and think that is an egregious misjustice, please call the house and let them know. I know I will. #TeamPink. 📧

POETRY
CORNER*Schools Jewels*

All across this gracious land
from East Coast to the West

Our teachers with the toughest task
Yet always ace the test

From A,B,C's to 1.2.3's
'til days of graduation

Our mentors guide with loving care
It's more than just a vocation

It's so much more than all the R's
at times it's life and death

A child saved from reapers grasp
With teachers final breath

They show the best in worst of times
and too that pay the price

The gift of love is life itself

And that of sacrifice

These heroes songs are most unsung
their feats not brought to light

A thousand times a day take place

With strength and grace and might

Today though brings the song of praise
to those that make the grade

Mentors, teachers, helping hands

This written accolade

Thank you for our faith renewed
our Teachers get an A

our children too from coast to coast

have yet another day

By Michael S Griffis

Submitted 5/26/2013

Please share your artwork, thoughts and words of anguish, hope and joy. We'll consider any submissions for future publications, so please send us your stuff! 🌟

LEARNING CONTINUED

have sat with those same people and listened to them cry. I have listened to countless stories about the unbelievably strong women incarcerated at the prison. Through the love and words of our guests, I feel a connection and intimacy with the women of FPC Alderson that I had not expected. I have learned that every person has a story that is worth listening to.

I don't know what else is in store for me here at the Alderson Hospitality House, but I do know that I am prepared for what

lies ahead. My journey here is far from over, and I am excited to see where this unique experience will lead me next. In the meantime, I will be scrubbing toilets, folding towels, baking bread, and trying my best to keep quiet for long enough to listen to the world around me. 🌟



HOUSE NOTES

By KATHLEEN



I just wanted to give a quick update this time to tell you about our holidays. Holidays at AHH are always bitter sweet. People are here because their loved ones are unable to come home and be

with them for the holidays, and while we have a huge feast and lots of laughter around the dinner table, everyone is conscious of the ones who are missing.

Thanksgiving brought a lot of people around the dinner tables, and couches, and floor! We have over 45 people filling the house with chatter and warmth.

Christmas was not as busy, but those who were here came together for gingerbread house decorating and another huge meal. There were decorations all over the house, and presents under the tree for the kids. One of our guests bought gifts for the kids and let them pick one out from under the tree, and she

brought Christmas cards for everyone with sweet little messages written inside. It was a nice, relaxed couple of days.

It's February now, and the house is back to its normal decorations and the calmness of winter is upon us. We've enjoyed having Adam Craig volunteer with us for the past month or so, and we will miss him as he heads off to new adventures.

I look outside now and see the bare trees that loom over us in winter. I miss the green at times, but I know that soon the buds will start to show and colors will explode all around us. I'm looking forward to those days.



RECIPES FROM THE KITCHEN

Apple Pie

Adam made this pie for the guests last week, and it looked beautiful...and tasted even better!

Pie Crust (Makes Two 10' Rounds)

- 3 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 tsp salt
- 1 tbs sugar
- 12 tbs unsalted butter (very cold)
- 1/3 cup vegetable shortening (very cold)
- 6-8 tbs of ice water

Apple Pie Filling

- 6-8 apples
- Juice and zest one lemon
- 3/4 cup of packed brown sugar
- 1/2 cup of flour
- 1 tsp of cinnamon
- 1/4 tsp of nutmeg (optional)

Make the Crust

1. Combine all dry ingredients in a medium sized bowl.
2. Chop butter up into small chunks
3. Combine flour mixture, butter, and shortening together
4. Either by hand or with a food processor, blend ingredients until butter chunks are pea-sized
5. Add water gradually and shape into ball
6. Wrap in plastic and cool for 30 minutes

Make the Pie

1. Preheat oven to 350*
2. Roll out half of the dough into a circular round and place in a pie pan
3. Peel, core, and thinly slice apples
4. In a medium sized bowl, combine apples, lemon juice/zest, brown sugar, flour, and spices
5. Put filling in the pie pan, and cover with a lattice from the remaining dough
6. On the lattice, brush melted butter and sprinkle sugar
7. Bake for 50-60 min

Raise money for AHH while you shop online. Go to smile.amazon.com, and search for Alderson Hospitality House as your charity. You get all the Amazon options, and they send us a portion of what you spend with no added cost to you.



Raise money for AHH without spending a dime. Every time you search the internet using goodsearch, you can raise money for the Hospitality House. Go to goodsearch.com to find out more.

Raise money for AHH while buying your groceries. Go to krogercommunityrewards.com and register your Kroger Plus card to automatically give a percentage of every sale to AHH. Our number is 85722. Use it when you sign up today!



Like Us on Facebook! You can follow us and keep up with what is going on at AHH throughout the year.

THE ANNUAL FUND

It is a brown and grey time of year in West Virginia. The temps are cold and things move slowly. It is a time to stay inside and stay warm. Many of our guests have long drives on frigid roads to arrive at AHH, and once they do, they will find the wood stove burning and warm nutritious food on the table. As staff, we have the pleasure of preparing the meals and keeping the wood stove burning, but we are not able to do so on our own. Keeping a 140 year old house warm in February is

not cheap and there are no leaves, let alone money growing on the trees these days. Your generous contribution to the Hospitality House funds the warmth, community and comfort that AHH is known for. We thank you for making the work that we love so much possible.

Please make all checks payable to
Alderson Hospitality House
or donate online at
www.aldersonhospitalityhouse.org

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

A SPECIAL REQUEST

In the spring, we plan to hold a few raffles to support the House. We are looking to you, your business, church or community group for themed baskets that would entice people to buy raffle tickets. If you would like, you can simply buy and send the individual items to us, and we can put them together once they arrive. Thanks!

Wish List

Coffee (Not decaf)
Postage Stamps
Dish Soap
Dryer Sheets
Toilet Paper
Paper Towels
Hand Soap Refills
Fresh Produce
Pasta
Pasta Sauce (Not Meat Flavored)
Lemonade/Iced Tea

**Willing to spend a bit more?**

Small working lamps
New Twin Beds
Small Recliners
Fire Wood

FEBRUARY
\$9,647

