



We're Still Walkin' Down the Road

Mission & Peacemaking News and Resources - Late Spring 4th Edition - 2021

News to Share

WA Immigrant Relief Fund (WIRF)

The WA State legislature allocated \$40M in additional funds for another round of COVID-19 Immigrant Relief! This fund was created for immigrants who are having a hard time because of COVID-19 and aren't eligible for federal stimulus funds or unemployment insurance because of their immigration status. The application is in multiple languages including Spanish and English and is limited to 60,000 applicants statewide with only 40,000 being funded. **Eligible people should apply at www.immigranreliefwa.org as soon as they can - the deadline is May 15.**

Applicants' information will never be voluntarily shared with the government or ICE, and the public charge rule should not apply for this fund. If someone applied for the WIRF fund in October or November of 2020, they can still apply again now, whether they received funding or not. Individuals can receive a \$1,000 direct payment, and this time there is no limit on the number of adults in a family who may apply. Applications must be sent online either using a computer or smartphone.

Please spread the word about this lifeline for immigrant communities affected by the pandemic! There are flyers available in Spanish and English as well as a FAQ flyer. Tri-Cities Immigrant Coalition (TCIC) is available to answer questions at tricitieimmigrantcoalition@gmail.com.



ETTA Projects

In the USA, we take for granted our clean, (usually) dependable toilets. However, for a family in Chane Independencia, Colombia, having their own ecological composting latrine is a dream come true. With the help of a \$500 grant from Immanuel's MaP, Don Alejandro and his family have built such a facility. The



Special points of interest:

- Etta Projects Information
- One Great Hour of Sharing
- WA State Bans Private For-Profit Prisons
- Twulshootseed Yard Signs

Our physical space stands on the unceded land of the Coast Salish people. Immanuel Presbyterian Church acknowledges the Coast Salish community, their elders both past and present, as well as future generations. We make this acknowledgement as part of our work to dismantle the ongoing legacies of settler colonialism and white supremacy.

The trauma of these times calls us into solace and solidarity with our global community, particularly Black and Indigenous People of Color and our natural world. We are called to action. By sharing our practices of contemplative minds, hearts and wills we seek to be truly compassionate. We emphasize this as an anti-racist, Black Lives Matter, inclusive Queer space.



*Mission
and
Peacemaking
Meets the 2nd
Wednesday of the month,
5:30 p.m.
via Zoom—Join Us!*

project is overseen by Etta Projects, which conducted workshops the family attended as preparation for the hands-on construction of their latrine.

“At first I thought it was just one more promise from the local authorities and that it wasn’t going to happen. But now I have a clean and healthy bathroom for my children,” says Don Alejandro. The family finances a sizeable portion of the cost of the latrine—about 6 weeks of income for the typical family—but they are able to finance it interest free over a period of several months through Etta Projects.

Sharon Russell, MaP committee

One Great Hour of Sharing Success

IPC Donates \$2136 to OGHS in 2021

Since 1949, Presbyterians have joined with millions of other Christians through One Great Hour of Sharing to share God’s love with people experiencing need.

Our gifts support ministries of disaster response, refugee assistance and resettlement, and community development that help people find safe refuge, start new lives and work together to strengthen their families and communities. The Presbyterian Hunger Program receives 36% of undesignated One Great Hour of Sharing gifts, while the Self-Development of People and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance each receive 32%. Thank you IPC Family!



Next Up - Shared Housing Household Goods Drive in June

Washington State Senate Bans Private For-Profit Prisons

Washington Gov. Jay Inslee signed a bill April 14, 2021 banning all private, for-profit prisons. The new law means the privately run Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detention center in Tacoma will have to close after its contract expires in 2025.



Due to the pandemic, the number of people being detained there is at a record low -- about 200. Still, activist Maru Mora Villalpando of La Resistencia says the possibility of rising COVID cases inside the facility remains a concern.

“There's no need for people to be detained,” she said. “Some people in detention have said forever, 'I'm not saying to stop my deportation. I will continue my deportation process, but I don't have to be detained if I'm with my family and if I'm able to be with them and not be a burden to them, it's easier for me to fight my case.”

ICE says the private prison ban won’t prevent immigration enforcement but could require the transfer of detainees. The private prison company that runs the Tacoma facility, GEO Group, is a member of the Day 1 Alliance trade association, the which called the signing of the bill “political theater.”

from KNKX public radio Lily Anna Fowler

See a Sign - Take a Sign Show Support for Language Revitalization



“Pick up a free yard sign at any Tacoma Public Library location, while supplies last. Thank you to the Puyallup Language Program [Twulshootseed](#), City of Tacoma [Tacoma Arts](#), and artists Qwalsius Shaun Peterson (Puyallup), Paige Pettibon (Salish), and Anthony Duenas (Puyallup) on the Lushootseed sign designs.”

TPL facebook page

