

## The Inn E-Blast

April 2022

Dear Volunteers, Donors, and Friends,

**Attention!** We are experiencing larger numbers of guests on a daily basis. In March 462 guests and in April 505 guests were served. This is a significant increase in the number of guests we have been serving each night. If you can spend a few hours providing hospitality on a shift, please help fill those empty shifts by signing up on the Signup Genius. Each shift has room for two persons, so bring a friend!!! It's always more fun with two! **AND We really need you!!**

**A GREAT BIG THANK YOU** goes out to all who **have** signed up to help with hospitality shifts and/or driving. Your work is invaluable and is what keeps the Inn's doors open to welcoming our guests. *For those who have not yet filled out a volunteer form and have any extra time for a hospitality shift, to help with meal prep and delivery, to help with fundraising, or to drive guests to the (Inn) hotel, bus station or the airport, we need and would greatly appreciate your assistance!* Providing hospitality, with guidance from the Inn staff, is rewarding and satisfying, whether delivering support onsite or helping with transportation. Guests have been screened and are Covid-19 negative before proceeding to our hotel site. In addition, we follow all Covid protocol while transporting and on premises. **Please consider volunteering!**

**As a new volunteer, or if you have never registered, the first step is to fill out some information at [The Inn of Southern Arizona \(www.theinnofsa.org\)](http://www.theinnofsa.org)** under the volunteer tab. Here, you will have the opportunity to let us know your areas of interest. After completing the registration form, Gretchen, the Inn director, will send a link to the Signup Genius so you can see the various on-site and driving shifts and sign up for any that suit your schedule.

Signup genius tabs include:

- Hospitality shifts to help on site from 8 am-1 pm, 1 pm-5 pm, 5 pm-9pm and overnight from 9 pm-8am daily, including weekends.
- Driving guests to the Inn (hotel) from Casa Alitas Welcome Center, about 20 minutes away
- Driving guests to the airport or bus station.

Those interested in other areas of volunteer work off-site will be contacted by the person overseeing your area of interest.

**Each person providing hospitality is important during our guests' stay!** Gretchen reported that so far this year we have had 798 guests. Regardless of border conditions, you, as volunteers, play a huge role in our guests' experience in the US, providing a sense of security, acceptance, and graciousness. We value our volunteers! As we anticipate the repeal of Title 42 we are expecting the number of guests to increase.

**Shout out to Donors and Potential Donors.** We also want to thank those who donated to The Inn. Due to Covid restrictions regarding congregant sheltering, we have been serving guests from a hotel well-suited to our needs. A donation of \$50 provides an entire family a clean, comfortable room and meals for a night. Most families only stay one or two nights before moving on to their destinations. Please give a night's stay for one family or a gift of more nights if you are able. The Inn's costs are at least \$600 a day for shelter alone. We are especially grateful for those who sustain giving every month; this helps greatly in planning for the future.

To give online, please click on this link. [The Inn - Online Donation Form - Desert Southwest Conference \(dscumc.org\)](https://dscumc.org). Very soon we will have a link set up on our website to make giving online, either one-time or recurring, even easier!

If writing a check is easier or more convenient, please mail to:

The Inn of Southern Arizona, Inc.  
P.O. Box 43332  
Tucson, Arizona 85719

You also have the option of sending a gift to the conference. Send a check payable to The Desert Southwest Conference UMC, with 'The Inn' written on the memo line to:

Treasurer, Desert SW Conference  
1550 E. Meadowbrook Ave.,  
Phoenix, AZ 85014.

Thank you to all those amazing people who donated to The Inn this past month of July! We are grateful for all the supplies that have made our guests feel welcome and have the clothing and supplies needed for the next leg of their travel!

**At this time, we could use donations of:**

- Underwear for men (small & medium), women (Small) and children, both boys and girls (all sizes (2T to size 16)
- Men's pants, especially joggers, sweatpants, jeans, and shorts.
- Children's clothing, all sizes (especially 2T-size 5) both boys and girls
- Leggings for Women: small, medium, and large.
- Backpacks and/or larger reusable shopping bags
- Boxes of Fruit Loops or Cornflakes (or non-name brand cereal of the same type).
- Juice boxes, Capri Sun, squeezable yogurt, healthy, kid-friendly, prepackaged snacks, granola bars, individually packaged chips, Goldfish, Cheese-its, animal crackers
- Carseats

Please call Diane at 520-272-4341 to schedule a time and location to drop off donations.

Please note that, at this time, we are accepting clean clothing in good repair, especially those items noted above.

Our new website is: <http://www.theinnofsa.org>. When you have a chance, please check it out. We recommend the excellent video about The Inn: What We Do and Who We Serve. The donate button makes it easy to give to The Inn or to access the Amazon wish list for The Inn.