



## Casa Mariposa Detention Visitation Program 2019 Holiday Card Campaign

**Thank you for hosting a Holiday Card Party! Your efforts may help those in detention feel that they have not been forgotten. The Florence Project staff will address these cards at their holiday party on December 13.** Questions? Please email Elizabeth at [cmvisitation@gmail.com](mailto:cmvisitation@gmail.com).

**Holiday Card Parties** - *perfect for around the Thanksgiving dinner table, after worship or meetings, during drop-in events, with book clubs, etc.*

### Supplies needed:

- ★ Holiday cards, preferably in a variety of languages (**keep in mind that not everyone will celebrate Christmas, so general holiday cards are best. UNICEF has some great ones!**)
  - *You will determine this number based on how many people you estimate will participate and how much time there is for card-writing. For a larger event, 100+ cards is easy to do!*
  - **Note: no stickers, glitter, bows, sequins can be on the cards or envelopes.** If you'd like to make the cards or envelopes more cheerful, drawing pictures is perfect!
- ★ Colorful pens/Sharpies
- ★ A copy of the guidelines (the event host should be clear on all guidelines and communicate them to everyone writing cards)
- ★ Half-page inserts (*cut up in advance*)
- ★ "Helpful Phrases" sheet (*make copies to spread out on tables*)

### Steps:

- 1 - Set up tables and chairs.
- 2 - Spread cards, pens and helpful phrase sheets on some tables.
- 3 - On another table or two, set out inserts.
- 4 - Begin writing! Some folks will write cards, while others can add the insert, or folks can do the whole process (note: you do not need to include a return address)
- 5 - **Do not seal the envelopes!** Write on the back of the envelope, in small print, a letter indicating the language used on the card. E- English, S - Spanish, F - French, E/S for a combo of English and Spanish.
- 6 - Collect all the finished cards and drop them off at St. Mark's Presbyterian Church (3809 E. 3rd St. - *office is on the 2nd Street side, closed on Fridays*) with "Elizabeth Smith" written on the bag/box OR mail box to Casa Mariposa, PO Box 40884, Tucson, AZ 85717

**Deadline: Tuesday, December 10**

**THANK YOU!**

# FIRRP Holiday Card Writing Guidelines

Here are the guidelines for writing holiday cards. We check all of the cards so **PLEASE DO NOT SEAL THE ENVELOPES**. Unfortunately, if we cannot check the cards we will not be able to send them to folks in detention. Any card that does not follow these guidelines we also, unfortunately, will not use.

1. **ICE does not allow glitter, sequins, bows stickers or other pretty decorations on the cards.**

2. **Not everyone who is detained is Christian**, so it's best to keep the language of the cards and notes more along the lines of lifting people's spirits and general holiday wishes rather than sending the wishes of a blessed Christmas season.

3. **Please do not write false hope.** Again, well wishes are encouraged but please do not write that someone will win their case, that everything will be fine, that they will be protected, etc. I know this sounds counterintuitive, but **false hope can actually be more damaging in the long-run.**

4. **Spanish is spoken by most people in detention.** That being said, a beautiful card with a kind message written in English can bring a bit of happiness to someone even if they cannot read the message. (There are also people who could probably translate the card for them.)

5. **Please write the language of the card on the outside of the envelope**, so we can match the language with someone who speaks that language when addressing them. **Do not seal the envelopes!**

This is not to discourage you from writing messages. Most cards we receive are perfect and really lift people's spirits. Folks in detention greatly appreciate the thoughtfulness of these cards and that they are not forgotten.

Thank you for all of your support.

-Liz Casey, Social Worker

# HELPFUL PHRASES

I am a friend of Casa Mariposa in Tucson. / *Soy una amiga/un amigo de Casa Mariposa en Tucson.*

Wishing you peace this holiday season. / *Le deseo paz en estas fiestas.*

You are strong! / *¡Ud. es fuerte!*

You are brave. / *Ud. es valiente.*

You are not alone. / *No está solo/a.*

Keep fighting for your dreams. / *Siga luchando por sus sueños.*

God Bless You / *Dios le bendiga*

I hope you feel God's presence during this difficult time. / *Espero que pueda sentir la presencia de Dios en estos tiempos difíciles.*

Please know that you are not alone or forgotten. I am praying for you. / *Por favor sepa esto, no está solo ni consignado al olvido. Yo estoy orando por usted.*

***(feel free to add your own below...)***

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**Casa Mariposa**

We offer support and friendship

to those in **Eloy Detention Center** through letters and visits.

If you or someone you know would like a visit or pen pal, please write to us at this address:

**Casa Mariposa**

**P.O. Box 40884**

**Tucson, AZ 85717**

**Programa de Visitación**

**Casa Mariposa**

Ofrecemos apoyo y amistad

a aquellos en **el Centro de Detención Eloy** a través de cartas y visitas.

Si usted o alguien que usted conoce quisiera una visita o un amigo de la correspondencia, escribanos por favor en esta dirección:

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