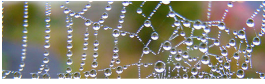


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In this email: You are a knot in this diamond web that holds us.

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Happy Thanksgiving

November, 2020



Hello dear friends,

I am writing today with gratitude for the many ways you have supported us over the years. Some of you have been with me and Teresa since we first began our work with women in prison in 1986. It is hard to believe that was 34 years ago! Others have come to know us more recently through our *Lioness Tale Prison Project* at the Central California Women's Facility in Chowchilla which we began in 2010.

We officially began our 501 C-3 in 1988. This place where we live has always been called *The Skyline* and we decided to call our non-profit organization, *Skyline Harvest* with the hope that our tenure here would bring a harvest of healing and love for many. Our hopes have been more than realized. Such fruitfulness has come from the support of our network of relationships. From you!

You are a knot in this diamond web that holds us, each of us emitting light that radiates through the entire net, and lifts all to the higher possibilities of our human



You may be wondering how our Lioness Tale Prison Project has been faring during this time of covid. The prison is not allowing volunteers inside and most programming has been shut down. The women are locked in their rooms most of the day, and of course being confined during this time of pandemic is very scary for them. Though there have been many covid outbreaks in various prisons in California, as far as I know, there have been no inmate cases at CCWF. Please send as many threads of light to them as you can muster.

Since prison policy forbids us, as volunteers, to be in contact with our participants through mail or email, or continue our program through video conference call, we have been creating Lioness-themed coloring booklets and book-based questions for reflection. We send these to the chaplain to distribute to our facilitators. In this small way we continue to give them support and to stay connected until we can go inside again.



We are taking advantage of this pause in our program to strengthen the sustainability of our organization. We are developing new leadership, shifting our physical center of operations from Skyline, (which is a 5 hour drive to CCWF), to Fresno which is only 45 minutes from the prison. Fresno is where Russell Jensen lives. He and Nikki Fryn are currently running the program inside and are now developing an outside training program set to begin in February. It will serve potential volunteers, will provide CEUs to LMFTs, LCSWs, LPCCs, and opportunities for personal growth for anyone interested. The primary teachings will be inspired by the Enneagram, Gestalt Awareness Practice, The Lioness Tale book, and lessons from women who are serving/have served life sentences.

We will be sending out another letter in December that will give you more details about our transition plans. At that time we will be asking you for your financial support for some very specific projects designed to help us scale up to a level where grant funding will be more accessible to us.



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we just want to thank you. We want to thank you for your presence, your prayers, your compassion and for touching our lives with yours. I will close with a Rumi quote I have carried in my heart, and into the prisons, for years:

*...if you've opened your loving to God's love,
you're helping people you don't know
and have never seen.*

*Is what I say true? Say yes quickly,
if you know, if you've known it
from before the beginning of the universe.*



Gratefully,
Diane
and our entire Skyline Harvest community

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