

Eyes on ICE NJ- How to Help at Delaney Hall

- **Collecting or raising money for grocery store gift cards-** Most of the 1000 people inside Delaney Hall were a primary or secondary breadwinner for their household when they were picked up. Many of those households include infants and young children. We do our best to supplement the cost of groceries for the families on the outside. We collect gift cards from **Shoprite, Stop & Shop and Walmart** and distribute them to the families we meet on visiting days. We also share a link to a [gift card fund](#).
- **Distributing pantry bags-** in addition to the gift cards we distribute pantry bags. We can easily give away 75 bags on a weekend visiting day if we receive the bags by 10 am. Here is the [list of suggested items](#). We also work with an [organization that collects funds](#) in order to supply us with pantry bags.
- **Direct support for the families-** Legal and rent assistance are two big concerns for families with a loved one in detention. Many families [set up GoFundme accounts](#). Donating to and helping promote these accounts to find more donors is an important activity.
- **Visitation support-** Not everyone in Delaney Hall has a local family that is able to visit. We can connect volunteers with training so that they can go into the facility to visit with people inside.
- **Collecting diapers and sanitary napkins-** Diapers are particularly expensive for families with young children (diapers sizes 5,6 and 7 are most in need) as are sanitary supplies for the moms. Please only donate sanitary napkins.
- **Religious supplies-** People inside detention often rely on their faith to help them get through the difficulty of being locked up and away from their families. Prayer provides many of them with comfort. Religious articles, prayer cards, books and scriptures are always in demand. We work through the chaplain on site to get these items inside and distributed to those who want them.
- **Donating small children's toys.** Stuffed animals are particularly popular but so are toy cars, rubber ducks, bubbles, coloring books and action figures. Please do not bring children's books unless they are in Spanish.
- **Writing inspirational notes-** If you work with groups of very young or very old people who can't make it to Delaney Hall, getting together to write inspirational notes to the people inside is a great activity. These notes can be on stationery or hand made cards. They can include short messages of encouragement. Cards in English, Spanish, French, Haitian Creole, Portuguese and Arabic are welcome. If possible, please include envelopes and 1st class stamps. We will address them to the individuals inside.
- **Donating 1st class postage stamps-** We have received many beautiful handmade cards without postage. Some were made by school children and intended for people in ICE detention. The only way we can deliver these is through the mail.