

STAYING CONNECTED

SUPPORTING LOVED ONES DURING COVID-19



American Friends
Service Committee
ARIZONA OFFICE

GENERAL INFORMATION

What has happened with visitation at ADC?

- On March 13, 2020, the Arizona Department of Corrections (ADC) [released a statement](#) suspending in-person visitation at all prison complexes due to concerns of spreading Coronavirus (COVID-19).
- Video visitation will be “explored” by ADC but is not available at this time.

How long will visitations be suspended?

- ADC says it is complying with industry standards of the [American Correctional Association](#) and the [National Commission on Correctional Health Care](#)* in reducing the spread.
- Current Center for Disease Control recommendations include cancelling gatherings of 10 people or more – one reason why visits are closed.
- Visits are suspended until at least April 12, 2020. The situation should be re-evaluated at that time, but there is a chance it will be extended.

STAYING CONNECTED WHILE VISITATIONS ARE SUSPENDED

Letter Writing

- Sending letters acts not only as a way to communicate, but also gives the person something to look forward to and hold onto as a keepsake.
- You can make your own post cards, find low-cost greeting cards at thrift stores, and use postcard apps like [Flikshop](#).
- **PACKAGES CANNOT BE MAILED.** If you would like to send a package, you must use the [SecurePak system](#). Review [DO 914 Inmate Mail](#) if you have any questions.
- CDs and books can still be mailed through approved vendors.

Phone Calls

- On March 18, ADC announced that phone provider CenturyLink began providing two free 15-minute phone calls per week.

Emails (for those with tablets)

- In September 2019, a tablet program was offered to many ADC facilities under [Director’s Instruction 380](#). It is unclear who does and does not have a tablet.

* AFSC-AZ was unable to locate these matrixes for more detailed information on the standards.

- Friends and family may purchase media credits through the vendor website www.jpays.com
 - Fees for JPAY services at ADC are available here: <https://corrections.az.gov/inmate-deposits>

Ideas for Children with a Loved One Who is Incarcerated

- Create a self-mailing letter by folding your letter into an envelope to mail inside! [Instructions here!](#)
- Create a storybook! Start a story with just one paragraph and mail it to your loved one. Have the person inside write the next paragraph and mail it back. Continue this pattern, until a full story is written!
 - You can also add art/drawings into this project by drawing the story as it is written.
- Make your own Mad-Libs to be exchanged, and then mail them back for review!

**IF YOU HAVE ANY CONCERNS OR ISSUES ABOUT VISITATION PROTOCOLS,
PLEASE CONTACT AFSC-AZ AND LET US KNOW**



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