

UUAA Prison Books 2017-18 Summary

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UUAA PRISON BOOKS' mission is to deliver reading materials to confined readers. In our twelve years of operation we have delivered over 145,000 books to Federal, State, & local facilities in Michigan.

Highlights during 2017-18:

- We collected & delivered over 16,000 books to prison facilities. About 1,000 Children's books were delivered to the Washtenaw County Jail reception area, providing reading materials & free books for little visitors.
- We collected books from local libraries & book sales, UUAA congregants, & other individual donors. Fourteen correctional facilities are on our delivery calendar. This year we also tested the collection & delivery of art & writing materials to help support the UM's Prisoner Creative Arts Program.
- We continue the Drop-Ship arrangement with the Jackson MDOC transport terminal. This year we used this system to provide large shipments to the Marquette Prison & four Ionia Prison Facilities.
- We continued to work through the problem of ageing volunteers who are challenged, particularly in the heavy lifting & driving that is needed for some collecting & delivery. We gave a Social Justice Presentation on March 18 and recruited 15 new volunteers.

Goals for 2018-12:

- 1.) Continue collecting, sorting, packing, & delivering materials to correctional facilities.
- 2.) Continue to recruit new members and integrate them into our overall operation.
- 3.) Investigate new ways to coordinate our work.
- 4.) Investigate better spaces and methods for collecting and sorting/packing.
- 5.) Continue to resolve issues relating to delivery of books to facilities & drop/ship.
- 6.) Continue to investigate new sources of books & the PCAP relationship.

Prison Books is grateful for continuing book and volunteer contributions for this worthy cause. Please email prisonbooks@uuaa.org for more information.