#### **Comments from volunteers:**

"I think the program itself is a wonderful ministry that communicates such love and affirmation to persons who perhaps do not receive enough of it."







CRAFTS



MUSIC — Chimes

"I believe that this particular program may provide one of the most effective outreach methods for our church. It is also a pleasure to do this."



CARDS — Family photos & frames



GAMES — New Cowboy Father's Day Outfit

"I don't know who enjoyed it more, the volunteers or the families. Whatever prejudices they may have had about prisoner's families were bombarded. There was reconciling and healing."



GAMES — Everyone participates

# Why is a program like Wings so necessary today?

- Children of incarcerated family members are six times more likely to end up in prison.
- There are over 2 million Americans in prison today.
- 33% of black men in their twenties are incarcerated or on probation.
- The prison population has more than doubled in the past 10 years.
- The American recidivism rate is around 75%.
- If current trends continue, 1 in 20 Americans will be incarcerated in their lifetime.
- America spends over \$30 billion a year to incarcerate prisoners.



Father & son embrace



BIBLE STUDY — Easter collage



MUSIC — Teen band

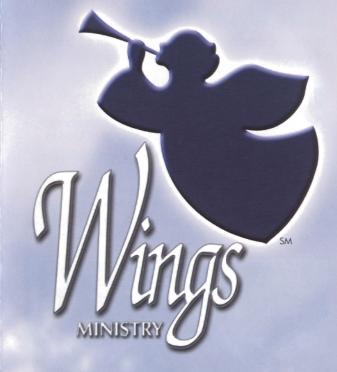
## Community benefits of a Wings Ministry:

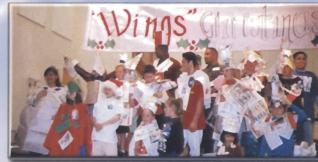
- · Strengthen ecumenical community.
- Youth from Wings congregations experience hands-on mission by taking an active role in ministering to their peers and younger children.
- Organizations and congregations work together to improve their community outreach.

For more information about Wings, contact:

Ann Edenfield, Wings President 2226 B Wyoming NE #130 Albuquerque, New Mexico 87112

Phone: (505) 291-6412 www.WingsMinistry.org Fax: (505) 291-6418 Non-profit 501(c)3





GAMES — Human Christmas Ornaments

"I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me."

- Matthew 25:4

A Wings Party is like Heaven on earth.

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#### Wings Ministry Vision

To share Christ's unconditional love with all families of prisoners.

### Wings Ministry Mission

The Wings Ministry brings families of prisoners and Christian volunteers together as Children of God by

- Providing ecumenical mission opportunities for local congregations worldwide,
- Conducting joyous celebrations of Christ's unconditional love that breaks down barriers, and,
- Building relationships that transform both the lives of the families and the mission of the congregations.



MUSIC - An inmate joins the band



SHARING A MEAL — Pizza & new friends

Wings uses a model of nuturing ministry by building Christian relationships in a four-part experience following the example of the early church: Bible Study, Crafts and Games, Sharing a Meal, and Music.

"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and tellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers."

- Acts 2:42

The Wings Ministry generally hosts three parties a year: a **Christmas**, **Easter**, and **Back-To-School Party**, hoping to reach families at important times throughout the year. The parties are held in sponsoring churches in different parts of the city and in different denominations. All participants in Wings, whether they are inmates' family members or church volunteers, enjoy the interaction of Christians working together from many different denominations. Wings has recently expanded to holding events inside **prisons**, inviting families to join their loved ones in a Christian environment.



GAMES — Angels everywhere



NEW FRIENDS — Building relationships



GAMES - Spoon hanging



CRAFTS — Cards for loved ones



GAMES



BIBLE STUDY — Littlest cow

The Wings Ministry strives to build quality relationships and strong values in teenagers. The **Search Institute** in Minneapolis has identified **40 developmental assets** that are necessary for healthy growth. Wings provides an arena for effective ways to build assets in the lives of our young people.



**BIBLE STUDY** — Christmas Live Nativity

#### Comments from Corrections Officials

- ... The Wings Ministry offers (such) a program through their faith-based approach, bringing inmates and their families together to enjoy each other's company in the spirit of faith. It is one of the best programs designed to maintain the family unit of an incarcerated parent!"
  - Art Murphy, Warden
- "The Wings Ministry provides a tremendous support system for inmates and their families. By promoting 'family reunification,' it helps to build and reinforce the existing family structure. Observing families participating in activities together has been overwhelming. It's amazing to see how a 'Wings' gathering can be so effective and bring so much happiness to everyone involved."
  - Helen Carr, NM Corrections Dept., Family Liaison Director
- "...Wings Ministry provides a model and training resources for the faith community to become involved with inmate families who are the "forgotten victims in the shadow of crime."
- Homer Gonzales, NM Corrections Dept., Director of Faith-based Programs
- "The Wings Ministry is making a difference in the lives of the families of those who have loved ones in the prisons and jails around the country and need a touch of God's love."
  - Rev. Dr. Paul C. Collins, Former Prison Chaplain

#### Comments from inmate families

- "Knowing people are out there who are going through or have gone through this. I came to get to know new people, members of the churches."
- "Getting the kids out and involved! The Guidepost Magazines are great! Incarceration has been really hard on all the family members."
- "To see my kids happy and that they forgot about all our problems for awhile."
- "The communication with others who are going through the same thing."
- "We always come to the Wings parties. They make us happy!"