

CIRCLE OF HOPE

**COLLECTION
DRIVE GUIDE**

f.A.Q.

Q: What can I collect?

You are welcome to collect any of the items we accept. You can collect one type of donation, such as new socks, or an assortment of donations, such as new socks, underwear, and toiletries. It's up to you! Please see page 2 for a list of donations we accept.

Q: What donations do you need most?

Our most-requested items year-round are new socks and underwear for all ages and in all sizes, but particularly for women. In the winter, we also get many requests for hats, gloves, and coats.

Q: When is the best time to run a drive?

Any time! We accept donations every month except August. We just ask for seasonally appropriate donations (so avoid collecting flip flops in December)!

Q: Is there a limit on how much you can take?

There is no bag limit. If you plan to donate a very large number of bags at one time, please contact us in advance so we can plan for storage.

Q: How can I get my employees, colleagues, or members of my community group involved?

To turn your collection drive into an employee engagement or volunteer event, consider collecting the contents of our Dignity Bags, Welcome Baby Bags, Emergency Clothing Kits, or Get Set packages. See pages 3-6 for the contents of each bag. As a group, assemble the bags and donate them to COH.

Q: Can you send someone to my event to speak to the group?

Yes! We may request a donation based on travel time, distance, and length of the event. Please contact Christine at christine@circleofhopeonline.org to coordinate details.

Q: Do you do donation pick-ups?

We will do our best, but cannot guarantee a volunteer will be available for pick-ups. Please email carolyn@circleofhopeonline.org to request a pick-up.

Q: Where and when can I drop off my donations?

Circle of Hope is located at 1329 Highland Ave. Needham, MA and our drop-off hours are 10am - 12pm Monday-Thursday and the last Saturday of every month. If you are unable to drop off your items during these hours, please contact Christine Ruddy at christine@circleofhopeonline.org and we will do our best to accommodate you!

Q: Can I get a receipt for my donation?

Yes! When you drop off your donations, you can pick up a receipt at the front desk.

Donation Guidelines

Items We Accept

Some, though not all, of these items can be found on our [Amazon Wish List](#). You are welcome to shop for the donations anywhere and they do not need to be a specific brand, but the Amazon list will give you a sense of the types of items our partner shelters and clinics need for individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

CLOTHING (for all ages)

- T-shirts (long sleeve or short sleeve)
- Sweatpants and sweatshirts
- Jeans and leggings
- Maternity clothing
- Infant clothing
- Sneakers (**new** only)
- Flip flops (spring-summer, **new** only)
- Winter boots (fall-spring, **new** only)
- Underwear and bras (**new** only)
- Socks (white calf-length preferred, **new** only)
- Rain ponchos
- Jackets and coats
- Athletic wear
- Winter gloves, hats, scarves (fall-spring)
- Face masks

NEW BABY ITEMS

- Diaper backpacks
- Baby wash
- Diaper cream
- Onesies
- Sleepers
- Baby blankets
- Bottles
- Wash cloths

- Bibs
- Wipes
- Socks
- Hats
- Towels

NEW, UNOPENED TOILETRIES (Full and travel size)

- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Body Wash
- Lotion
- Hand Soap
- Chap stick
- Hand sanitizer
- Sunscreen
- Deodorant
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrushes
- Pads
- Tampons

NEW LINENS

- Sheet sets
- Comforters
- Towels

Items We Do Not Accept

- Formalwear
- Business clothing
- Heels
- Household appliances or furniture
- Purses
- Bathing suits
- Books
- Toys
- Pillows
- Opened toiletries
- Food
- Used socks, underwear, shoes

Dignity Bags

Dignity Bags are filled with everyday essential toiletries and hygiene products. We use plain white paper bags with handles. Below is a list of the bag contents with links to examples of products. Run a drive to collect these items and assemble the bags together with your employees, colleagues, church members, classmates, or family. You do not necessarily need to buy the specific brands linked here; please feel free to shop for similar items at your preferred retailer. Visit our website for more information about Circle of Hope's Dignity Project.

Women

- Shampoo - Examples can be found [here](#) and [here](#).
- Conditioner - Examples can be found [here](#) and [here](#).
- [Body wash](#)
- [Body lotion](#)
- [Women's deodorant](#)
- [Toothpaste](#)
- [Toothbrush](#)
- [New socks](#)
- Pack of [pads](#)

Men

- [3-in-1 shampoo, conditioner, body wash](#)
- [Lotion](#)
- [Men's deodorant](#)
- [Toothpaste](#)
- [Toothbrush](#)
- [New socks](#)

Please note: All Dignity Bag contents must be brand new.



Welcome Baby Bags

Welcome Baby Bags are new backpack-style diaper bags filled with newborn essentials. Below is a list of the bag contents with links to examples of products. Run a drive to collect these items and assemble the bags together with your employees, colleagues, church members, classmates, or family. You do not necessarily need to buy the specific brands linked here; please feel free to shop for similar items at your preferred retailer. Visit our website to learn more about Circle of Hope's Welcome Baby Program.

Welcome Baby Bag Contents

- 2 sleepers
- 2 face cloths
- 1 towel
- 1 baby wash
- 1 diaper cream
- 3 newborn onesies
- 3 pairs of socks
- 1 crib blanket
- 1 receiving blanket
- 1 hat
- 1-2 bottles
- 1 pack of wipes
- 1 bib
- 1 card with well wishes

Please note: All Welcome Baby Bag contents must be brand new.



Emergency Clothing Kits

With a full stock of seasonally appropriate clothing and hygiene essentials, COH stands ready to provide immediate assistance when an emergency arises. Within 24-48 hours, we respond to emergency requests from our partner shelters and clinics on behalf of families impacted by domestic violence, house fires, and other traumas. You can give families in crisis the essentials they need for health and dignity by assembling and donating "Emergency Clothing Kits" to Circle of Hope. Kit contents are listed below. [Visit our website to learn more about Circle of Hope's Emergency Response Program](#) and schedule your donation [drop-off appointment](#).

Emergency Clothing Kit Contents

Each kit contains the following clothing for a man or woman in one size (S, M, L, XL, XXL). We prefer neutral colored reusable bags (see photos below). Please be sure to label your bags by size and gender identity.

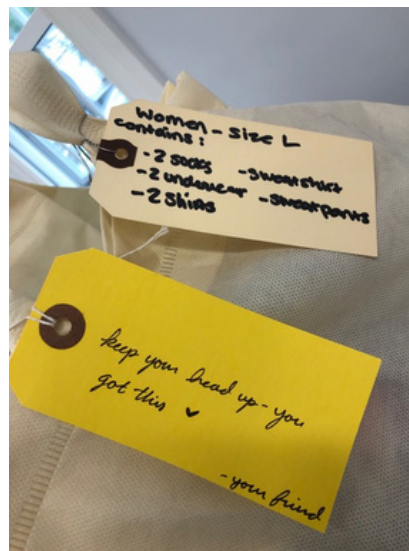
Men's Kit Contents:

- 2 pairs of socks
- 2 pairs of underwear
- 2 T-shirts
- 1 pair of sweatpants
- 1 sweatshirt

Women's Kit Contents:

- 2 pairs of socks
- 2 pairs of underwear
- 2 T-shirts
- 1 pair of sweatpants
- 1 sweatshirt

Please note: All Emergency Clothing Kit contents must be brand new.



Get Set Packages

Get Set packages include new bedding, towels and/or clothing for college students experiencing homelessness. Below is a list of contents for each package with links to examples of products. Run a drive to collect these items and assemble the packages together with your employees, colleagues, church members, classmates, or family. You do not necessarily need to buy the specific brands linked here; please feel free to shop for similar items at your preferred retailer. [Visit our website to learn more about Circle of Hope's Get Set Program.](#)

Get Set Package contents

- [Bedding set](#), twin XL (sheets, pillowcases, comforter)
- [Mattress cover](#), twin XL
- [New towel set](#)
- [Bathroom caddy](#)
- [Laundry bag](#)

Please note: All Get Set package contents must be brand new.



Period Pouches

Period Pouches include a variety of menstrual products, including pads, tampons, and liners for people experiencing homelessness and hygiene insecurity. Below is a list of contents for each pouch with links to examples of products. Run a drive to collect these items and assemble the packages together with your employees, colleagues, church members, classmates, or family. You do not necessarily need to buy the specific brands linked here; please feel free to shop for similar items at your preferred retailer.

Period Pouches Contents

- [Reusable zipper pouch](#)
- 4+ [liners](#)
- 4+ [pads](#)*
- 4+ [tampons](#)*

**Please feel free to include more than 4 of each item depending on your supplies and the number of pouches you plan to assemble!*

Please note: All contents must be brand new.



Thank you!

Thank you for organizing a collection drive for Circle of Hope! Your donations will help protect the health, safety, and dignity of thousands of people experiencing homelessness in Greater Boston.

If you take pictures during the process of collecting your donations or assembling Dignity Bags, Welcome Baby Bags, Emergency Clothing Kits, Period Pouches, or Get Set packages, please send them to Carolyn at carolyn@circleofhopeonline.org! We love to share shout-outs of gratitude on social media and our [e-newsletter](#). If you post photos to your own social media accounts, please tag us!

Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn
@CircleofHopeNeedham

