



CIRCLE OF HOPE

Helping to build a brighter future for those in need

December 2020

In This Issue

Annual Campaign
BPD Testimonial
New Grant
Community Action

How to Donate

*We are accepting only **NEW** donations at this time.*

1. Purchase items from our [Amazon Wish List](#) and have them sent to COH.
2. View our [list of current donation needs](#) and shop online at your preferred retailer. Ship donations directly to COH at 1329 Highland Avenue, Needham, MA 02492.
3. Drop off new face masks, unopened bottles of hand soap/sanitizer, and fully-assembled COVID Kits, Welcome Baby Bags, or Dignity Bags in person. All donation drop-offs are now contactless and by appointment. [Click here](#) for more

Dear Friends,

With your help, Circle of Hope has given more than 72,000 pieces of NEW clothing, PPE, and hygiene essentials to homeless children, women, and men since the COVID-19 crisis struck. You helped us pivot quickly in response to the pandemic and continue providing life-saving supplies to our most vulnerable neighbors. Our donations helped slow the spread of COVID-19 in our partner shelters and clinics, avoiding the most catastrophic outcomes we feared during the spring surge. I can't thank you enough for continuing to support Circle of Hope as we work together to protect health and save lives.

Our work is not done. Cases of COVID-19 are higher than ever in Massachusetts. We're deploying our volunteer drivers with hand soap and sanitizer, face masks, hand towels, gloves, and brand new clothing and coats to homeless infants, children, women, and men every week. We're responding to an increasing number of emergencies as families lose their jobs and homes. We will continue to prioritize disease prevention until this crisis is behind us.

You can help us continue this critical work by donating to our Annual Campaign by December 31. Read more about our campaign below or [click here to donate today](#). Thank you to all the generous donors who have already given. You fuel our humanitarian help for the homeless.

Most gratefully,
Barbara

Annual Campaign



We need your help. With COVID-19 surging, this winter is predicted to be the ["most difficult in the public health history"](#) of our country.

information and to schedule your drop-off appointment.

Support COH

To make a financial contribution to Circle of Hope, [click here](#).

Connect with us on social media. Like and share our posts to help spread the word about COH.



Current Needs



- New reusable face masks for adults and children
- New winter coats for all ages/sizes
- New winter accessories for all ages/sizes

You Must Hear This...

"The assistance we receive from Circle of Hope allows us to continue to meet the needs of our guests. We are able to distribute these essential items every day to our guests, and could not do so without the generosity of individuals and groups like yours. We are so appreciative of this critical work."

-Women's Lunch Place Staff

Tent hospitals for homeless individuals with COVID-19 are going back up. Case numbers are rising in our partner shelters and clinics. We worry for the health of the vulnerable people we serve.

Your donation provides the soap, sanitizer, and PPE homeless individuals need to keep themselves and their families healthy during this crisis. Our donations are literally saving lives.

We need to buy coats for more than 5,000 homeless children and adults, now that so many shelters can't accept the gently used coats we would normally give. Your contribution also allows us to purchase brand new coats and warm clothing for homeless families. Thank you so much to everyone who has already donated. Your support has never had a greater impact!

To donate to our Annual Campaign, click the "Donate" button below. You can also mail a check payable to Circle of Hope to:

P.O. Box 920724
Needham, MA 02492

Donate

BPD Officer Thanks Circle of Hope



Community Service Officer Antonette Cabral sent us a video testimonial about Circle of Hope's partnership with Boston Police Department (BPD) District E-13 in Jamaica Plain. She said:

"Circle of Hope has been the connection, they have been our outlet, they have been our main supporters when it comes to providing for our families...I can't thank Circle of Hope and Barbara Waterhouse enough for what they're doing and the lives that they're changing on a daily basis."

We partnered with BPD in late 2018 and made our first delivery of winter coats and accessories in January 2019. Since then, we have made monthly deliveries of clothing and necessities for families experiencing homelessness in Boston, including families in domestic violence shelters and students in Boston Public Schools. We also respond to emergency requests from BPD officers on behalf of families who [lose their homes in house fires](#). This year, in addition to clothing and everyday toiletries, we are also providing face masks, hand soap, and sanitizer to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 among homeless families. We're proud of this innovative partnership and we're grateful for BPD's help protecting the health of homeless

families we might not otherwise reach.

[View the video testimonial](#)

New Grant from Life Science Cares

For the second year in a row, Life Science Cares awarded Circle of Hope a grant to support our "Get Set" program, providing brand new clothing, bedding, face masks, and hygiene necessities to college students who are experiencing homelessness in our area. The COVID-19 crisis is exacerbating college homelessness and making it more complicated for homeless students to access these essential personal safety items they need to stay healthy and focus on their classes. We are so grateful to Life Science Cares for helping us protect the health and dignity of students experiencing homelessness in Massachusetts.

[Read more about our exciting new grant in the Needham Times.](#)

Community Action



A third grade Brownies troop from Sudbury sewed 30 beautiful face masks for homeless individuals and mailed them to Circle of Hope. You are truly never too young to make a difference!



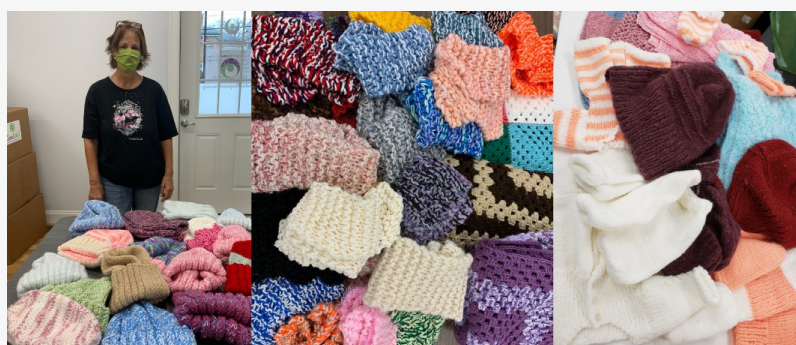
Cecilie has been buying and assembling Welcome Baby Bags/mom kits for several months. She donated another big batch of the bags this month to help newborns and new moms stay healthy during the fragile postpartum months.



Members of the Lion Heart Girls Group from Wrentham held a toiletry drive for Circle of Hope and donated soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, hand sanitizer, deodorant, shampoo, face masks, and more! These hygiene essentials will help homeless individuals stay healthy over the winter.



We received COVID Kits from several families, organizations, and companies in the past month. These kits help prevent the spread of COVID-19 in Boston-area homeless shelters and clinics and we're very grateful to everyone who has donated! Thank you to Nathan, the Searle Family, barre3 Needham, William Raveis Needham, and the Hunnewell School in Wellesley for your amazing generosity!



Several donors also gave new handmade knit items to Circle of Hope last month, which will help homeless children and adults stay warm and healthy throughout the winter. Thank you to Ellen, the Congregational Church of Canton, and Needham Rotary Club for these beautiful donations!

CIRCLE OF HOPE | www.circleofhopeonline.org | (781) 449-3700

