



CIRCLE OF HOPE

Helping to build a brighter future for people in need

February 2020

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Coming Up



Mark your calendars for **Saturday, May 2** - HOPE Blooms is back! Keep an eye on your mailbox for our official Save the Date, coming soon.

Drop-Off Times

Monday
9:00 - 11:00 am

Tuesday
9:00 - 11:00 am
3:00 - 5:00 pm

Wednesday
9:00 - 11:00 am
3:00 - 5:00pm

Dear Friends of Circle of Hope,

It's only February, but Circle of Hope has already changed lives in 2020.

In the last month, we launched two new pilot partnerships with healthcare clinics in Dorchester and Roxbury to provide clothing and Welcome Baby items to newborn babies and women who are homeless. With help from our Go-To Crew, we responded to an urgent request from our partner family shelter, Clinton House, and gave warm clothing and blankets to a six month old baby boy. We made nearly 40 deliveries this month to our partner shelters throughout Greater Boston and brought vital winter clothing and outerwear to protect the health and dignity of the vulnerable infants, children, and adults we serve.

We couldn't impact so many lives without you. Thank you to the dozens of donors who immediately responded to our Go-To Crew requests for winter coats, infant and children's clothing, and toiletries last month. I'm very grateful to our generous community for supporting the homeless individuals and families who need our help.

I'm also excited to invite you to our annual spring fundraiser, HOPE Blooms, on Saturday, May 2 at 7:00 p.m. at Needham Golf Club. Please be on the lookout for our official Save the Date, coming soon!

With a grateful heart,

Barbara B. Waterhouse

Barbara Waterhouse
Executive Director

Thank you for coming to our Open House!

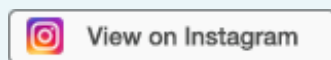
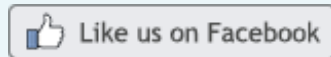
Thursday
9:00 - 11:00 am

Saturday (Sept.-June)
9:00 - 11:00 am

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.



Special Requests



- **Winter coats** for infants, children, women, and men

You Must Hear This...

"Thank you to you and all of your staff for the countless hours that everyone puts in to provide for our guests.



On Saturday, January 25, more than 125 people attended Circle of Hope's Open House celebrating our move to Needham Center!

Staff, volunteers, and Board members gave tours of our new space and chatted with guests, providing information about the mission of Circle of Hope. Guests enjoyed snacks provided by Needham Women's Club and got a behind-the-scenes look at how Circle of Hope serves thousands of homeless infants, children, women, and men each year.

Thank you to everyone who stopped by to visit our new donation center! By the end of the Open House, our donation bins were filled with bags of clothing for the homeless children and adults we serve. We're grateful for our amazingly generous community for helping us keep our most vulnerable neighbors warm and healthy.

Amazon Winter Wish List



Our Winter Wish List is back! Again this year, we created a wish list on Amazon to give donors a quick and simple way to donate winter essentials to homeless children and adults.

The volunteers that put together all of the nice clothing in the bags and do all the sorting so our guests can look presentable are A1."

-Southampton Street Shelter Staff

Go-To Crew Success



In January, we ran dangerously low on clothing for infants and toddlers. The manager of Clinton House Family Shelter called us to help a newly arrived family, including a mother and her six month old baby boy. We also needed to send infant and toddler clothing to other family shelters right away, so we asked our Go-To Crew for help. Within days, we received dozens of donations of infant and toddler clothing, some of it brand new! Thank you to our Go-To Crew heroes for your generous response to this urgent need! With your help, we gave winter clothing and blankets to all the babies and toddlers who who are homeless.

The list includes some of our most-needed winter items like hats and mittens for toddlers and school-aged children, winter boots and coats for men, and new socks, gloves, and hats for women and men. These crucial donations bring warmth and health to homeless individuals, helping prevent frostbite, hypothermia, and other exposure-related health conditions.

[To view our Winter Wish List, click here.](#) To purchase items from the list, simply add them to your shopping cart and proceed with checkout as you normally would. When asked to select a shipping address, select "Circle of Hope Gift Registry Address" to have the items sent directly to COH. We will give the items you purchase to homeless children and adults in our partner shelters and clinics within two weeks.

Thank you for helping homeless children, women, and men stay warm and healthy this winter!

New Clinic Partnerships

Circle of Hope is expanding its health clinic partnerships! Already this year, we launched new pilot partnerships with two healthcare centers serving homeless individuals: Bowdoin Health Center in Dorchester and the Dimock Center in Roxbury.

We made our first delivery to Bowdoin Health Center in early January, bringing six Welcome Baby Bags and infant clothing to the homeless newborns receiving care. A mom with newborn twins was overjoyed and especially grateful for the warm blankets because the shelter rooms are so cold. We are working closely with the Community Health Workers to help homeless infants thrive in their early months and monitor the success of the Pilot Program over the next six months.



Our first delivery to the Dimock Center took place in early February. We provided clothing, toiletries, and Welcome Baby items to their "Women's Renewal - Clinical Stabilization Services" program. By providing essentials for health and dignity, we help homeless women who are recovering from substance use disorders, mental health disorders, and trauma.

After our first delivery, a clinician at the Dimock Center

said:

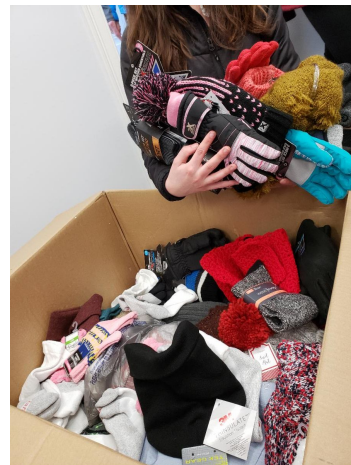
"Words cannot express how thankful we are for your contribution. You went over the top and for that we thank you as well as from the clients. Thank you does not cover it."

We're excited to partner with these two healthcare clinics and we're proud to serve more women and infants who are homeless and need our help.

Community Action



Dr. Laurie Konowitz, who received our inaugural "Hope Award" at HOPE Blooms last year, saw our request for winter coats and purchased dozens of new coats for homeless children and adults.



An officer from the **Wellesley College Police Department** came to Circle of Hope in January to donate clothing for young adults and college students who are experiencing homelessness (left).

St. John's Episcopal Church in Arlington collected brand new winter accessories and donated dozens of pairs of gloves, hats, and socks to Circle of Hope (right).



The students, staff, and families of the **Memorial-Spaulding School** in Newton once again held a collection drive benefitting Circle of Hope! They collected and donated warm clothing for the homeless children and adults we serve (left).

A generous donor named Kathryn collected brand new toiletries from friends and neighbors to donate to COH (right). Thank you so much, Kathryn, for bringing these vital dignity items for homeless women and men!

The **Staples Childcare Center** in Framingham held a coat drive and donated 50 warm winter coats for children, women, and men.



For several years in a row, **Peoplefit Health and Fitness Center** has held collection drives benefitting Circle of Hope. Beth (left) made several deliveries of warm winter clothing and coats for the homeless individuals and families we serve.

Hunnewell Elementary School in Wellesley held a winter collection drive benefitting Circle of Hope and donated hundreds of hats, gloves, and scarves for homeless adults (right).



The **Noble and Greenough School** in Dedham saw our request for winter coats. The school had been running a collection drive to gather coats and winter accessories and immediately sent over some of their collected donations to Circle of Hope (left)!

Nancy (right) from Walpole donated two big bags of soft, warm winter hats and scarves, which she knit herself!



The **Christ Church Knitting Group** donated dozens of beautiful handmade winter hats to keep homeless individuals warm (left). A longtime donor named Ruthie (right) also knit winter accessories for homeless adults and donated them to COH last month.



Our friends at **Rockland Trust's Needham Branch** celebrated the holidays by buying new winter hats, gloves, and socks for people who are experiencing homelessness (left).

The **Rotary Club of Needham** donated \$1,000 worth of brand new clothing, boots, and winter accessories to keep homeless children and adults warm and healthy this winter (right).



The Yarn Art Group at **St. Luke's Lutheran** in Dedham knit dozens of winter hats, scarves, and mittens for homeless children and adults and donated them to Circle of Hope last month (left).

A longtime Circle of Hope volunteer, Diana, made the beautiful quilt pictured above (right) and donated it to Circle of Hope to keep someone warm in shelter.
