

# Helping to build a brighter future for those in need

## January 2021

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#### **How to Donate**

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

- 1. Purchase items from our <u>Amazon Wish</u>
  <u>List</u> and have them sent to COH.
- 2. View our <u>list of current</u> <u>donation needs</u> 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 information and to

### Dear Friends,

Happy New Year! I hope you had a safe and healthy holiday season. We look for a brighter, healthier new year of hope!

I am thrilled to report that with your help, we surpassed our Annual Campaign fundraising goal! Your generosity will fuel our contactless deliveries of clothing, PPE, and hygiene supplies to families and individuals experiencing homelessness this year. Your help has never been more needed to protect our vulnerable neighbors with the essentials they need to stay healthy. Thank you from the bottom of my heart!

Between March and December 2020, Circle of Hope gave 72,000 pieces of new clothing, PPE, outerwear, and hygiene supplies to homeless children, women, and men. These essentials are saving lives. Already this year, we have made contactless deliveries to ten of our partner shelters and programs, including Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence, Framingham State University, Woods-Mullen Shelter, and Boston Police Department and responded to five emergency requests.

Below, you'll read more about our COVID-19 response and the latest collection drives and donations from our amazing community.

Most gratefully, Barbara

#### 2020: Year In Review

In March 2020, when the COVID-19 crisis struck in Massachusetts, Circle of Hope immediately pivoted toward disease prevention. Between March and mid-December 2020, we made 135 deliveries to our partner shelters, healthcare clinics, and programs.



We provided more than 72,000 donations to homeless families and individuals in that time, including 32,000 hygiene supplies and more than 10,300 pieces of personal protective equipment (PPE). These essentials helped prevent the spread of COVID-19 in our partner shelters, protecting health and saving lives.

2020 was an incredibly challenging year for all of us. We're grateful and proud to have continued serving our most vulnerable neighbors.

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 winter coats for all ages/sizes
- New winter accessories for all ages/sizes

## You Must Hear This...

"We want to say thank you to Circle of Hope for all the support and clothes that we've received. I'm not working right now with the coronavirus and the father of my girls passed away. We're so thankful for all the support we've received."

-Mother of three girls who received COH clothing from Boston **Police Department** 

We'll continue providing the PPE, brand new clothing, and hygiene essentials they need to stay healthy and safe throughout this crisis and beyond.

#### Cheers to the Volunteers!



As we welcome a new year and reflect on the last, we'd like to extend our deepest gratitude to our amazing volunteers. When the COVID-19 crisis began in March, our volunteers immediately stepped up. By December, they had made 135 contactless deliveries to our partner shelters in Boston, Framingham, Waltham, and Cambridge.

Always up for a challenge, our volunteers have also helped unload large donations and shipments, packed their cars to the brim full of donations for homeless families, and even hopped in the COH delivery van when donations wouldn't fit in their own vehicles. Without this dedicated group of individuals, we couldn't do our lifesaving work.

We deeply miss our volunteer sorters and we look forward to the day we can all reunite in person again. To every member of our COH volunteer family, thank you for all that you do!

### **Community Action**

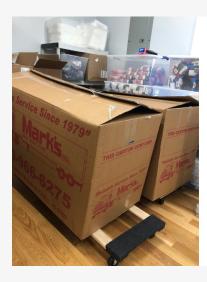




Dale from Muzi Ford (left) dropped off a box of face masks for homeless individuals! We're sending out masks with every single delivery so this incredible donation will have a huge impact.

Staff at Well in Newton held a company collection drive and bulk

ordered new donations for Circle of Hope from Amazon (right). Many thanks to Gary, Mina, Jeffrey, and everyone involved in the drive for protecting the health of homeless families and individuals this year!





Lisa and Mark Silverman donated \$30,000 worth of brand new women's clothing to Circle of Hope from Lisa's Boutique in Needham (left). If the boxes look a bit familiar, that's because Mark and Lisa also donated moving services from Mark's Moving & Storage for our move to Needham Center last year!





The Petronio family (left) organized a turkey trot collection drive for Circle of Hope and donated more than a dozen COVID Kits, Dignity Bags, and brand new baby clothes for homeless families.

Lauren (right) dropped off 100 COVID Kits from Pack 4 Needham Cub Scouts! The boys met up outside to assemble these kits full of face masks, soap, sanitizer, and hand towels for homeless families and individuals.





Employees from Keller Williams in Needham organized a wonderful collection drive and donated new winter coats and accessories to Circle of Hope (left).

Mali from Payette (right) organized a collection drive at work and assembled a whopping 191 COVID Kits for homeless individuals and families!





Sue (left) collected donations from friends and colleagues and was able to purchase 28 brand new winter coats for homeless children! Such an amazing way to help this winter.

Students, parents, and teachers at Newman Elementary School collected the contents of COVID Kits and donated a big box of fully-assembled kits to Circle of Hope (right).





Longtime volunteer Diana (left) has been working with her neighbor to make beautiful new masks for Circle of Hope!

A big thank you to Laurie (right) for buying and donating brand new winter coats! Your generosity will help homeless children stay warm and healthy this winter.



Bonnie from B in Touch Massage Therapy in Needham dropped off many pairs of brand new socks for homeless individuals! Every winter, she organizes a sock drive and this year was no different. Thank you to Bonnie and everyone at B in Touch for supporting the vulnerable families and individuals we serve!

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





