



Helping to build a brighter future for those in need

March 2021

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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

Dear Friends,

The peril of winter for people experiencing homelessness is behind us. Circle of Hope stuffed the last winter coats and gear into our van and volunteers' cars. Every homeless toddler, child and parent in the family shelters we serve received a new winter coat. You, our donors and supporters, made that possible with your generous donations to our Share the Warmth initiative. Support for our Annual Fund fuels our ongoing COVID-19 emergency response.

In the past three weeks, Circle of Hope responded to two urgent requests from the Boston Police department and Framingham State University (FSU) to help families who lost everything in tragic house fires. We gave warm clothing, blankets and a portacrib to a family with a newborn baby.

Thank you to the dozens of donors who immediately responded to our Go-To Crew requests last month for infant clothing, and sweatshirts and sweatpants for people of all ages. You replenished our supplies and made it possible for us to keep our promises to all the shelters, clinics, and neighborhood programs. I'm very grateful to our generous community for supporting the homeless individuals and families who need our help.

Spring at COH also means planning is underway for our annual event, HOPE Blooms. Stay tuned for details about this year's virtual event. I'll give you a hint, Broadway is involved!

Please accept my heartfelt gratitude for helping us protect our most vulnerable neighbors from COVID-19 and bringing warmth and hope to the people we serve this month.

With warmest gratitude,

Barbara

We've Got You!

appointment. [Click here](#) for more 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



- Reusable masks

You Must Hear This...

"The staff at Circle of Hope is amazing! They always make sure they send items for all family members. Nobody is left out, from expecting moms to expecting dads. Without this huge help, we could not help these families in their times of turmoil.

-Matilde Medina, Pearl Street shelter



During February's big storm, a multi-family house fire displaced families who lost everything. Circle of Hope answered the emergency call for help from the Boston Police within 24 hours by providing warm clothing, boots, essentials for a new mother, and a portacrib for the new baby. This family (above) was so appreciative to get the help they needed when they lost everything. Thank you to our generous donors and volunteers for making sure we have new clothing, PPE and necessities at the ready so we can respond immediately to make these emergency deliveries to families in crisis.

Get Set on Campus!



After being closed due to the pandemic, the food pantry at UMass Boston re-opened on March 2nd. Within the first two days, they served 44 students who are food and housing insecure. COH was there with a donation of toiletries and personal hygiene essentials to protect the health and dignity of vulnerable students in need. Mariette Ayala of Urban and Off Campus Student Services expressed her gratitude.

"U-Access is incredibly grateful for this donation from Circle of Hope. This contribution comes at an important time as our students balance college, finances, and a global pandemic. By supporting students with the resources and services they need to be successful outside of the classroom, it will

help them to perform well inside their classes."

Many homeless and housing insecure students are greatly impacted by the pandemic. COH is proud to support U-Access as part of our *Get Set* program with a mission to help college students stay healthy and safe this semester.

Caring Companies



We express our deep gratitude to *Altar'd State and A Beautiful Soul*, for their extraordinary gift to COH. For a second year as part of their "Mission Mondays" program, we received a generous check for \$3,700 in support of our mission to protect the health and dignity of homeless individuals in Boston and MetroWest. Thank you to the wonderful staff at both Altar'd State and A Beautiful Soul for your incredible generosity!

Teamwork!



Through our partnership with Life Science Cares (LSC), Circle of Hope has received critical funding throughout the pandemic, including COVID-19 operational support, as well as grant funding for Circle of Hope's *Get Set* program for homeless college students. We are grateful to be part of a unique partnership that connects COH to corporate partners and employee volunteer engagement opportunities.

In collaboration with LSC , we coordinated a virtual family program over zoom to teach "How to make COVID kits". Rebecca from Nimbus Therapeutics (above) shared, "It was the most fun I've ever had on a zoom call!" Employees from C4 Therapeutics and Kymera Therapeutics also took part and donated over 150 kits to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and help their homeless neighbors. Thank you to all the COVID kit makers, we had fun too!

And on top of all that, Kymera also organized a coat drive. We gave 65 people winter coats through our partner shelters thanks to Kymera.

Teamwork makes our dream work in protecting lives.

Newest Member of the Family



We are thrilled to introduce you to COH's newest family member. Communications Manager, Carolyn Conley-Das, shares a precious moment with us with her beautiful new son Logan, who joins big brother Finn at home. With warm hearts, all of us at Circle of Hope wish her and her husband much love and congratulations on their expanded family. We're eager to welcome Carolyn back to Circle of Hope later this spring.