



CIRCLE OF HOPE

Helping to build a brighter future for those in need

September 2021

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How to Donate

1. Purchase items from our [Amazon Wish List](#) and have them sent to COH.
2. Donate new and gently used donations in excellent condition in person. All donation drop-offs are by appointment. Please note, we can accept no more than 3 paper grocery bags or white kitchen trash bags of gently used clothing per drop-off. No black trash bags, please. There is no bag limit for **new** donations.

To schedule an appointment to drop off **brand new** donations, [please click here.](#)

To schedule an

Dear Friends,

I hope you had a happy, healthy, rejuvenating summer! Last week, we kicked off September by bringing new clothing and toiletries to Boston Health Care for the Homeless Program, UMass Boston, and Women's Lunch Place. Our donations are protecting the lives of infants, children, women, and men experiencing homelessness in Greater Boston.

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, we are getting so many requests and urgently need your help. Please donate new outfits and masks for K-12 students experiencing homelessness, run a collection drive for new socks and underwear, or assemble [Welcome Baby Bags](#), [Dignity Bags](#), or [COVID Kits](#) with your family, friends, or colleagues. Please visit our ["How to Help"](#) page for more ideas and don't hesitate to reach out to us with questions.

We're updating our donation policies and protocols, so please check below for those important updates.

This isn't the September we imagined, but we're ready to protect our fragile neighbors. Together, we can do this!

With warmest gratitude,
Barbara

Donation Updates

Beginning 10/5, we are piloting a new way for you to donate gently worn clothing to Circle of Hope for the month of October.

In addition to accepting brand new items, we will accept donations of gently used **casual** clothing in excellent condition for all ages and sizes, including: T-shirts (short and long sleeve), sweatpants, sweatshirts, jackets, coats, winter boots, leggings, and athletic wear. **We cannot accept button-down shirts, dresses, business clothing, or formalwear.**

Please understand we can accept no more than **3 paper grocery bags or white kitchen trash bags of gently used clothing per drop-off. No black trash bags, please.** There is no bag limit for brand new donations.

Appointments are required for donation

appointment to drop of gently used donations, [please click here.](#)

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 underwear and socks for women (all sizes)
- Pads and tampons (new, unopened packages)

You Must Hear This...

"Thank you so much for your donations. I just want to say that you are making a big difference in these students' lives, so thank you so much."

-UMass Boston Student

drop-offs and can be scheduled online via Sign Up Genius. To schedule an appointment to drop off **new** donations, [please click here.](#) To schedule a time to drop off gently used donations, [click here.](#)

Everyone entering Circle of Hope must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and wear a face mask at all times while inside.

If you have questions about these changes, please don't hesitate to ask by replying to this email. Thank you very much for your patience and understanding as we navigate the ongoing pandemic and continue doing everything we can to protect the health and safety of all of our donors, volunteers, staff, and recipients of our donations.

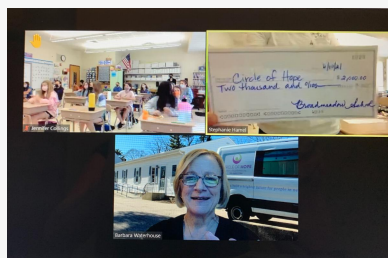


Fifth Grade Givers

In June, fifth graders at Hunnewell Elementary School did an incredible donation project for Circle of Hope. Each student donated brand **new** outfits in his or her own size for a child experiencing homelessness. Luke, a Hunnewell student, came to COH with his sister, Juliet, and his mother, Liza, to drop off more than 300 new clothing items for children who are homeless.



This isn't the first time the students at Hunnewell School have given to COH! They have done donation projects like this one for several years, including a COVID Kit project last winter. We're so grateful to these wonderful students for their compassion, action, and generosity!



This past spring, fifth graders at Broadmeadow Elementary School participated in a months-long "March Madness Giving Project." The students researched, discussed, and wrote about 32 local nonprofit organizations. Through sponsored reading, the students raised money to donate

to the nonprofits of their choosing. The students awarded \$2,000 to Circle of Hope! COH Executive Director Barbara Waterhouse accepted the generous donation at a virtual presentation with these amazing fifth grade givers. Our heartfelt thanks to these amazing students for helping so many people in need!

Students Experiencing Homelessness Need Your Help

Through our partnerships with family shelters and the Boston Police Department, Circle of Hope provides clothing and necessities to thousands of elementary, middle, and high school students who are

homeless. In Boston Public Schools alone, more than 4,000 students experience homelessness each year.

You can help vulnerable K-12 students stay healthy and warm this school year by donating a new outfit for a student who is the same size as a child in your life.

Children outgrow clothing quickly and many homeless families can't afford clothing for their kids. Parents face difficult choices of buying food or paying medical bills, and rely on summer clothing into the colder months. By donating a new outfit, you will not only give a child the warm clothing they need for health, you will also give them the confidence to attend school with new, well-fitting, seasonally appropriate clothing.



[Schedule your appointment to drop off new donations by clicking here.](#) Thank you!

Health and Hygiene for Women

We are receiving so many requests from our partner shelters and healthcare clinics for new socks, underwear, and feminine hygiene products. We need your help protecting the health and dignity of women and girls who are experiencing homelessness.



A teen who recently received a package of pads from Circle of Hope said she hadn't had any feminine hygiene products in 6 months. Surveys show that [two thirds of low-income women can not afford menstrual products](#) and that [1 in 5 women has missed work or school](#) because they don't have access to pads or tampons. Additionally, without hygiene products and new, clean underwear, women are left vulnerable to infection.

Please consider donating these vital products to Circle of Hope or running a collection drive to gather these new, unopened items from your friends, family, colleagues, church members, or classmates. [Schedule your appointment](#) to drop off new socks, underwear, and feminine hygiene products via Sign Up Genius. For information on how to run a collection drive, please visit our [website](#) or reach out to [Carolyn](#) with any questions. Thank you!