



CIRCLE OF HOPE

Helping to build a brighter future for people in need

January 2017

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Ride for Hope

Coming Up

Ride for Hope



Join us on Saturday, Jan. 14 at CycleBar in Wellesley for a charity spin class benefitting Circle of Hope! Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased in advance by [clicking here](#), or at the door by cash or checks made out to Circle of Hope. See you there!

Happy New Year from your friends at Circle of Hope!



Dear Friends of Circle of Hope,

Happy New Year! This holiday season has been amazing meeting the urgent needs of the homeless families and individuals who count on us. As winter arrived our shelves were filled with warm clothing and boots, thanks to our generous donors. Volunteers filled our van and their cars with overflowing bags of coats and warm clothes for homeless adults and children in each shelter and clinic we serve. When tragedy struck in Cambridge we helped dozens of children and women who lost everything. Learning this news, compassionate donors lined up at the front door of Circle of Hope with bags and bins brimming with an outpouring of warmth. Truly, without hyperbole, I know we saved lives the last weeks of December.

My heartfelt gratitude goes to every donor who makes our vital mission possible. So far, we've reached 95% of our Annual Fund goal! Thank you for giving from your heart to help us reach the most vulnerable children and adults in our local communities. If you haven't made a donation yet, please consider a gift of any size to Circle of Hope. You provide the hope and, together, we promote the dignity and health of our fragile neighbors.

With deepest thanks,

Barbara P. Waterhouse

Barbara Waterhouse
Executive Director

Circle of Hope's Rapid Emergency Response Brings Warmth to Dozens

As you may have heard, last month a 10-alarm fire broke out in Cambridge, destroying multiple buildings

**We re-open
Wednesday, January
4 at 9:00 am.**

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

Thursday
9:00 - 11:00 am

Saturday
9:00 - 11:00 am

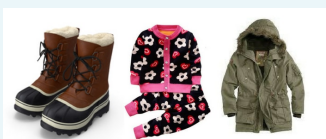
Annual Campaign

There is still time to contribute to Circle of Hope's 2016 Annual Campaign! We have already reached 95% of our fundraising goal. Help us make it to 100% by donating today!

[Click here to donate now.](#)

Special Requests

- Adult winter boots
- Winter coats (sizes XL-3X especially)
- Girl's clothing (sizes infant to 8)



and cars and leaving more than 125 people, including dozens of children, without a home. Soon after the fire destroyed everything these families owned, the temperature in New England dipped to dangerous lows. Cambridge saw several days where the temperature never surpassed 10 degrees. In addition to the families displaced by the fire, homeless individuals and families in the area found themselves without adequate winter coats and clothing to face the cold.



Mike, a Circle of Hope volunteer, gathering children's coats to make our first emergency delivery to Cambridge

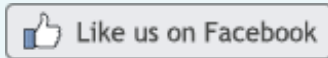
During that time, Circle of Hope received emergency requests for winter coats, clothing, and boots from our partners in Cambridge. Within two hours of receiving the urgent requests, we were able to make the first of four emergency deliveries to On The Rise and Children's Clothing Exchange in Cambridge. The first delivery contained enough warm clothing for 50 children and 36 winter coats. The second delivery included dozens of winter coats for women.

We were able to meet this sudden demand because of generous donations from supporters like you! Now, our supply of a variety of items has been depleted, and we need your help to replenish it so that we can meet the ongoing needs of Boston's homeless population and prepare for future emergency requests. If



One of Circle of Hope's

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



You Must Hear This..

"The work that you and COH do is truly inspiring!! I am happy to be able to make a small contribution. It is amazing to think of how many people you have clothed and what that has meant to them."

-Mary Jo
Circle of Hope donor

Go To Crew Success Story

We sent out two Go To Crew requests in late November and early December for adult winter boots and winter coats in sizes 2XL and 3XL. We have received many donations of coats and boots since then, so thank you to everyone who has hosted a drive or donated their own new and gently used items! We will continue gratefully accepting these items - particularly warm

you are able, please consider donating to Circle of Hope. Together we can keep every family in Boston warm this winter.

newest volunteers, Amy, gathering items to make our second emergency delivery to Cambridge

To donate to Circle of Hope now, please [click here](#).

Ride for Hope!

Get your workout clothes ready!

We are so excited to invite you to **Ride for Hope**, a charity spin class at CycleBar Wellesley benefitting Circle of Hope! If you are looking for a fun way to improve your health and fitness in 2017, this class is the perfect place to start! The class is open to all fitness levels and is sure to be fun for everyone. Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased in advance online by [clicking here](#) or at the door by cash or check. Checks can be made out to Circle of Hope and all proceeds go directly to helping the homeless. Bring a friend!

When

Saturday, Jan. 14
4:30 pm - 5:15 pm

Where

CycleBar
386 Washington Street, Wellesley

Cost

\$25/person
Pay [online](#) or at the door!



Celebrating the Generosity of Our Community

clothing and coats in sizes XL to 3XL - for the remainder of the cold winter months!



Barre3 employees displaying their finished Welcome Baby Bags

December was another incredible month at Circle of Hope! We received donations from a variety of community groups and organizations, from Girl Scout troops to churches to fitness studios. As the temperature plummeted, our hearts warmed with each collection drive and every donation. Thank you so much to everyone who took the time to organize a drive and make a donation!

Last month, **Barre3** owner Liz Hay brought a group of employees to Circle of Hope to pack Welcome Baby Bags. Using a list of the Welcome Baby Bag contents, Barre3 hosted a collection drive to gather the new items before they came to Circle of Hope.



Liz and Noa of Barre3 completing the last of the Welcome Baby Bags

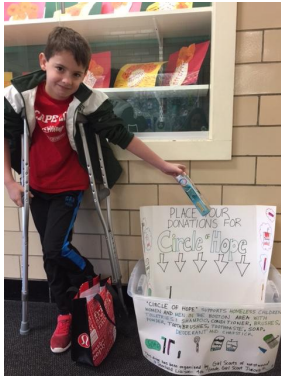
They packed 11 bags, which are being distributed to moms and babies living in the shelters we serve. The bags contain onesies, bottles, wipes, and other essential items needed to care for a newborn or infant. Thank you so much, Barre3, for hosting the collection drive and packing the Welcome Baby Bags!



Harley, a Memorial-Spaulling School parent, delivering coats to COH

Several classrooms at the **Memorial-Spaulling School** in Newton hosted collection drives on behalf of Circle of Hope last month. Parents from a kindergarten classroom and a first grade classroom dropped off boxes of warm clothes, winter coats, and other outerwear. Thank you so much to the students, parents, and teachers who made this drive possible!

In November and December, the **Girl Scouts of Westwood** hosted a toiletry drive to benefit Circle of Hope! Thank you so much to the Girl Scouts for hosting the drive and to the Deerfield School for collecting these important items!



Alexander dropping some toothpaste in the Circle of Hope donation bin at his school

The 4th Annual St. Nicholas Boot Drive hosted by **Christ Episcopal Church** in Needham was a major success! The collection drive gathered 36 pairs of new winter boots in a variety of children's sizes, which were delivered to family and domestic violence shelters within a week. We have seen snowfall and frigidly cold temperatures in the last few weeks, so these boots came at a perfect time. Thank you to everyone at Christ Church who made the drive so successful! You all have given the gift of warmth

and health to homeless children.

At the annual Dedham Holiday Stroll on Dec. 2, **Discover Music and Art** hosted a coat drive on behalf of Circle of Hope! At the Holiday Stroll, Dedham businesses stay open late and offer special promotions to customers and visitors. Marianne from Discover Music and Art took this opportunity to give back to the community by collecting coats for homeless people in Boston. Thank you very much, Marianne, for your thoughtfulness!



Marianne of Discover Music and Art standing with items from a previous collection drive

Thank you so much to all of the individuals, organizations, and businesses that hosted collection drives on behalf of Circle of Hope. Each of you has an enormous impact on the lives of homeless children, women, and men in Boston and Cambridge.