

Holiday Stockings for HOMELESS CHILDREN

Spring 2012

Thanks to our Santa Elves

Once again over 700 of Santa's elves showed up to help sort toys, stuff and deliver 3217 stockings for homeless children to 86 shelters from Everett to Tacoma, North Bend to Port Angeles. For the past 16 years volunteers have brought a sense of normalcy to the lives of homeless children. Although we'd love to list all of you generous donors, that list is simply too long. Please know that your help made a tremendous difference in the lives of homeless children.

A report recently put out by the Seattle/King County Coalition on Homelessness shows 21,826 homeless students statewide in the 2009-2010 school year, a 30 percent increase in three years. That reporting period compares the numbers of homeless students reported in the 2006-2007 school year, before the recession began in December of 2007, to the most current full year, 2009-2010. Of the 10 districts with the highest numbers of homeless students in the state, eight reported increases from 2006-07 to 2009-10. Bellingham, for example, was up 80 percent, Tacoma up 17 percent, Seattle up 27 percent and Highline up 21 percent. Our effort to give gifts that meet the needs of these homeless children and teens is more important than ever.

Your support makes a difference. A small gift or toy during the holiday season helps to lift the spirits of these children, and reminds them that others are interested in their well-being. We appreciate that you've chosen Holiday Stockings for Homeless Children as one of your favored charities.

Sincerely,
Bobette Scheid, President

Our Mission...

A Coast Guard family and community friends organization that provides homemade stockings filled with small basic and educational needs, with new useful essentials, gifts and toys for homeless children ages infant through teens in Puget Sound shelters.



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Thank You's

Broadview Emergency Shelter

The kids loved the tiny stuffed animals in the stockings and all the little goodies. They are fun for the kids to open! Thank you!

Korean Women's Shelter

The children went through and looked at every item. Moms were really thankful for the winter clothing and hygiene items. Some of the comment's the kids said: "Wow! Bubbles"(then went to play right away) "I love ducky!" "So Much"

Catherine Booth House

Each family was given the stockings and the moms were given the responsibility of giving the stockings to the kids. After Christmas all of the kids were very excited to express their Christmas Joy brought in by the stockings. We appreciate all of your gifts. You made Christmas that much more special for the kids during a hard time. Thank you so very much.

Auburn Youth Resources

I have to say... these stockings were among the best I have seen! Thank you so so much! They were so welcomed by the kids on the streets and also in the shelter programs... very much needed!

Great Place to Volunteer

Open registration begins September 1st, for this year's event. A limited number of volunteers are needed for sorting toys on Friday, December 7, 2012 from 1-6 p.m. and for the stuffing event on Saturday, December 8, 2012 from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Shelter Captains should arrive 1 hour before on Saturday to get their station ready.

The registration deadline is November 30, 2012. Base security requires all volunteer names be submitted by this date; any Non-US Citizen volunteer with passport must register by November 9 for security verification.

All vehicles must have proof of insurance and registration and ALL persons over the age of 18 must have photo ID. Volunteers must be registered by name and meet insurance, registration, and ID requirements to be allowed on the site. Register with Bobette Scheid, bobette@holidaystockings.org or (206) 232-9854 and specify the Friday and/or Saturday event. As space fills quickly, we recommend groups sign up early and you may add group member names up until the deadline.

Scout and youth group volunteer registration is limited. We request a 1:3 adult/child ratio for all children under age 18.



Peace for the Streets from Kids from the Streets (PSKS),
Street Youth, Seattle

Ways to Donate

Donate Funds: Gifts may be made by check (payable to “Holiday Stockings”) and mailed to: PO Box 6392, Bellevue WA 98008, or by credit card via PayPal, at www.holidaystockings.org, or by phone. (Marianne Parsons 425-957-0469)

Employer Matching Gift by checking with your company’s Human Resource Office to see if they will match your donation.

Honor a Memory or a special occasion by giving a Tribute Gift in the name of someone you care about. Contact Marianne at Marianne@holidaystockings.org or 425-957-469.

Gather your Friends, scouts or school and host a party, Fun Run/Walk, Sock, Hat etc. Drive. Help raise funds and awareness for homeless children. Contact anyone of our board members listed on the front of the newsletter for help and resources.

So Sew! We need over 3,000 stockings made for next year. A pattern can be emailed, picked up or delivered along with fabric. We also need hats; knitted, crocheted, or sewn. We have yarn if you need it. Bibs for infants are also needed. We have bib patterns & fabric if needed. Contact Pearl at Pearl@holidaystockings.org or 425-641-8577 for more information.

A Group of Generous Friends

Employees from the Puget Sound Energy had a Veterans Awareness Day with information on the Coast Guard Holiday Stockings displayed.

“We had a very well attended event, some 300 PSE employees joined together to listen to words from Major General (Ret.) James Collins.”

Laurie Hatch, Community Involvement Program Manager, PSE

In celebration of Pearl Grantham’s 80th birthday and 17 years of volunteering on the board of Holiday Stockings, \$80 was donated for her years of dedication and enthusiasm from the first day we began.

Leslie Verhey worked with her Starbucks manager in Bothell to get 7 Starbucks stores in Bothell/Kenmore/Lake Forest Park areas to participate. In less than four weeks, their customers donated over 700 items! Way to go Leslie!!

Semper Paratus to the men and women of the Coast Guard who provide security, and securing our facility and supplies in storage. A special thanks goes to RADM Keith Taylor, Capt Klapproth, Capt Anne Ewalt, Chaplain Alan Lenz, CWO3 Jeff Niblett, CWO3 Randy Sommerville, Art & Victor in the gym and Eric Chandler who all went above and beyond.



DAWN’s House Kent

One little 5 year old boy told his older teen sister “See, I told you Santa would find us. I know it’s him cuz he didn’t just bring presents! It takes the REAL SANTA to bring a stocking for Christmas! The moms and children were overjoyed and felt Christmas with stockings made it feel more “normal” and “Christmassy” An incredible addition to the tough holiday for moms.



Domestic Violence Services

We have a holiday party for all of our children. Children of all ages love stockings. The fact that some of the children we see come through one shelter have never experienced the joy of Christmas or have never gotten a stocking brings tears of joy to their moms. How wonderful this gift that you give to so many homeless children! Thanks you on behalf of our clients, staff and Board. Sharon Lee

Thank you for your generosity!

We owe a special thanks to all those who donated time, talent and money to help make Holiday Stockings an enormous success this year. Although we'd love to list all the generous donors, the list is simply too long. Listed are the donors who contributed \$250 and over from March 2011 to February 2012. Please know that your help made a tremendous difference in the lives of homeless children.

BUSINESS DONORS:

Puyallup Tribe of Indians
Good Choice AFH
Savage Color & Printing
Turner Foundation
Suquamish Tribe of Indians
Puget Sound Energy Foundation
Fred Meyer Stores
Horizons Foundation
Puget Sound Regional Group Early Ford V-8 Car Club
Washington Dental Association
Fred Meyer Stores
Costco stores
Comer & Hanby, Inc.
Parsons Associates
PACLAB Employees

INDIVIDUAL DONORS CASH:

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Jeff & Sally Garrett
Donald & Suzanne Dally
Gheorghe & Geta Moldovan
Tom & Mary Ann Liebert
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Scott Anderson
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Kimberly Steffa
Heather Burton
Kerry Thompson
Unitarian Church Teen Group
Diane Sasser
Candy Hamel
NuWest Group
Cheryl McIntosh
Georgine Swensen
Hope Club
Starbucks: Cedar Plaza, Ballinger Village, Lk Forest Pk, Kenmore, Bothell Center, Canyon Pk, Thrasher Corner
Diane Horton
Lisa Steele
MQP MOPS of Bellevue
Minor and James Medical
David Carlson
Albert Lee Appliances
Clearwater Casino
Apple
Wendy DeLong

DENTAL DONORS IN-KIND:

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What We Need For 2012

Thank you for your interest in these homeless children. Your donations are welcome and greatly appreciated. Gifts must be new, individually wrapped, and safe for children.

For pick up or questions contact:

Bobette at Bobette@holidaystockings.org, Pearl at Pearl@holidaystockings.org or Marianne at Marianne@holidaystockings.org

For Infants & Toddlers:

Infant washcloths
Baby rattles
Small stuffed animals, for infants
Infant bibs & hats
Diapers, or
Pull-Ups for 25 lb. child
Small chunky books
Bubbles
Fat crayons and coloring books for toddlers
Baby thermometers

For Elementary School Age:

Boy & Girl socks
Hats & warm gloves
Child toothbrushes & travels size paste
Small brushes & combs
Chap sticks & lip-gloss
Crayons, markers or colored pencils
Sidewalk chalk
Small craft kits
Yo-Yos
Bendable characters
Flashcards or game cards such as Uno or Go Fish
Activity, coloring, & maze paperback books
Punching balloons
Stickers
Play clay
3" balls or bouncy balls
Ready-to-Read paperback books

For Teen Age Youth:

Adult size socks, girly, regular & thermal
Knit or fleece hats
Toothbrushes, wrapped
Travel size toothpaste
Dental floss
Small brushes, combs for girls
Pedicure/manicure sets
4' - 6" nail files
Deodorants for men & women
Body Wash & lotion in small size bottles
Clear chap sticks & lip-gloss
Nail polish
Blush, eye shadow & mascara
Small package of hair ties
Hair-pic, or wide toothed comb
Latest type bracelets
Fancy/fun writing pens & highlighters
Glue sticks
5X7" paperback journals
Jewelry making bead kits
Playing cards
Hacky-Sac balls
Paperback game books: Sudoku, Crossword, Word Find, etc.
Small stuffed animals (Beany Baby size)
Breath mints & sugarless chewing gum
Travel alarm clocks
Batteries (AA & AAA)
4 – 8 GB USB flashdrives

For Street Youths:

Gift cards, Target, Fred Meyer, Ross, grocery stores or \$5.00 food coupons
Phone cards
Bus pass
Hand or Foot warmers
Warm gloves



A Card for Jason



As recorded by YouthCare in Seattle, "When Jason's YouthCare case manager asked him what he'd like for the holidays this year, he responded, "Oh, I just want a card." His case manager asked if he meant a gift card so he could pick something out for himself. "No," he replied. "Like a Christmas card that someone writes in. That way I can keep it for years." It sounds almost too touching to believe, but it is indeed a true story."

School children have been making holiday cards for the youth living on the streets telling them that someone cares about them and to be safe. We would like to include an actual gift card from a grocery store, Fred Meyer or Target in the card this year for all the Jason's out there. Help us do this and if you have a group of children who would like to make holiday cards, contact Mary Ann at maryann@holidaystockings.org.

Please visit our website for more information at
www.holidaystockings.org



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P.O. Box 6392
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