

W I N T E R 2 0 1 9

the
HOLIDAY STOCKINGS NEWS

US COAST GUARD HOLIDAY STOCKINGS FOR HOMELESS CHILDREN

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Our Mission ...

A Coast Guard family and community friend's organization that provides handmade stockings filled with small basic and educational needs, with new, useful essentials, gifts and toys for homeless children ages infant through teens in or reached through shelters in the Puget Sound.

Living on the Streets is Harsh

In 2006 Mary Ann Liebert led the effort to serve the unique needs of unsheltered street youth. There are many reasons these 12 – 25-year olds are homeless. Generally, family dysfunction, conflict with parents and rejection. Also, issues related to gender identity, behavior, drugs or alcohol drives them to the streets drives them to the streets. Some are kicked out of their home while others leave for their own safety.

We now serve between 8-9 Street Youth organizations. Cocoon House, one shelter we serve, tells us that “Living on the streets is a blunt, harsh and often a frightening lifestyle. Typically, Snohomish County’s runaway and homeless youth live in their cars, on the streets, in cheap motels, or will ‘couch surf’ with friends or relatives. Homeless youth are at risk of victimization by drug dealers, physical and/or sexual assault, involvement in prostitution, gangs, and crimes driven by lack of food, shelter and other daily necessities.”

We at Holiday Stockings for Homeless Children play a small but important role in the mission to help these desperate young people. Our stockings stuffed with thermal socks, knitted hats, hand & foot warmers and gift certificates for food and other necessities not only help meet basic needs, but the stockings also provide an opportunity for outreach staff to start a relationship and build trust which leads to connecting them with housing and occasionally returning them home. We now reach 700 Street Youth each year. You all can be proud of your small but important role.

Volunteer for Friday, December 6

We are fortunate to have a growing number of volunteers so we have no openings on Saturday December 7, but we still have openings on Friday, December 6, from 2-6pm for sorting toys, labeling bags, preparing shelter stations and more.

Our **registration deadline is December 1, 2019**. Base security requires all volunteer names be submitted by this date.

All vehicles must have proof of insurance and registration and ALL persons over the age of 16 must have photo ID. All Non-US Citizens must register by November 20 with passport information to enter the base. **Volunteers must be registered by name and meet vehicle insurance, registration, and ID requirements to be allowed on the site.** Register with Bobette Scheid, bobette@holidaystockings.org or (206) 232-9854. As space fills quickly, we recommend groups sign up early. You can make adjustments to your group list up until the deadline. ** Just a note that in 2020 all persons will need an Enhanced Driver's License, Passport or Military ID.

What We Need for 2019

Thank you for your interest in homeless children. Your donations are welcome and greatly appreciated. Gifts must be new and safe for children. The lists of donations below are the gifts we still need to buy. We will be happy to pick up all donations that are ready by Wednesday, December 4 or we can give you a list of drop off sites.

Contact: bobette@holidaystockings.org, 206-232-9854 or pearl@holidaystockings.org 425-641-8577

For Infants and Toddlers

Rattles
Pacifiers
Baby toothbrushes
3" balls

For Elementary School Age

Boy & girl socks
Knitted, crocheted or sewn hats for ages 4-8 years
Like new Beanie Babies
Game cards such as UNO, Phase 10, Go Fish

For Teen Age Youth

Socks, adult size, girly & thermal
Dark color knitted stocking caps
Playing cards
Lunch Snacks
4-8 GB Flash drives

For Street Youth

\$5 gift cards to: Subway, Ross, grocery stores & Target
Hand & foot warmers
Thermal tube socks
Lunch Snacks
1 or 2 Gallon Zip-Lock plastic bags



Several Ways of Giving

97% of Your Donation Fills a Stocking

Gifts may be made by check, payable to “Holiday Stockings” and mailed to: PO Box 6392, Bellevue WA 98008. Or you can donate by credit card via PayPal, at holidaystockings.org. We also accept employee-matching gifts. Check with your company’s human resource. For information: Wendy DeLong, 425-814-5673. Each stocking costs approx. \$25 to produce and fill.



Amazon Smile Supports Holiday Stockings

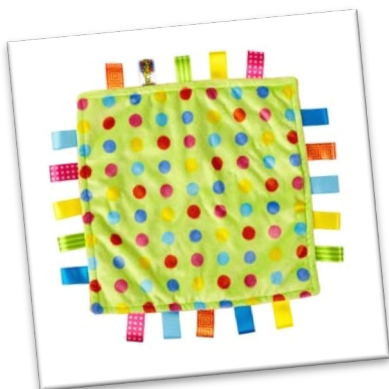
It’s an easy way for you to support HS every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com you will enjoy the same convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com but 0.5% of your purchase price goes to Holiday Stockings. To get started go to smile.amazon.com, register as Holiday Stockings for Homeless Children with your email address then just remember to go to Amazon Smile for all your purchases. See our website at holidaystockings.org.

Hold A Fundraising Event or Collection

Organize a Fun Run/Walk, Bake Sale, or Sock Drive with scouts, school or friends. Help raise funds and awareness for homeless children. Contact Bobette at Bobette@holidaystockings.org 206-232-9854

Fred Meyer Rewards Program

Help us by linking your Fred Meyer Rewards Card to us. It’s easy! Just go to fredmeyer.com/communityrewards, and enter the TH613 or type in “Coast Guard Family and Friends Holiday Stocking” then every time you use your rewards card Holiday Stockings will get a portion of your sale at no cost to you.



Sew Burp Cloths & Tag Blankets

Thank you for sewing over 4600 stockings for this year. We can use more burp cloths and tag blankets. We have fabric and patterns or use your own. Contact: Pearl Grantham at pearl@holidaystockings.org or 425-641-8577 or Bobette Scheid at bobette@holidaystockings.org 206-232-9854.



A BIG Thanks!

We would like to thank the Seattle Yacht Club, Puget Sound Early Ford V8 Club, and Arcadia Memorial Park for making Holiday Stockings their project this year.

And GREATFUL THANKS for our grants from Puyallup Tribe of Indians, and Ernest R. & Audrey M. Turner Foundation.

Holiday Stockings for Homeless Children

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