



donations

MATERIALS

- Items needed for the receiving organization: clothes, food, small appliances, etc.

CONVERSATION STARTERS

- What are some things that you use every day to stay healthy and clean?
- Do you have some clothes in your closet that are in good shape but you never wear anymore?
- What are things you need to live and things that are just nice to have? What are you grateful for?
- How would you feel if you ran out of something you use every day like toothpaste?

START A RIPPLE OF GIVING

- For your next birthday or celebratory event, consider hosting a collection drive or asking for items needed by a nonprofit instead of gifts!

Why donate?

It's a simple question with many answers. First and foremost, It helps those in need of items such as food, toiletries, household items, and clothing. Additional reasons include environmental benefits as items are reused instead of discarded and it instills the value of generosity in young family members as they help select items to donate.

Donations can come in many different forms and it is important to keep in mind what an organization is asking for when donating items.

There are a few key tips and guidelines to keep in mind before dropping off a box of donation items!



TIPS FOR...

Clothing:

Start off by gathering all the clothes that you plan on donating. Check to make sure that there are no holes or rips and then wash and fold the clothes. Sort and label the clothes by size and type and place into boxes – do not use garbage bags. Example: Boy shirts – size S, Girl dresses – size 2T

Food:

It is important that donated food be as safe and nutritious as possible. Always check and see what the organization has requested. Please doublecheck that food items are not past the "Best By" or "Expiration" date. For perishable items, be sure that the organization has appropriate storage and distribution for such items. Also, be wary of packaging that is damaged or could be easily damaged. The best donations are typically canned goods.

Hygiene/Toiletries:

Personal hygiene products are a high priority for people in need. When donating hygiene items, think about items you use every day that are essential to good hygiene. These can be hairbrushes, toothpaste, or feminine hygiene products. Most organizations will have a specified list of items that they are in need of that you can follow.

It is always a good idea to reach out to the organization you are donating to discover their critical needs. There are many types of donations, not just the ones highlighted above. Sometimes organizations have specific needs for larger items that you may have but no longer use such as appliances, furniture, etc. Please keep in mind, it is not helpful to donate items that are not needed. Monetary donations are also greatly appreciated by all organizations.

REFLECTION

Have your family, friends + neighbors come together after working together to prepare donations? Ask each family member to come up with five words that describe the experience in response to the questions below.

- Why was it important to do this project?
- How did you help?
- What was it like to work together as a family for this project?
- What was the most enjoyable part of the experience?

