



# DONATING “STUFF” TO HOPE & HOME

“Stuff” makes up such a big part of life. Children entering foster care often have very little clothing and few possessions to call their own.

Sometimes, kids in foster care feel like they only receive people's leftovers—that's why we believe it is important for our “boutique stores” to be filled with items that are in nice, like-new condition. Items that help communicate to children who have been abused and neglected that there really are people out there who care about them.

## DONATION GUIDELINES

### NEW ONLY:

*Please ensure items are in unopened packaging or still have tags attached.*

- Underwear
- Socks
- Diapers, pull-ups
- Baby wipes
- Formula
- Hygiene Supplies (soap, shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, hairbrushes, feminine products etc.)
- Blankets, sheets, bedding
- Stuffed animals
- Swimwear
- School supplies

### LIKE-NEW OR NEW:

*Please make sure items are in great condition and are not stained, outdated, or worn out.*

- Clothing for kids ages 0-18 (tops, bottoms, jeans, dresses, onesies, jackets, pajamas, etc. )
- Shoes
- Purses, jewelry, belts
- Strollers
- Walkers, high chairs, other infant and toddler “equipment”
- Car seats (we cannot accept expired car seats or car seats that have been in an accident)

### OCCASIONALLY ACCEPTED:

*We have limited storage space —please call before dropping off these items.*

- Like-new toys and books
- Large toys
- Suitcases, duffel bags
- Cribs, beds, furniture

### NOT ACCEPTED:

*Please drop off these items at another local nonprofit!*

- Used bedding or used stuffed animals
- Housewares or kitchen items
- Tshirts with team, group or school logos

*We are happy to accept your donation Monday-Friday, 10am-6pm. Tax receipts are available. If we are closed, please do not leave donations outside our doors. All items are provided to our children and families free of charge.*

**Thank you for thinking of our kids! We are so grateful for your donations and truly couldn't serve kids and families without your help.**

*If you have questions or are unsure whether or not we will accept an item, please call us at 719-575-9887. Interested in volunteering? Contact Amy at [aabernathy@hopeandhome.org](mailto:aabernathy@hopeandhome.org)*

## CAR SEAT DONATION GUIDELINES

*Thank you for your donation of a car seat! This is a critical item for families who welcome babies and small children into their homes. It is a blessing to be able to provide them with a car seat! Please follow these guidelines to ensure we are giving families safe car seats.*

### **We do not accept car seats that have been in any type of car crash.**

*Most car seat manufacturers state that the seat should never be used again if involved in any type of crash.*

### **We do not accept car seats that are within one year of expiration date.**

*Car seat experts recommend not buying used car seats that have less than one year of use left. We follow these guidelines as well when giving car seats to families.*

**Most car seats expire six years from the date of manufacture.**

How to find the expiration date:

- Look for an explicit expiration date printed anywhere on the seat.
  - Some seats will have stickers that say “Manufactured in MAR 2011. Do not use after MAR 2017.”
  - There may be other labels on the seat that have a date on it, but you should look for the manufacture date either imprinted on the plastic or on the same sticker with the car seat model number and manufacturer. The tag sewn into harness straps often has a date on it, but these numbers are not the manufacture date of the car seat. There might be stickers that discuss installation and height/weight guides—if that sticker has a date on it do not use that date as the car seat manufacture date—often it is the date the sticker was last revised.
- Check the owner’s manual if you cannot find the expiration date.
- Call the manufacturer and ask.