



SUPPORT THE CRITICAL NEEDS FOR FAMILIES AND KIDS
IMPACTED BY FOSTER CARE IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD.

Foster families offer radical hospitality, love, and care for kids in crisis in the community. With the COVID-19 pandemic, these families are serving the most vulnerable children and have critical needs. The neighborhood has a unique opportunity to support and encourage foster families who live nearby! Flash Boxes are designed to do just that! Filled with activities, gift cards, and items for both the guardians and kids, Flash Boxes will bless the socks off foster families!

HERE'S HOW TO PUT YOUR BOX TOGETHER

1. Purchase an opaque 12 gallon lidded-tote with snapping/latching handles.

Please DO NOT use a clear tote.

2. Fill it:

Place suggested items in the box to fill it. Get creative and include family focused activities, necessities, items to bless the foster parent(s), and fun items for kids.

3. Write a Note:

Write a handwritten note, on an 8.5 x 11" paper or note card, inside the box's lid with an encouraging note such as:

"Thank you for the love and sacrifice you give for kids in foster care in our community."

"Your hard work does not go unnoticed. Thank you!"

"Your family is full of rock stars, adults & kids!"

"Our community needs you. Thank you for the radical generosity you provide to kids in foster care."

Your message should be easily visible, unsealed, and should not include religious language. You're welcome to sign the notes with your first names or organization's name.

4. Drop it off:

Visit [here](#) to find your nearest drop off location.

Please do not drop your box off at DHS.

WHAT GOES INSIDE

Here are some suggestions for filling a Flash Box with creative, appropriate items

FAMILY ACTIVITIES (At Least 40% of Box)

- Craft/art supplies or activities
- Family friendly DVDs
- Board or card games
- Puzzles
- Books
- Bubble bath and bath toys
- Baking mix, cookie cutters, or cupcake liners
- Disposable film or Polaroid camera and photo album
- Bubbles and wands
- Picture frames
- Headphones or earbuds, chargers, pop sockets
- Small kite
- Deflated ball with air pump
- Educational Activities

Think about creative family activities and have fun!

Inspiration includes: Sports (baseball and mitt, for example); gardening (small birdhouse, paint, and bird seed or seed packet and small hand trowel); gaming, mani/pedi set, etc.



NECESSITIES (At Least 20% of Box)

- Non-perishable foods
- Sanitizing wipes
- Hand sanitizer
- Paper products



ADULT-FOCUSED ITEMS (At Least 20% of Box)

- Soap
- Lotion or bubble bath
- Candles
- Comfy socks
- Car freshener
- Journal
- Water bottle or coffee traveler mug
- Tools
- First Aid kit
- Reusable tote bag
- Bluetooth speaker
- Batteries
- Car mount
- Portable phone charger
- Chocolate

GIFT CARDS OR CERTIFICATES (At Least 20% of Box)

- Amazon
- Meal delivery (Blue Apron, HelloFresh, Uber Eats, etc.)
- Target, Walmart, or Fred Meyer
- Home Depot
- Starbucks
- Family restaurant
- Fast food
- Game Stop
- Foot Locker, Nike, or Adidas
- Apple Store
- Local bowling alley
- Local family fun center
- Cinema
- Redbox

Please DO NOT include any of the following items:

- Used items
- Items for infants (pacifiers, diapers, wipes, etc.)
- Stuffed animals*
- Holiday items (Santa chocolates, Christmas cookie cutters, Easter eggs, etc.)
- Religious items
- Slime or food dye
- Sharp/dangerous objects
- Snacks that expire within nine months
- Violent action figures or toys
- Vitamins

*Kids in foster care get many stuffed animals donated through other organizations. Please think of some other creative ways to surprise kids with special items.

