

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



Foster families offer radical hospitality, love, and care to children experiencing crisis. These families are stepping into incredibly hard moments and often have critical needs as they care for kids. Flash Boxes are one way our community can come alongside them with support and encouragement.

Filled with fun activities, gift cards, and thoughtful items for both caregivers and kids, Flash Boxes are designed to surprise and uplift foster families—blessing their socks off when they need it most!

## 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. Please aim to fill the box **75% or more**.

#### 3. Write a Note:

Write a handwritten note, on an  $8.5 \times 11$ " 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:

#### Two options:

#### **Every Child Central Oregon Warehouse**

580 NE Hemlock Ave., Suite #5 Redmond, OR 97756

\* Check Google for hours

#### First Interstate Bank

Any branch in Central Oregon during business hours. Important: Please leave a note with your name and email for our records and tax receipt.

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
- Household cleaning products



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

- Soap
- Lotion or bubble bath
- Candles
- Comfy socks
- Car freshener
- lournal
- Water bottle or coffee traveler mug

- Tools
- First Aid kit
- Reusable tote bag
- Bluetooth speaker
- Batteries
- Car mount
- Portable phone charger

# 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
- Trampoline park
- Grocery store

# 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 or food

<sup>\*</sup>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.



