



**JOIN THE MOVEMENT OF SUPPORTING
FOSTER FAMILIES IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD
BY HELPING PROVIDE A FLASH BOX!**

Foster families offer radical hospitality, love, and care for kids in crisis in the community. Every Child Oregon believes that the neighborhood has a unique opportunity to encourage and support 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 a 12 gallon (40 quart) lidded-tote with snapping/latching handles :

An example can be found [here](#)
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, items to bless the foster parent(s), and fun items for kids. Remember families often have children within a wide range of ages. We recommend family focused items account for about 50% of the box's value; gift cards for families account for 25%. The average box is valued between \$100-\$125 dollars.

3. Write a Note:

Attach a handwritten thank you note, showing appreciation and support for the foster parent(s). Your message should be easily visible and should not include religious language.

4. Drop it off:

Email info@everychildpdx.org to get connected to your local Flash Box drop-off site.

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 50% 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

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.



ADULT FOCUSED ITEMS (At Least 25% of Box)

- Sanitizing wipes
- 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 25% of Box)

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

Handwritten Thank You Note(s) from the Box Maker(s)

Notes can be simple! Create a handwritten note and tape inside the box's lid with an encouraging message 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."

Please Do NOT Include Any of the Following Items:

- Used items
- Items for infants (pacifiers, diapers, wipes, etc.)
- Stuffed animals*
- Holiday/seasonal items
- 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.

