



Wellspring Family Services Donation Drives FAQ

Thank you for your interest in hosting a donation drive to benefit the children and families we serve! We are grateful for your support.

What is a donation drive?

A donation drive is one way for you, a caring community member, to rally your friends, family, and/or colleagues to collect items that homeless children need. As a donation drive host, you can determine the schedule and format of your donation drive then use our promotional materials to spread the word and invite your own network to participate!

Where can I hold a donation drive?

You can hold a donation drive nearly anywhere! Some ideas: your workplace, apartment complex, child's classroom or school, neighborhood group, book club, place of worship, coffee shops, children's stores/ services, or as part of a social gathering (baby shower, birthday party, anniversary party, etc.). You can also take your donation drive online through Facebook.

What kind of donations should we collect?

Families experiencing homelessness need essential hygiene and household items and the children need coats and jackets, toys, books, and games. We have a wish list of items, but we also encourage you to make the drive your own and collect items that are inspiring to you (children's books, jeans for teens, books about children of color or immigrants, etc.) Feel free to be creative! If you'd like to touch base with us to make sure your ideas align with Wellspring's current needs, call us at (206) 902-4229. Want to shop online and send the items directly to Wellspring? Visit our AmazonSmile Charity List!

When my drive is complete, how do donated items get to Wellspring?

You can deliver your collected items to our facility at

1900 Rainier Ave South

Seattle, WA 98144

Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Please notify us in advance of your donation drop-off, as we'd love to thank you in person – we can arrange a tour to show you how your efforts make a difference in the lives of children who are homeless. Email drives@wellspringfs.org or call 206.902.4259.

Who will benefit from my donated items?

All donations will go directly to the homeless children and families we serve in our free store, Early Learning Center, and through Housing Services program.

How should I spread the word about my donation drive?

We've shared some great resources to help you spread the word about your donation drive here. Share what you're doing by word of mouth, social media, email, or in-person. Copy and paste our client stories to help inspire your friends and family to help homeless families. We'll be sharing these stories on Facebook, so follow us, and then share our posts to your page for your friends and family to read. If you'd like, you can use the following hashtag in your social media posts on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram: #GivingTogether.

Can my drive's participants receive a receipt for their donation?

Yes, please email drives@wellspringfs.org for donation receipts.

More questions?

For questions related to starting your donation drive, promotional materials, or to share an idea not listed on this page, please email drives@wellspringfs.org, or call 206.902.4259.

Tips

- Print out a drive wish list and tape them to a box which then becomes a collection bin! Place it in a convenient location with high foot traffic, like a lobby or break room.
- Promote the drive with flyers, posters, tweets, and emails. Frequent reminders will increase donations! Send Facebook messages and individual emails as well as general messages and group emails. Most people will help if asked directly.
- Encourage financial donations as an option for individuals who don't have time to go shopping but who still want to help kids who are homeless. Create an online donation drive through Facebook.
- Have a small fundraiser, like a bake sale, or give your donors an incentive – like a casual day for \$5. Be creative!
- Schedule your donation delivery and bring the team along for a photo op, or email us a photo to put on Facebook! drives@wellspringfs.org
- Make the drive a competition between floors or departments to encourage participation! Consider giving a small incentive to the winning team. Send out frequent reminders and goal updates. If competing in teams, include status updates.
- Set goals for anticipated donations. (For example, 100 diapers, 50 pairs of jeans, etc. Goals motivate!)
- Share your success and thank those who participated! Social media is a great method. If you'd like, you can use the following hashtag in your social media posts on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram: #ReadytoLearn.
- If you're using Instagram to promote your online donation drive website, don't forget to place the link to your online donation page in your bio section, since Instagram disables links in photos or comments.

- If you're using Facebook to market your online donation drive website or in-person donation collection, make sure to "Pin" the post to the top of your page, so it's the first thing visitors see when they view your page!
- Thank You's are important! Brainstorm creative ways to thank your donors. Have kids in your life? Ask your child, niece or nephew, or grandkid to draw a "thank you" note for all participants! Your child will learn about giving, and your donors will love it!