Tips for Donating with Dignity

At Wellspring, we are committed to serving each family with dignity. To keep this commitment, we only distribute quality items that are in excellent, like-new condition. You can also help us keep this commitment when donating to Wellspring. Here are some of our tips for donating with dignity:

- Only donate items that you would be proud to give to your own child or a child you know and love.
- Carefully check every item to ensure it is in good condition before donating it. For example, do not donate clothing with holes, shoes with stains, broken toys, used coloring books, etc.
- Clean items before donating them; wash clothes, wipe down toys, etc.
- Remember that all donations to the Family Store go to families who are currently experiencing homelessness or at risk of becoming homeless with children between 0-17. We are not like other donation centers that cater to the general public and accept all donation types. Be mindful of this when choosing what to donate.
- We strive to provide only relevant and up-to-date items to families. Please take this into consideration when donating.
- Please ensure trash is not included in your donation and there are no hazardous items.
- When in doubt, please feel free to contact us with any questions.

Accepted Donations

The following is a list of our accepted donations. Please ensure all donations are appropriate for children between the ages of newborn through 17 years. If you have any questions about donating or if you are unsure if we accept an item, please call or email us at 206-902-4234 or 206-902-4264; familystore@wellspringfs.org.
• **Baby Gear** (bibs, burp clothes, receiving blankets, nursing pillows, swaddles, etc.)

• **Blankets & Bed/Crib Sheets** (twin size bedding only)

• **Books**
  - Please ensure books do not have torn pages, front and back covers are fully intact, and are not written in.
  - We cannot accept dictionaries, encyclopedias, cookbooks, textbooks, test-prep workbooks, or parenting books.

• **Clothing**
  - Please ensure clothing does not have any holes, stains, rips, and is not pilled.
  - Please consider donating clothes that are appropriate for the current season.
  - Please only donate adult-sized clothing that is appropriate for teenagers.
  - We cannot accept free T-shirts (for example “2016 5K Walk/Run” or “2019 Seattle Summer Camp”).
  - Please no personalized clothing (for example monogrammed clothes, sports team jerseys, etc.)

• **Diapers & Pull-Ups** (disposable only)
  - We cannot accept adult incontinence supplies.

• **Formula** (must be unopened and not expired)
  - We cannot accept Pedialyte, PediaSure, or Ensure.

• **Hygiene Products** (NEW and UNOPENED only; soap, shampoo, toothpaste, feminine hygiene items, African American hair products, etc.)
  - Full sized hygiene products are preferred since we serve households with multiple family members.

• **Pack n’ Plays**

• **School Supplies**
  - Please ensure school supplies are not used or written on.

• **Shoes**
  - Please ensure shoes do not have holes, rips, or stains, and the soles are fully intact.

• Please no clothing that smells of smoke or has excessive pet hair. We don’t have the capacity to properly launder these.

• We cannot accept business attire or maternity clothing.

• Please no personalized clothing (for example monogrammed clothes, sports team jerseys, etc.)
• Please ensure shoes have laces if needed. We cannot accept shoes that have missing laces.
• Please clean off any dirt or mud from shoes and ensure they are free of sand.
• We cannot accept cleats, high heels, or roller blades.
• **Socks (NEW only)**
• **Toys** (must have all its pieces and be bundled together)
  • We cannot accept any toys that are broken or missing any pieces.
  • We cannot accept loose blocks/Legos, crafts/kits that have been partially completed, or large playsets or tracks.
  • If toys require batteries, please ensure they are not corroded. Please include new batteries if possible.
  • We cannot accept handmade or hand painted toys.
• **Underwear (NEW only)**
• **Wipes** (must be unopened)

**Accepted if Space Permits**

The following items are only accepted if space permits, please call or email before donating these items (206-902-4234 or 206-902-4264; familystore@wellspringfs.org).

• **Car Seats**
  • Cannot be expired and hasn’t been in an accident)
  • Car seats typically expire 6 years after the manufacturer date. You can locate the manufacturer date on the sticker on the bottom of the car seat.
  • Please ensure car seats have at least 6 months before expiration.
  • We cannot accept car seat bases without a car seat.
• **Strollers**
  • We cannot accept jogging strollers.
  • We cannot accept snap n’ go strollers unless accompanied by the corresponding car seat.
Donations Not Accepted

Unfortunately, due to space constraints and the specific scope of our services, there are some donated items that we cannot accept. These include:

- Appliances (microwaves, coffee makers, toasters, etc.)
- Breast pumps and breast pump accessories
- Clothing in poor condition (i.e. with holes or stains)
- Crib bumpers
- DVDs, VHS, CDs
- Electronics (TVs, DVD players, radios, etc.)
- Flammable objects (candles, etc.)
- Furniture (dressers, beds, mattresses, desks, nightstands, chairs, mirrors, lamps, etc.)
- Helmets
- Hiking child carrier backpacks
- Incomplete or broken toys and games
- Kitchenware (pots, pans, glassware, silverware, dishes, etc.)
- Large indoor/outdoor play structures
- Laundry baskets/hampers
- Life vests/jackets/floaties
- Luggage/suitcases
- Maternity clothes
- Medicine & medical equipment
- Postpartum items (postpartum pads, peri bottles, pain relief spray, belly wraps, etc.)
- Recalled baby gear
- Tools
- Toy weapons
- Wall decor (paintings, posters, frames, etc.)