



Helping to build a brighter future for those in need

Summer 2023

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How to Donate

1. **Purchase items from our [Amazon Wish List](#)** or your preferred online retailer and ship them to COH at 1329 Highland Ave. Needham, MA 02492.

2. **[Schedule an appointment](#)** to drop off new and gently used donations in excellent condition in person.

Support COH

To make a financial contribution to Circle of Hope, [click here](#).

Connect with us on social media. Like and share our posts to help spread the word about COH.



Dear Friends,

We are so excited to welcome Circle of Hope's new Executive Director, Ari Barbanell, next month! Ari's first day will be Monday, August 7 and we look forward to introducing you to her directly as she gets settled in.

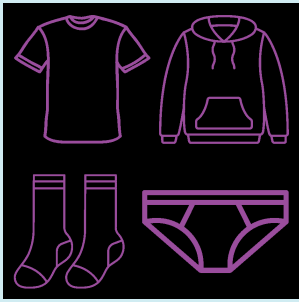
It has been a busy and exciting spring and summer celebrating 15 years of Circle of Hope. We are so grateful to every individual, family, company, and community group who has donated clothing and hygiene essentials, supported Hope Blooms, or organized a collection drive for Circle of Hope over the past several months. Thank you for your generosity, compassion, and dedication to our mission and the people we serve.

Circle of Hope's **donation center will be closed Monday, July 31 through Tuesday, September 5**. Donation drop-offs will resume Wednesday, September 6. Some of our staff will be working remotely during this time so please don't hesitate to reach out! Email Carolyn (carolyn@circleofhopeonline.org) or Caitlin (caitlin@circleofhopeonline.org) with questions.

With our deepest gratitude,
Your friends at Circle of Hope

Needham Bank Supports Get Set

Upcoming Donation Needs



When our donation center re-opens in September, our top donation needs will include:

Light layers for all ages
(T-shirts, light jackets, jeans, sweatshirts, sweatpants)

Back to school clothing
for kids (all sizes)

**Baby clothing and
essentials**

**New socks and
underwear**

You Must Hear This...

"If we didn't meet you, we wouldn't have known what to do. With your support, we were able to help many families. We were able to deliver items to families that were affected by house fires where they lost everything and didn't know where to turn, didn't have clothing to put on."

-Officer Antonette Cabral, Boston Police Department



In addition to generously sponsoring Hope Blooms 2023, Needham Bank organized an impactful volunteer event for their summer interns again this year! The Needham Bank team assembled 50 Get Set packages and Dignity Bags for college students experiencing homelessness and housing insecurity. Each package includes new sheets, towels, a comforter, a laundry bag, and a shower caddy, plus backpacks full of hygiene essentials.

Through our partnership with Boston Police Department, we already gave 35 of these essential packages to recent Boston Public Schools graduates who are heading to college in the fall. The remaining packages will be distributed to our other Get Set partners, including Framingham State University and UMass Boston. Needham Bank's generous efforts will help vulnerable students get a strong start in college, ease their transition, and support physical and mental health.



Thank you, Needham Bank, for your generosity and years of support! Together, we have helped so many people by giving them the essentials they need for warmth, health, and safety.

Many Ways to Help

The results of the 2023 Boston Homeless Census were released in June and reiterated that homelessness is increasing in Boston and across Massachusetts. Your support will be more vital than ever when we re-open in September and transition into the colder months. The families we serve rely

on Circle of Hope for warm clothing, outerwear, and hygiene essentials to keep themselves and their children safe. In addition to donating your gently used clothing, there are many ways to support the children and adults we serve:



Do Some Back To School

Shopping. Shopping for new clothing for your kiddos? Consider buying an extra outfit for a child experiencing homelessness. When our donation center re-opens in September, we will begin sending back-to-school clothing to our partner family shelters right away so children can attend school comfortably.

Run A Collection Drive. Collect new socks, underwear, hygiene essentials, or other donations for Circle of Hope. View our [Collection Drive Guide](#) for help getting started.

Assemble Donation Kits. Together with your colleagues, church members, or community group, assemble [Welcome Baby Bags](#), [Dignity Bags](#), [Period Pouches](#), [Get Set packages](#), or [Emergency Clothing Kits](#) for Circle of Hope.

Join Our Go-To Crew. [Sign up for the Go-To Crew](#) to receive email alerts about our urgent donation needs.

Spread the Word. Follow Circle of Hope on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Linkedin](#), and [Twitter](#) and help spread the word about our mission. Engaging on social media and sharing our posts go a long way!

Donate. Your gift to Circle of Hope enables our team to spring into action whenever a need arises. [Donate online.](#)

Donation Guidelines

We accept new and gently used donations by appointment from 10am - 12pm on Monday - Thursday.

[Schedule your appointment](#) and drop off new or gently used donations any time during your two-hour donation window. **Please bag your new and gently used donations separately** and label each bag "new" or "gently used."

We will accept **up to 3 paper grocery bags or white kitchen trash bags of gently used clothing** per appointment; there is no bag limit for new donations.



Please visit our [website](#) for more information on donation guidelines and don't hesitate to email us with questions!

COVID-19 Policy

Anyone entering Circle of Hope must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and wear an N95 or KN95 mask at all times while inside.

New Items We Accept

- New casual clothing for all ages, including T-shirts (short and long sleeve), sweatpants, sweatshirts, jackets, sneakers, baby clothing, coats, winter boots, leggings, socks, underwear, and athletic wear.
- Unopened hygiene essentials (hand soap, sanitizer, shampoo, conditioner, body wash, lotion, deodorant, pads, tampons, toothpaste, toothbrushes)
- Fully-assembled [COVID Kits](#), [Welcome Baby Bags](#), [Dignity Bags](#), [Emergency Clothing Kits](#), [Period Pouches](#), and [Get Set packages](#)
- New sheets, comforters, and towels
- New face masks (reusable or packages of disposable masks) for adults and children

Gently Used Items We Accept

T-shirts (long and short sleeve), sweaters, flannel shirts, sweatpants, sweatshirts, jackets/coats (fall-spring), winter boots (fall/winter), sneakers, shorts (spring/summer), leggings, jeans, khakis, athletic wear, baby clothes

Items We Do Not Accept

Dress shirts, dresses, business clothing, formalwear, out-of-season clothing, used socks or underwear, items with tears, stains, missing buttons, or broken zippers, bathing suits, used bedding, toys, books, furniture, or appliances

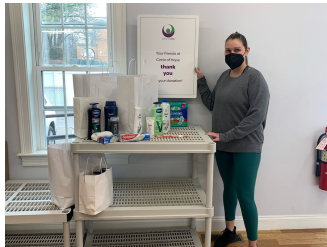
**Schedule Your Donation
Appointment**

Community Action

The Circle of Hope team extends its deepest gratitude to the incredible businesses, community groups, families, and individuals who ran collection drives, assembled donation kits, or donated clothing and other essentials this spring and summer. Your generosity supports physical and mental health for thousands of people experiencing homelessness in our area. Thank you!!



The **Congregational Church of Needham UCC** hosted a "Period Party" and donated 1,000(!) menstrual hygiene kits to Circle of Hope!



The generous team at **Walker & Dunlop** in Needham donated Dignity Bags full of hygiene essentials to Circle of Hope!



The Alpha Iota chapter of **Delta Kappa Gamma** - which includes our own volunteer Judy Waterhouse - donated 40 Dignity Bags to COH as well as several generous checks!



Middlesex Savings Bank donated Welcome Baby Bags fully stocked with newborn essentials to Circle of Hope to support infants experiencing homelessness.



Dean from Pollard Middle School donated an incredible 74 Dignity Bags to Circle of Hope!



Members of the **FedEx** Needham office's Women Leaders Club ran a collection drive and donated hygiene products and new and gently used clothing.



Lincoln resident **Sarah Liepert** dropped off clothing collected in her town-wide clothing drive! The clothing was beautifully cleaned, sorted, folded, and labeled.



Members of the **Cycle Club** at Lexington High School donated more than 1,200 period products and hygiene items to Circle of Hope for women and girls experiencing homelessness!



The generous team at **Repligen** donated 96 Dignity Bags for our neighbors experiencing homelessness and hygiene insecurity.



Volante Farms raised an amazing \$2,200 for Circle of Hope through their Mother's Day "Scoops for Hope" campaign!



Partners Capital Investments assembled 32 Dignity Bags and 6 Emergency Clothing Kits for Circle of Hope!



Real Essentials donated new clothing for families experiencing homelessness. Thank you **Real Essentials** and **Talent Resources** for coordinating this impactful gift!



Higher Ground Fitness donated clothing for families experiencing homelessness and a generous check to support Circle of Hope's mission.



Seres Therapeutics donated 500 Dignity Bags and 600 COVID Kits to Circle of Hope! Thank you **Life Science Cares** for connecting us with this generous team!



Employees at **Korro Bio**, a **Life Science Cares** member company, held a collection drive and donated 4 large bags and boxes of clothing to Circle of Hope.



Six students and two leaders from **Needham Youth & Family Services** donated hundreds of hygiene supplies from a Town of Needham collection drive and spent three hours sorting, bagging, and folding clothing and winter coats for COH.



Circle of Hope | 1329 Highland Avenue, Needham, MA 02492

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