



What is a blessing bag and who receives these items?

A blessing bag is composed of necessities one would need if they were homeless. The items collected will be sorted into book bags and distributed by OhioCAN to our local homeless population throughout the year.

3 Essential Elements to a Great Blessing Bag

Feed Their Needs- One of the greatest gifts you can give to someone who is homeless is personal hygiene items and food to nourish their bodies. Simple items like shampoo, a razor, deodorant, a toothbrush, toothpaste, a comb, a bar of soap, and tissues are great items to keep on hand.

Food like granola bars, crackers with peanut butter, trail mixes, dried fruits, and a bottle of water are also great items to tuck into your bags.

Provide Warmth- We live in Ohio and the winters here are brutal. Add items like thermal boot socks, gloves, scarves, and hats to your bags. These items can be gently used (time to clean out the outgrown winter gear!) or purchased new as low as fifty cents at the dollar store. As poverty affects all ages, we will accept sizes child to adult.

Feed Their Souls- I am sure it goes without saying, but feeding someone's soul is just as important as feeding their needs. You can feed their souls in a variety of ways depending on your family's beliefs and resources. A note that lets them know that they are on your prayer list, a note of encouragement by your children, or a scripture that you find comforting can also be excellent additions.

Please contact Elizabeth Beckley for proper tax deduction forms at 330-717-9241 or Ohiowecan4@gmail.com.

We are collecting the following items for the Blessing Bag drive:

Blessing Bag Supplies

- Backpacks *Gently used is acceptable
- Gallon Size Zip Lock Bags
- Notes of encouragement (poem, passage, quote, letters)

Tools for connecting with loved ones:

- Stationary Set
- Pens
- Note pads
- Stamps

Items for warmth can be sized child to adult, new or gently used!

- Blankets
- Warm Socks
- Gloves
- Scarves
- Hats

Treats:

- Assorted Chocolate
- Chewing Gum
- Fruit Snacks
- Mini Snack Packs
- Individually Wrapped Hard Candy
- Breath Mints
- Suckers

Personal Materials

- Hand Warmers
- Chap Stick
- Wet Wipes
- Water Bottles
- Hand Sanitizer
- Feminine Products
- Hair Rubber Bands
- Combs
- Dental floss
- Tissues
- Deodorant
- Tooth Brush Kit
- Travel First Aid Kits/Band-Aids
- Shampoo (travel & hotel size!)
- Conditioner (travel & hotel size!)
- Lotion (travel & hotel size!)

Food & Drink:

- Cookie or cracker snack bags
- Energy Drinks
- Slim Jims
- Beef Jerky
- Dried Fruit
- Trail Mix
- Oatmeal Packs
- Granola Bars
- Breakfast Bars
- Crackers
- Chips
- Snacks
- Tuna kits
- Fruit cups
- Plastic spoons/forks
- Instant coffee
- Juice Boxes
- Hot Chocolate packages