

Messages of Support

Kimberly Castillo, My Father's House Community Shelter:

"Now I'm ready for fifth grade." That's what one of our kiddos said after trying on his new shoes from Bloomin' Boutique. He's starting fifth grade this fall and before you stepped in, his mom wasn't sure how she'd get him ready with clothes, a backpack and school supplies. But you made it happen — fresh backpack, all the supplies, and those shoes that made him stand a little taller. That one moment — the smile, the excitement and those words — sums up the difference you're making. You didn't just help him get ready for school...you helped him feel ready.

From Tina Cox, Clackamas County Health & Human Services:

The child is medically fragile and has extremely limited resources and social support. Bloomin' Boutique put together a lovely care package accommodating the child's physical needs and limitations. Mom was so thankful to get this package and to see her child dressed in new clothing, she cried. This family doesn't have many bright spots in their lives — this clothing was a bag of genuine happiness.

From Damaris Smyth, who saw information about our work:

I am sitting in the lobby of the Oregon City OnPoint Credit Union, reading your pamphlet. It is bringing tears to my eyes. I grew up very poor and I know how much it matters to get new items, not underwear from Goodwill. I am not wealthy by any stretch of the imagination, but I would like to contribute. What is your greatest need? I own a pickup and would be happy to drive it to return cans. I could also make some small donations in cash.

Gifts from Generous Companies

Each year, Western Chief Boots in Washington donates thousands of dollars worth of rubber boots.



And we are one of Bombas' giving partners.

They send us 3,000 pairs of socks each year.

For each pair of socks a customer buys, Bombas donates a pair to a nonprofit. We are one of those nonprofits.

Participation in this program has allowed us to boost the number of pairs we include in a child's package.

In 2025, they began sending us undies and tees, as well!

Low-income families can find doing laundry a challenge. We all know that socks worn multiple times between washings can get smelly, so it is important for us to give lots of socks.

Handmade Items Donated to Bloomin' Boutique

All of the items we give to children are new, not previously used. Most of the items are manufactured but some — pillowcases, quilts, blankets, tote bags, hats — may be made by hand and given to us to pass on. Below are some photos.



Pillowcases

Hats



Quilts

To the right is one of 41 quilts donated to us by Sweet Charity Quilts. Marie and Ron make them together — she does the piecing and he handles the longarm quilting.



This quilt was donated to us by someone who lives in Texas but has family here in Clackamas County. She is one of our regular contributors.

You can imagine how excited a young child will be when receiving this colorful dinosaur quilt.



Here is a stack of quilts given to us by Coffee Creek Quilters. They also contributed several handmade pillowcases.

Coffee Creek Quilters is a local nonprofit that teaches people to quilt, including women at Coffee Creek Correctional Facility.

Tote bags, hats, pillowcases, blankets and small pouches from various sources

