



Buddy Bags

Dignity | Compassion | Hope

How to Assemble a Buddy Bag:

- 1. Sort & Inventory your items.** This will keep the quality of your contents high and will also let you know what other items you may need to purchase to fill the bags completely. Double check that there are no razors or age inappropriate items.
- 2. Lay out an Assembly Line.** We find it best assemble your hygiene kits first and then the full bag. Hygiene kits are to be in clear gallon zippered Ziploc bags. The ages of the beneficiary range from 0-18 years old so the items may overlap ages such as sanitary napkins and deodorant in all of the bags.
- 3. Tag special bags.** We strive to make all of the Buddy Bags gender neutral and good for all ages. However, if you find in your donated items a very specific set such as baby girl items please wrap a tag on the outside strap of the duffel bag stating so. Generic Buddy Bags are a royal blue in color and Baby Buddy Bags are red. We do this to assist the caseworkers in selecting the appropriate bag needed.
- 4. Complete your bags.** If your donation drive ran short of items and you cannot purchase the missing items please fill as many as you can that are complete and leave the rest of the items sorted and loose so that we may use any inventory we have to complete them. This saves us time and effort when we do quality checks before they go out to various county CPS offices. We would hate for a bag to go out and not be complete (ie. missing a toothbrush).
- 5. Add a Personal Touch.** Buddy Bags provides an insert in every bag stating who assembled their bag. Feel free to add a quick note to the child to let them know someone out there cares about them.



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The Perfect Buddy Bag:

All Items are NEW & Gender Neutral. Ages using the bags are Infant to 18 years of age. Items maybe included in all of the bags but not necessarily used for all ages at the time.



Fleece Blanket. Roll blanket and tie with a rubberband or ribbon. The blanket should not be too large to fit in the bag with plenty of room around it for other items.

Small Stuffed Animal. No stuffed animals should be too large. A good guide would be less than one foot in length.



Coloring/Activity Book. Once again age appropriate is key. Gender neutral coloring books are used often. Sketch books are also a very nice addition and are appreciated for their ability to use their imagination.

Hygiene Kit. Items we would like to see in all hygiene kits are 2in1 shampoo (full size), Toothbrush, Toothpaste, Floss, Mouthwash, Brush and/or comb, Lotion, Deodorant, Conditioner, hand sanitizer, Facial Tissue, Sanitary Napkins (6 of various sizes), and hair bands. NO RAZORS.



A Personal Note. Buddy Bags provides a template for your use. It has a poem and an assembly note to let the child know who assembled their bag for them. Feel free to write them a note to let them know you care but please leave off personal information like your phone number and last name.

Other items appreciated are fuzzy socks, water bottles, towels, and other generic comfort materials. Please do not add gift cards, religious pamphlets, toys, razors, or personal information.

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