



For Immediate Release

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'TIS THE SEASON TO DONATE ITEMS TO THE OUR CENTER

"Giving Guide" Informs the Community About In-Kind Donation Opportunities

Longmont, Colo. – Nov. 8, 2011 – During the holiday season and all year through, the OUR Center is grateful to the community for generously giving much-needed items including food, clothing, and personal care supplies for OUR Center clients. At this time of year, the OUR Center generally sees a surge in in-kind donations – both in general and as community members look to give to the OUR Center's "Warm & Cozy Holiday Program."

With the many different opportunities to give to the OUR Center, the organization has compiled the following "Giving Guide" to share important information with interested donors as they look to give.

"The OUR Center works year-round to help our friends and neighbors in need move toward self-sufficiency. At the holidays in particular, needs tend to increase, but at the same time, we also see an increase in people wanting to give – what a great problem to have," said Edwina Salazar, executive director of the OUR Center. "Because of our currently dispersed operations, we'd like to remind the community of items that are needed as well as at which OUR Center location various items can be accepted. We very much appreciate each and every contribution, and our goal is to make giving as easy as possible for those who wish to donate."

- More -

WARM & COZY HOLIDAY PROGRAM

OUR mission is all about self-sufficiency for residents throughout the Greater Longmont area. The OUR Center continues to help local residents maintain their basic needs and avoid homelessness by assisting with rent, utilities, shelter, clothing, food, transportation, prescriptions, child care, and other necessities. You can help in our mission through our special holiday outreach program, "A Warm & Cozy Holiday." Here are the ways you can help:

- Make a financial contribution for rent or utility assistance to help a family stay in their home and provide a warm "home for the holidays".
- Contribute funds to our Day Shelter program to help homeless individuals with basic needs such as food, personal care items, shelter, clothing, laundry & shower services, mail service, medical screenings, and job searches.
- Buy gift cards to a local store for clothing or food.
- Purchasing the following **new** items of warmth: Blankets, Bedding, Sleeping bags, Coats, Sweaters, Sweatshirts, Pajamas, Adult backpacks, Socks, Boots Gloves, Mittens, and Hats and donate them to the OUR Center. We will distribute items to pre-screened families and provide information on how your donation helped a specific family, if requested.

Please Mail or Drop Items by Monday, December 12, 2011 at:

OUR INTAKE CENTER

303 Atwood Street, Longmont, CO 80501 (3rd & Atwood in Longmont)

303-772-5529

Open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

In-Kind Donations/Page Three

GENERAL IN-KIND DONATIONS

OUR Center accepts in-kind donations at the Clothing Bank, the Hospitality Center, the Intake Center, and at Aspen Center for Child Development. Donations are provided to prescreened families in need at no charge. Following is a list of needed items as well as where each type of item can be donated:

CLOTHING AND HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

Drop Off Location:

OUR CLOTHING BANK

50 East Rogers Road in Longmont (one block south of 3rd & Martin, east 1/2 block)

303-772-7773

Open Monday through Saturday from 8 a.m. to noon.

Items Needed:

| | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Clean, Gently Used Clothing | Shoes/Socks | New Underwear |
| Coats/Jackets/Hats/Gloves | Suits/Dresses | Bedding Items, towels |
| Small Kitchen Items | Dishes/Pots/Pans | Small Appliances |
| Silverware/Utensils | Eyeglasses/Sunglasses | Purses/wallets |

FOOD, GROCERY, AND PERSONAL CARE

Drop Off Location:

OUR HOSPITALITY CENTER

250 3rd Avenue in Longmont (corner of 3rd and Collyer)

303-772-1342

Open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturdays, Sundays, and Holidays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Items Needed:

| | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Dry cereal | Grains/rice, beans | Infant formula |
| Canned fruit and vegetables | Canned soups | Diapers |
| Pasta, Mac & cheese | Fresh vegetables | Other non-perishables |
| Canned tuna and meats | Plastic/ paper grocery bags | Personal care items |

- More -

GENERAL SUPPLIES & TRANSPORTATION

Drop Off Location:

OUR INTAKE CENTER

303 Atwood Street in Longmont (corner of 3rd and Atwood)

303-772-5529

Open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Items Needed:

Cash Donations

RTD bus passes

Grocery store gift certificates

Adult bicycles (please call first and must be in good working condition and with good tires)

INFANT AND CHILD CARE ITEMS

Drop Off Location:

ASPEN CENTER FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT

501 5th Avenue in Longmont (corner of 5th and Kimbark)

303-772-4320

Open Monday through Friday from 6:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Items Needed:

Cash donations

Washcloths

Unscented baby wipes

Construction paper

Paints/brushes

Non-toxic markers

Children's music tapes

Play-Doh

Sidewalk chalk

Canned fruits and vegetables (not mixed)

Bubbles

FURNITURE AND APPLIANCES

Due to space limitations, the OUR Center cannot accept furniture or major appliances. However, we do maintain a list to match donors with potential recipients. Please call 303-772-7773 for more information.

For more information about the Giving Guide overall, contact the OUR Center at 303-772-5529 or info@ourcenter.org.

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