

COLD WEATHER CARE KITS

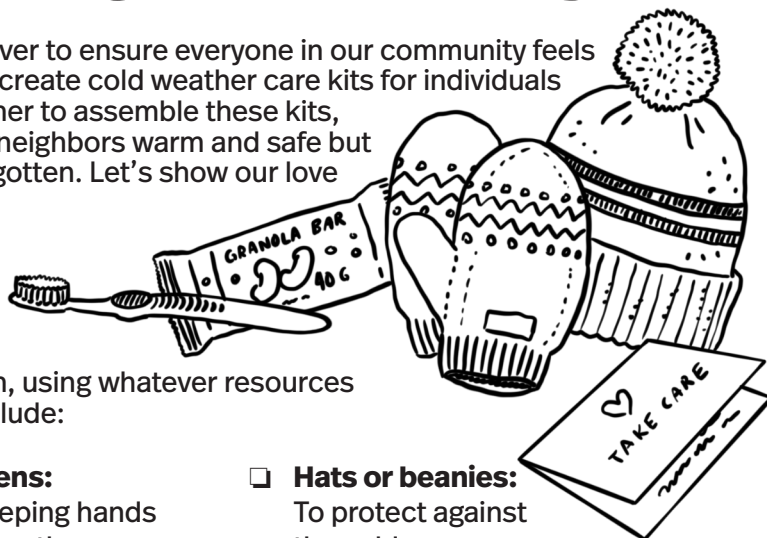
As the colder months settle in, it's more important than ever to ensure everyone in our community feels seen, loved, and cared for. This activity is an invitation to create cold weather care kits for individuals experiencing temporary homelessness. By coming together to assemble these kits, we can provide not only essential items to help keep our neighbors warm and safe but also a heartfelt reminder that they are valued and not forgotten. Let's show our love and make a difference, one care kit at a time!

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

STEP 1: COLLECT ITEMS

Create your cold weather care kits with love and intention, using whatever resources you have available. Here are some thoughtful items to include:

- Warm socks:** Wool or thermal options are especially helpful for staying cozy.
- Non-perishable snacks:** Granola bars, nuts, or dried fruit are easy to pack and provide a boost of energy.
- Scarves:** A simple but effective layer of warmth.
- Gloves or mittens:** Essential for keeping hands warm in chilly weather.
- Hand warmers:** Disposable or reusable types can make a big difference on cold days.
- Chapstick:** To protect and soothe dry, chapped lips.
- Hats or beanies:** To protect against the cold.
- Toiletries:** Travel-sized items such as toothpaste, soap, shampoo, feminine hygiene products, band-aids, hand sanitizer and deodorant.*
- A note of encouragement (optional):** A kind word can make all the difference.



* Share your project with friends, family, and your wider community. Local businesses, such as dentist offices, may be willing to donate items like toothbrushes and toothpaste to support your initiative.

Remember, every item you include is a gesture of care. Do what you can with what you have, and know that your effort is making someone feel seen and supported.

STEP 2: ASSEMBLE THE CARE KITS

1. Sort the Donations: Once you have all the items, sort them into categories (clothing, toiletries, snacks, etc.) for easy assembly.
2. Pack the Kits: Start filling each bag with items.
3. Include a Note or Small Trinket: If you choose, add a handwritten note of encouragement or support in each kit. A few kind words can make a big difference!

STEP 3: PLAN FOR OUTREACH & DISTRIBUTION

1. Keep Kits on Hand: Consider keeping care kits in your car so you can personally hand them out to individuals in need as you encounter them. This simple act can make a direct and immediate impact.
2. Research Local Resources: Look into shelters, outreach programs, or community organizations that support individuals experiencing temporary homelessness. These groups can help you identify where the care kits are most needed.

By participating in the Cold Weather Care Kit Project, you're showing compassion and solidarity with those who need it most. Thank you for making a difference!

"KINDNESS CAN TRANSFORM SOMEONE'S DARK MOMENT WITH A BLAZE OF LIGHT. YOU'LL NEVER KNOW HOW MUCH YOUR CARING MATTERS. MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR ANOTHER TODAY."

— AMY LEIGH MERCREE

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