

Amara

Host a Donation Drive for Grandese's Place The Amara Emergency Sanctuary

We are so excited that you want to support children during a time of transition and turbulence. Hosting a donation drive is an easy way to make a difference. See below for some great information on how to launch your drive!

Questions? Reach out to Jen Kamel at jen@amaraparenting.org or at 206.289.0047.

About the Amara Emergency Sanctuary

The Amara Emergency Sanctuary is a temporary home for kids to stay in for up to three days immediately after they are removed from their homes by Child Protective Services or the police. An alternative to waiting in an office or police station, the Emergency Sanctuary is staffed with warm, welcoming staff and volunteers who are focused on caring for kids during this traumatic transition.

Hosting a Drive

Your donation drive will help to make sure that all of the children entering foster care through the Sanctuary have shoes, clothing, a new backpack to use for their belongings, and an opportunity to participate in engaging activities.

Step 1: Decide Your Drive Details

You'll need to clarify the details of your drive in order to get started. Here are some items you'll need to figure out:

- What are the dates of your drive? How long will it last? Although holidays are a popular time for a donation drive, the Emergency Sanctuary is always in need of your support!
- Do you have a fundraising goal for monetary donations or a set number of how many items you want to collect? Do you want to share this goal or keep it private?
- How will you collect donations?

Step 2: Get People Engaged

- Send emails to friends, family, and coworkers. See our sample email.
- Post about the drive on social media. See our sample social media post.
- Put up posters or leave brochures around your school, workplace, communal living space, etc.
- Talk to your friends about the Amara Emergency Sanctuary and how they can help. Remind them that donating to your drive is an easy way to make a difference!

Step 3: Collect Donations

- **In Person:** You can collect donations in person by setting up collection boxes in a central location (or two). Be clear about the dates that people can drop off donations.
- **Online via the Amara Website:** Online monetary donations can be made via the Amara Website: www.amaraparenting.org
- **Online via Amazon Wish List:** https://www.amazon.com/gp/registry/wishlist/3F12AZV0YPJH1/ref=topnav_lists_1

Step 4: Donation Drop Off

Donations may be dropped off or mailed to the Amara office at 5907 Martin Luther King Jr. Way South, Seattle, WA 98118. Please call so we can meet you when you drop off your donations, 206.260.1700.

Resources to Help You Get Started

Amara Emergency Sanctuary Wish List

- New, unopened packages of socks in all sizes (infant to 12) for boys and girls
- New, unopened packages of underwear in all sizes (toddler to 12) for boys and girls
- New backpacks, all colors and sizes, especially gender-neutral styles
- Amazon Wish list:
https://www.amazon.com/gp/registry/wishlist/3F12AZV0YPJH1/ref=topnav_lists_1

Sample Email

Subject: Join me in helping children in foster care!

Dear [Insert Name Here],

I am writing to you to ask for your help in ensuring that kids entering foster care feel safe, welcome, and important. I am hosting a drive to help the children at the Amara Emergency Sanctuary. The Amara Emergency Sanctuary is a home for kids to stay in for up to three days immediately after they are removed from their homes.

Many kids enter foster care with only a few belongings, usually carried in a trash bag. The Emergency Sanctuary ensures that by the time they leave, each child has at least 3 days' worth of clothing and a nice backpack in which to carry their things.

You can help by participating in my drive! Your donations will help ensure that these children have the basic clothing and supplies that they need.

The Amara Emergency Sanctuary is currently collecting:

- New, unopened packages of socks in all sizes (infant to adult) for both genders and gender neutral
- New, unopened packages of underwear in all sizes (toddler to adult) for both genders
- New backpacks, all colors and sizes, especially gender-neutral styles
- Items from their Amazon wish list
https://www.amazon.com/gp/registry/wishlist/3F12AZV0YPJH1/ref=topnav_lists_1

[Here, please include your instructions for your donation collection plan.]

If you'd prefer to donate money you can give me your donation or donate online. Your donations of money can be used to buy a new pair of shoes for a child who has none, as well as to help with other supplies children need.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions!

Thank you for your support,

[Your Name]

Sample Facebook Post

Help me make sure that kids entering foster care receive the things they need! I am hosting a drive for the Amara Emergency Sanctuary, a temporary home for kids entering foster care. Many kids enter foster care with only a few of their belongings, usually carried in a trash bag. At the Sanctuary these children are outfitted with the clothing and supplies they need. I'll be collecting [insert items you're collecting] and trying to raise [insert fundraising goal] to help! Contact me for more information. Thank you for your helping caring for children in our community!