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Helping children in crisis,
one Bag of Love at a time

April 2025

A New Season of Leadership at Bags of Love



As spring brings a season of renewal and change, I have personal news to share, I will be stepping down as Executive Director of Bags of Love. This decision was not an easy one, but it is the right step for me and my family. I'm looking forward to slowing down, savoring life's moments, and continuing to support this incredible organization in new ways, including as a volunteer.

I am delighted to introduce Michelle Sunia as our new Executive Director. Michelle brings a deep passion for serving children in crisis and a strong background in nonprofit leadership, community engagement, and strategic fundraising. Her dedication to our mission will ensure that Bags of Love continues to provide essential support to children facing abuse, neglect, poverty, homelessness, or disaster.

With Michelle at the helm, Bags of Love will continue to thrive, strengthening partnerships with community agencies and expanding our reach to those who need us most.

To our amazing supporters, thank you for being part of this journey. Your generosity and commitment make Bags of Love a true beacon of hope. I am excited to see all the incredible things ahead for this organization and the children we serve!

With gratitude, Misty Hall

Heartfelt Feedback from Those We Serve

At Bags of Love, we are continually inspired by the incredible generosity of our supporters and volunteers. Recently, we've received some heartwarming feedback that reminds us just how important your contributions are to the children in our community.

We could not do what we do without the generous donors who provide financial support to purchase essential items, as well as those who donate gently used or new clothing, books, and toys. We are also deeply grateful for our army of selfless volunteers who dedicate their time and energy, both at home and in our warehouse, ensuring that each child in crisis receives the support they deserve.



Rose Thomas (Warehouse Manager) & Bridget Hanson (Outreach Coordinator) showing received Thank You cards.

These recent words of gratitude are for YOU, our dedicated supporters:

"Thank you for all you do for the children of our community." - BOL Supporter

"Just sending a heartfelt thank you for your consistent support for our families in crisis." - Mt Vernon Elementary

Your unwavering commitment is what makes it possible for Bags of Love to serve thousands of children each year. From all of us here at Bags of Love, we offer our deepest thanks for your ongoing support and dedication to our mission. Together, we are making a lasting difference.

A Special Visit from Exchange Students



This past month, we had the pleasure of hosting seven Japanese exchange students as they wrapped up their four-week program at the University of Oregon. Their time in Eugene culminated in a meaningful afternoon of community service at Bags of Love, where they worked alongside our dedicated warehouse volunteers.

Our volunteers loved the opportunity to share not only the mission of Bags of Love but also the spirit of generosity that defines our community. As the students helped organize and prepare bags for children in crisis, they gained a deeper understanding of how we come together to support those in need.



It was a heartwarming experience, bridging cultures through kindness and service—one small but powerful reminder that compassion knows no borders. We are grateful for their visit and hope they carry this sense of community with them wherever they go!

Generosity Delivered: Exciting Donations from Our Amazon Wishlist!



Recent Amazon Wishlist donation

Some amazing donations have recently arrived on our doorstep, thanks to the generosity of our incredible supporters! Many donors have discovered our Amazon Wishlist and have been purchasing our most-needed items to help children in crisis.

Lately, we've received wonderful packages filled with essential infant supplies, flat sheets (perfect for quilt backs), card games for kids and teens (ages 8-17), and a variety of materials to stock our activity kits for all ages.

Want to help? Visit our [Donate](#) page and click the Amazon Wishlist button to view our most up-to-date needed items. With just a few clicks, you can send essentials directly to Bags of Love and make a meaningful impact on children in crisis!

Sharing the Wealth: Paying It Forward

At Bags of Love, we believe in the power of community and collaboration. When we no longer needed our bulky hanging racks, we knew they could still serve a purpose. Instead of letting them go to waste, we reached out to local agencies to see who might benefit, and we were thrilled to find the perfect match!

Looking Glass was in the process of creating a clothing closet for teens in crisis, and our donated racks came at just the right time. By passing along these resources, we're helping another organization provide stability and support to vulnerable youth, ensuring they have access to clothing in a dignified and organized space.

We love seeing how small acts of sharing can create a ripple effect of kindness. Together, we make a greater impact!

Most-Needed

This month we're most in need of:

- Pull-Ups sizes 3T/4T & 5T/6T
- Diapers sizes 6, 7 & 8
- Board Books for ages 0-2
- Activities for Teens: sketch pads, journals, construction paper
- Crochet Hooks
- Winter Clothing: All ages & Sizes

*We are needing to restock winter clothing and will gladly accept all sizes of winter clothing.



Looking Glass picking up racks.

Monthly Highlights

In February, we distributed 194 bags, for a total value of \$41,800.

Our biggest order came from Lane ESD Migrant Education Program, which requested 94 bags. The following agencies and organizations also helped us touch the lives of children this month:

- Bertha Holt Elementary
- Cornerstone Community Housing
- Daisy CHAIN
- DHS - 30th St Spfd
- DHS - Cottage Grove
- DHS - Florence
- DHS - McKenzie Center
- DHS - W 11th
- Early Childhood Cares U of O
- Eugene Schools McKinney Vento
- FBI
- Hamlin Middle School
- Head Start
- Homes for Good
- Kelly Middle School
- Lane Co. H&HS Dovetail
- Lane Co. WIC
- Lane ESD Migrant Education
- Looking Glass
- McCornack Elementary
- Monroe Middle School
- Mt Vernon Elementary
- Parenting Now
- Refugee & Immigration Services Program
- Riverbend Elementary
- South Eugene High School
- Springfield Family Resource Center
- SVDP First Place Family Center
- Twin Oaks Elementary
- Willamette Family Women's Residential Program
- Willamette High School

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