

VERA HOUSE WISH LIST

THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST IN SUPPORTING VERA HOUSE!

Your generosity is important to us and is very special to the people we serve. Your gifts help our programs offer resources that might otherwise be unavailable to our clients. With your help, Vera House is able to provide some of the most basic items for those who need them the most. **Critical needs have been BOLDED.**

NEW HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

- **towels & washcloths***
- coffee makers
- **toasters**
- brooms/dustpans/mops
- silverware/utensils*
- shower curtain liners
- pots & pans*
- drinkware (no mugs)*
- pillows
- sheets (twin and full size)
- paper products (paper towels/napkins/paper plates/tissues)
- **blankets & comforters (twin & full preferred)***

NEW TOILETRIES / PERSONAL CARE ITEMS (travel sizes not needed at this time)

- conditioner
- shampoo
- floss
- petroleum jelly/Vaseline
- liquid hand soap
- body wash/shower gel
- razors
- hand/body lotion
- ethnic hair care products (olive oil products, cocoa butter lotion, Palmers lotion)

NEW BABY ITEMS

- diaper wipes
- pull ups (all sizes)
- infant/baby sleep sacks
- umbrella strollers*
- Infant/baby carriers*
- cold weather snowsuits/jackets/hats/mittens

NEW CLOTHING

- underwear (all sizes)
- kids pajamas (all sizes)
- adult pajamas (all sizes)
- winter boots (all sizes)
- slippers
- flip flops/shower shoes
- winter jackets
- hats/gloves/scarves

NEW MISCELLANEOUS

- journals
- umbrellas*
- plain gift bags/tissue paper
- inflatable air mattresses
- gift cards (laundromats, grocery, gas, retail store, restaurant, movies)**

* Vera House is happy to some items in NEW or LIKE NEW condition and in limited quantities. These items contain an asterisk * above.

** Gift cards in any denomination help our families with additional expenses throughout the year and allow more flexibility for family-specific needs.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

When and where can I drop off my donations?

Donations can be dropped off Monday - Friday between 8:30 am - 5:00 pm at our Administrative & Outreach Offices located at 723 James St, Syracuse, NY 13203

Do you accept gently used items?

Vera House accepts some gently used items as noted above but we **no longer accept used clothing or furniture items**. We now partner with the **Rescue Mission** to ensure our client's clothing and furniture needs are met. Consider donating your used clothing and furniture items to the Rescue Mission. Visit www.cleanthatcloset.org for a list of drop-off locations.

What if I have additional questions?

Any questions about our in-kind donations program can be directed to **Maryann Wood** at (315) 425-0818 ext 2234 or mwood@verahouse.org. You can also visit our website at www.verahouse.org/give/material-donations.

My family, company or community group would like to support Vera House. What do you suggest?

There are many ways you, your company, faith group, community group, or school can help to support Vera House:

- **HOST** a donation drive (**suggestions on back**)
- **MAKE** a monetary donation
- **HOST** a dress-down day
- **GIVE** a gift in honor/memory of someone
- **SPONSOR** a Vera House Event
- **VOLUNTEER** your time

Hosting A Donation Drive

Donation Drives play an important role in helping Vera House keep costs down and meet the needs of individuals and families who use our services. We ask that **donation drive** items be **NEW** as we have very limited storage for gently used items.

Spread the word Most people want to help; they just need to be asked. You can send emails, use flyers, or post to Facebook, Twitter, and other social media. Host a party or a dress-down-day and ask people to bring a donated item.

Make it Easy to Donate Have a central location for people to drop off their items. Monetary donations, including gift cards, are also welcome; in many cases, they're the best option for finding what clients need and getting the right fit.

Deliver Your Donations to Vera House Drop off your donation to Vera House's Administrative & Outreach office located at 723 James St., Syracuse, NY 13203, Monday - Friday, 8:30am - 5:00pm.

Celebrate Your Success Don't forget to thank your donors! Post pictures of your donations to social media (and tag Vera House!) or share your success in your group's newsletter.

Have Questions? Contact **Maryann Wood** at mwood@verahouse.org or **(315) 425-0818 ext 2234**.

HELP SPONSOR A FAMILY IN NEED WITH A "WELCOME HOME BASKET"

Create a memorable gift for a family moving into a new home. Families coming from shelter often only have some clothing and a few items from their previous home. When they move to a new place, they need some basic items to get settled.

Consider filling a laundry basket (or two) with essential supplies for a fresh start:

- pots & pans
- towels
- paper towels
- toilet paper
- dish set/drinkware
- kitchen utensils
- laundry soap
- all-purpose cleaner
- mop
- mixing bowls
- dish soap
- pot holders
- silverware
- baking sheets
- sponges
- blankets/sheets
- dishrack
- shower curtain liner
- trash bags
- broom/dustpan

GIFT CARD DRIVE

Gift cards in any denomination and are used throughout the year to provide basic needs for clients. They allow clients control over their own lives - something many have been denied. They empower clients to buy their own groceries and other essentials; assist with transportation needs or allow for activities for individuals, families or children staying in our shelter.

Retail/Transportation

- grocery store
- Laundromat
- bus passes
- gas station
- pharmacy
- retail store
- shoe store
- salon/barbershop
- restaurant
- Visa/Mastercard

Activities

- movie passes
- mini-golf / bowling
- laser tag
- bounce house
- zoo passes
- art and children's museums
- sporting event tickets
- Lights on the Lake
- other individual, family or child activities

DIAPER DRIVE (OR BABY & TODDLER ITEMS)

We have people who arrive in our shelters with simply the clothes on their back. For babies and toddlers, this means they have only the diaper they have on at that moment. Consider hosting a diaper drive (or collect essential baby/toddler items) to help support babies and toddlers in need.

- **Suggestions for current needs are updated regularly on the reverse side of this wish list.**

PAPER PRODUCT DRIVE

These items are used in our shelters as well as shared with families moving into their new homes.

- paper plates/bowls/cups
- tissues
- paper towels
- storage bags (Ziploc, etc.)
- plastic utensils
- trash bags
- toilet paper
- napkins

TOILETRY DRIVE

The shelter requests new, unopened, full-size toiletry items to share with clients in crisis and transition. **Suggestions for current needs are updated regularly on the reverse side of this wish list.**

NEW & GENTLY USED TOWEL DRIVE

Vera House has a critical need for towels. This is an ongoing need as we use them in our shelters as well as share with residents transitioning to permanent housing. We are happy to accept **NEW** and **GENTLY USED** towels and washcloths.