

# GROUP VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

Interested in volunteering as a group? Learn more about our opportunities available to find the best fit for your group!



This document is an example of ways that your group can support HOPE 4 Youth. Each page includes a description of a group activity. Activities can be completed at your location or onsite at the HOPE 4 Youth Center in Anoka.

Please contact Mari Dahlke, Community Engagement Coordinator, to schedule your group event or to brainstorm additional opportunities.

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## CONTACT

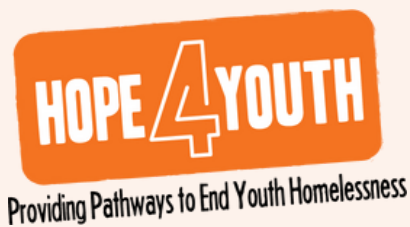
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Mari Dahlke

Community Engagement Coordinator

Desk: 763-323-2066 ext. 118 Cell: 612-741-4145

[mdahlke@HOPE4YouthMN.org](mailto:mdahlke@HOPE4YouthMN.org)



# GROUP VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

## WHY HOPE 4 YOUTH?

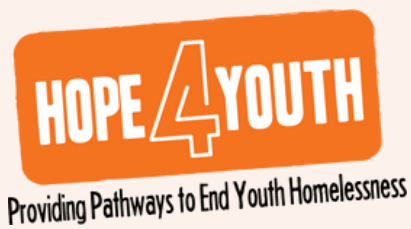
- For every essential item you donate, you will provide critical support to youth experiencing homelessness.
- In 2024, youth made over **3,471 visits** to our Pantry.
- In 2024, we supported a record number of **5,158 youth visits** to our HOPE 4 Youth Center in Anoka.
- **30% of youth** visiting our H4Y Center are parenting their own children. Your donations support individual youth and families.

## HOW DO YOU MAKE AN IMPACT?

- Every youth who uses our pantry for essential items is able to personally choose their items to fill three bags of support. These items include food, hygiene, diapers, water, and paper products like toilet paper and kleenex.
- So far in 2025, from January - June, we have had **2,910 visits** to our Center. This is a 58% increase compared to this time last year.
- Scan the QR Code to read our 2024 Annual Impact Report to learn more about the impact we made last year.







# ESSENTIAL SUPPLIES DONATION DRIVE

Help us keep our pantry stocked with top needed essential items by hosting a donation drive in our honor.

## HOW DOES A DRIVE WORK?

**There are multiple ways a drive can happen:**

- Gather and Bring In - Organize the drive and collect items however works best for you! Then schedule a time to drop off the items.
- Donation Drive at H4Y Center - Schedule a date and have the public bring the items onsite to HOPE 4 Youth Center! Your group can accept, sort, and organize the donations.
- Virtual Drive - share our Amazon, Target, and Walmart wish lists with the public. Items ordered from these lists will be sent directly to our HOPE 4 Youth Center.



## DONATION DRIVE EXAMPLE CATEGORIES:

- General Donation
- Essential Hygiene
- Essential Food
- Top Breakfast Items
- Grab & Go Snacks
- Diapers & Wipes
- Beverages
- Cleaning Supplies
- NEW Underwear
- Sock Drive
- School Supplies

## HOW DO I GET STARTED?

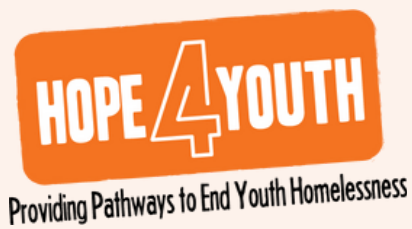
Our Donation Drive Tool Kit has top needed information and resources to begin your drive. Learn more about the [H4Y Donation Drive HERE](#)

## VIRTUAL DRIVE INFORMATION

We have lists available for top needed items at Target, Amazon, and Walmart to deliver to our Center located in Anoka







# HOST A FUNDRAISER

Help use raise important funding by creating your own fundraiser event!

## Visit the [“Ways to Give”](#) page

- Go to the HOPE 4 Youth site and find the “Ways to Give” section. There’s a clear option labeled “Create an Online Fundraiser” – that’s your starting point

## Click [“Create an Online Fundraiser”](#)

- Once you click, you’ll be taken to their giving platform (hosted at [give.hope4youthmn.org](http://give.hope4youthmn.org)). Here, you’ll likely be prompted to:
  - Log in or create a user account
  - Provide basic details (fundraiser name, fundraising goal, description, maybe a team name)
  - Upload a photo or story to help motivate supporters

## Customize your campaign

- Name your campaign so it’s personal and memorable.
- Set a fundraising goal—what do you hope to raise?
- Tell your story—why you’re fundraising and what drives you?
- Add a photo or header image (optional but impactful!).

## Launch & Share

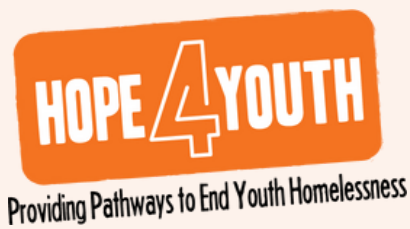
- Once submitted, your campaign page will go live. Promote it via email, social media, or even texts—think Facebook fundraisers, group chats, etc.

## Monitor & Engage

- Track donations in real time
- Send thank-you messages or campaign updates
- Encourage team members (if you set one up)

**Create Your  
Fundraising  
Page [HERE](#)**





# FREEZER MEAL PREPARATION

Help us fill our freezer with ready to go individual meals or dinner night meals spending the morning cooking onsite!

## WHAT DOES FREEZER MEAL PREPARATION DO?

Meal preparation is a fabulous way to support the dinner meal service at HOPE 4 Youth! We provide dinner meals Monday through Thursday night for the youth.

Your group can use our licensed kitchen to cook dinner meals to feed 25 youth. If you have access to a certified kitchen, your group can also cook at the certified kitchen and bring the meals in for donation.



## WHAT SHOULD WE BRING?

Please bring all ingredients needed to prepare the freezer meals. We have all the kitchen machines, cooking utensils, and packaging materials. The "HOPE 4 Youth Kitchen Guidelines" will provide all information needed for meal preparation. Meal examples include: breakfast burritos or sandwiches, pasta bake, enchiladas, burritos, tater tot hotdish, and more.

## WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

All ages to participate in a group size from 2 to 24 individuals. Individuals under age 16 will need a guardian or supervisor present. This is a great group volunteering activity for Businesses, Religious Organizations, Groups, a Family, or Friends.

## WHEN IS THIS AVAILABLE?

Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday mornings at the Center.  
Additionally, the second Saturday of the month in the morning.

# TIE BLANKET MAKING

Tie blankets are a top item that youth love to receive all year. Help us keep our pantry full of warm blankets as an individual or group project.

## WHAT ARE TIE BLANKETS?

Tie blankets are two pieces of fleece fabrics that are cut and tied along the edges to make a two layer blanket.

## WHAT DO I NEED TO MAKE TIE BLANKETS?

We ask that the group to provide all materials needed for tie blanket making. We encourage using two pieces of 2.5 yards of fabric to start the project. Here is an [example link](#) of how to create a tie blanket.

## WHERE CAN WE MAKE TIE BLANKETS?

A tie blanket group event can be held onsite at our H4Y Center in our youth room or kitchen. Onsite times available: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and designated Saturday mornings.

At your own location you can make blankets at any time and bring to HOPE 4 Youth completed.

## HOW MANY BLANKETS SHOULD WE MAKE?

Tie blankets are a closet staple year round for the youth that visit us. A group can make between 1-75 blankets.

## WHO CAN HELP?

All ages can help make tie blankets with your group!





# KIT MAKING

In our pantry, we provide different kits to support youth with essential items. Kits help the youth get everything they need in one bag.

## HOW DO WE MAKE A KIT TO SUPPORT?

A kit making group event can be done onsite at the HOPE 4 Youth Center or at your own location and brought in as a donation. We ask that all materials for the kits be provided by the donating group.

## STEPS TO MAKE THE KIT

1. Purchase items or host a donation drive for items.
2. Organize the items into kits.
3. Store items in ziplock bags based on kit size; snack, sandwich, quart, or gallon size.
4. Label the front of the bag with the kit name. Example: "Breakfast Kit".

## TOP KIT NEEDS

We have many different kits that are a great support for essential items. On the following page is an included list of different kits we would love to accept.

## HOW MANY KITS TO MAKE

The amount of kits we can accept depends on the size of kit, items included, and storage space available.



# KITS NEEDED AT HOPE 4 YOUTH

- **Hygiene**
  - Full-size bottles of Shampoo, Conditioner, Lotion, Body Wash
- **Breakfast to Go Kit**
  - Pancake Microwave Cup or Oatmeal Microwave Cup, Fruit Cup, Apple Sauce Squeeze Pack, Granola Bar, Juice
- **Snack to Go Kit**
  - Mac and Cheese Cup or Chef Boyardee Cup, Cheese Crackers, Granola Bar, Fruit Snacks
- **Dinner Meal Kit**
  - Box of Noodles, Jar of Pasta Sauce, Parmesan Cheese (nonperishable), Mixed Vegetable Can
- **Protein Kit**
  - Beef Jerky, Protein Bar, Flavored Tuna Packet, Chicken Packet, Snack Cracker, Drink
- **Baby Kit**
  - Small Pack Unopened Diapers, Pack of Wipes, Baby Wash, and Baby Lotion
- **Laundry Kit**
  - 4 laundry pods and 4 dryer sheets. \*Please label each kit with a "Laundry Kit" note.
- **First Aid Kit**
  - Band-Aids, Travel Pack Antibacterial wipes, Hand Sanitizer Gel Packet, Nail Clippers
- **Weather Kit**
  - Disposable rain poncho, individual face wipes packets, travel bug spray wipe, travel sunscreen, chapstick
- **Art Kit**
  - Sketch Book, Colored Pencils, Markers, and Black Pens
- **Cleaning Kit**
  - All Purpose Spray, Wipe Cloth, Dish Soap, Sponges or Scrubber, and Laundry Pods

# H4Y CENTER CLEANING CREW

As our youth visits increase during the year, cleaning inside and outside H4Y Center is a great group activity to support us!



## WHAT DOES A CLEANING CREW DO?

The cleaning crew is a great way to support the Center by cleaning inside and outside the building.

Cleaning will include:

- Wiping down kitchen and fridges
- Scrubbing bathrooms
- Dusting the youth room
- Disinfecting surfaces
- Vacuuming and mopping floors
- Picking up litter and sweeping outside
- Cutting down weeds and vines

## WHAT SHOULD I BRING?

- Indoor Cleaning: cloths and rags, scrub brushes, bathroom sprays. We have mops, a vacuum, and kitchen sprays. Cleaning gloves if preferred.
- Outdoor Cleaning: Window washing, hand pruning shears, tree shears, rakes, and brooms. Cleaning gloves if preferred.

## WHAT SHOULD I WEAR?

Comfortable clothes that allow you to move, lift, stand, and bend. Most people choose jeans and tennis shoes – but feel free to wear what is comfortable for you!

## WHO CAN HELP?

Anyone can support cleaning at H4Y Center. Ages under 16 will need a parent or guardian supervision.



HELP US  
LIGHT  
THE WAY

# 10TH ANNUAL DARKEST NIGHT 4K

HOPE 4 YOUTH

Oct. 3  
6 PM

## WHAT IS THE DARKEST NIGHT 4K?

The Darkest Night 4K is a luminary-lit walk or run to support our mission. As the sun sets we will have activities for everyone and a short program before kicking off runners and walkers.



For more information, to purchase tickets, become a sponsor, and more, scan the QR code.

## HOW DOES OUR GROUP JOIN?

Your group can create a team by heading to our Darkest Night 4K page. One group member will create the team and others will be able to join upon registration. Please see our toolkit for more detailed instructions.

## WHEN AND WHERE DOES THIS EVENT OCCUR?

The event will take place on Friday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6 PM at Bunker Hills Golf Course.

## WHO CAN SUPPORT EVENT?

All are welcome to join this event! You can support as an individual, family, on behalf of your religious or social organization, or on behalf of your employer/business.

## HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

*Adults (18+): \$40*

*Child/Student (Age 4-17): \$20*

*Under 4 are FREE*



PRESENTED BY: **ARROW**  
GIVING FOUNDATION

# OUT OF THE COLD



## WHAT IS OUT OF THE COLD?

Out of the Cold is a community-wide event raising awareness, collecting highly needed items, and raising funds to support youth experiencing homelessness! Drive through to drop off items/funds or host a donation drive the weeks leading up!

## WHEN AND WHERE DOES THIS EVENT OCCUR?

WHEN: 4:00 - 7:30 PM.

WHERE: Anoka County Sheriff's Office HOPE 4 Youth Center

## HOW DOES OUR GROUP JOIN?

There are multiple opportunities for your group to join:

- Host a donation drive to help collect top needed items
- Collect funds to support our programming
- Become a sponsor for the event
- Volunteer with your group to prepare the event or the night of the event.

## WHO CAN SUPPORT OUT OF THE COLD?

All are welcome to join this event! You are welcome to support as an individual, family, on behalf of your religious or social organization, or on behalf of your employer/ business.



For more information, to create a fundraising page, become a sponsor, and more, scan the QR code.

# 2025 HOLIDAY WISH LIST

SPREAD JOY AND HOPE THIS HOLIDAY SEASON!

## WHAT IS HOLIDAY WISH LIST?

Spread joy and hope to a young person or young family this holiday season by purchasing items from their Holiday Wish List!

## HOW DOES OUR GROUP JOIN?

Starting in October, participants of HOPE 4 Youth will complete their Holiday Wish Lists. Members of the community can support a youth by surprise purchasing these items for an extra special holiday gift.

## WHEN DOES THIS EVENT OCCUR?

October 13th: Register to support a Holiday Wish List

Week of November 3rd: You will receive your matched youth participant(s)

November 22nd - December 6th: Turn in purchased Wish List items

## WHO CAN SUPPORT HOLIDAY WISH LIST?

All are welcome to join this event! You are welcome to support as an individual, family, on behalf of your religious or social organization, or on behalf of your employer/ business.

## WHAT IS THE MONETARY COMMITMENT?

The commitment is to spend \$100 per youth for their gifts. If you received a family, the commitment is to spend \$100 per family member for their gifts.

## WHERE DO I TURN IN MY GIFTS?

Turn in items to:

HOPE 4 Youth Center

2665 4th Ave North, Suite 40, Anoka, MN 55303



TO REGISTER FOR  
THIS EVENT, SCAN  
THE QR CODE!