

# PACK *the* PANTRY

S U M M E R C H A L L E N G E



## HELP PACK THE PANTRY THIS SUMMER!

- Each month, we provide **13,000 pounds of essential items** to youth experiencing homelessness.
- Almost all youth coming to our Center are **facing food insecurity and need essential item support.**

**GOAL:** With the community support, our goal is to collect 500 bags of essential food, hygiene, and diapers a month.

**WHEN:** All summer through June, July, and August!  
**Kick-off Event - Wednesday, May 27<sup>th</sup> from 9 am - 12 pm**

**WHERE:** HOPE 4 Youth Center  
2665 4<sup>th</sup> Ave, Suite 40, Anoka

**HOW:** Join the Challenge TODAY!

- Set a Goal of Bags to Collect
- Spread the Word
- Collect Essential Items

**SCAN HERE**

Learn more and join the challenge today!



**Each month, donors will be entered into a drawing to WIN a prize!**

June - Twins Tickets | July - H4Y Swag | August - 4K passes

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Support our growing need by helping to meet our goal of collecting 500 bags of essential items a month.

## WHY HOPE 4 YOUTH?

- For every essential item you donate, you will provide critical support to youth experiencing homelessness.
- In 2025, youth made over **5,352 visits** to our Pantry.
- In 2025, we supported a record number of **7,394 youth visits** to our HOPE 4 Youth Center in Anoka.
- **27% of youth** visiting our H4Y Center are parenting their own children. Your donations support individual youth and families.

## WHY IS OUR GOAL 500 BAGS A MONTH?

- Every youth that uses our pantry for essential items is able to personally choose their items to fill three bags of support.
- 
- In 2025, we served 878 youth; a 35% increase over the previous year. In 2026, we continue to see an increasing need of support.
- Scan the QR Code to read our 2025 Annual Impact Report to learn more about the impact we made last year.



# HOW HAS HOPE 4 YOUTH MADE AN IMPACT?

- Recently, a mother looking for basic needs support visited our HOPE 4 Youth Center (H4Y Center). She **gathered groceries, diapers, and wipes to support her family.**
- Colton regularly visits our H4Y Center for basic needs support. He shared how amazed he was with our pantry and the services we provide. He was so thankful to be able to grab food and hygiene items. He commented on how kind and friendly the staff always were and couldn't stop saying our **H4Y Center is a "dream come true"**.
- Brylee shared that, without this program, she would have felt completely lost and uncertain about her future. Through access to basic needs like food, showers, laundry, and other support, she has begun to rebuild her confidence and sense of direction. With tears in her eyes, she said, **"Without HOPE 4 Youth, my life might have spiraled out of control"**.
- Aria & Gunnar began utilizing HOPE 4 Youth services when Aria found out she was pregnant. The couple would visit our H4Y Center almost **every night for dinner and often grabbed clothing, food, and hygiene items.**

**"HOPE 4 Youth gave me food and clothing when I needed it most. I love every time I come in and would love to volunteer one day"**

**"HOPE 4 Youth helped me realize it's okay to ask for help"**

**"HOPE 4 Youth has always been a safe and helpful place for me to go, even if it's just for a meal"**

**"I am forever grateful for their support"**

**"The community at HOPE 4 Youth is an amazing place to be, it's more than the resources they provide"**

**"There have been times where I didn't have enough money to do laundry. Thanks to HOPE 4 Youth, I have clean clothing"**

**"After bills, I can't afford food, but thanks to HOPE 4 Youth, I can eat!"**

**"You've helped me become a better person and a better father"**

# HOW DO I SUPPORT THE CHALLENGE?

## HOST A DONATION DRIVE

- Community donation drives or virtual donation drives are great for collecting donations.
  - **Community Donation Drive:** Use the included flyers (or make your own) to share our top-needed items. If you are interested in hosting a donation drive, please fill out the form on the main campaign page or [LINK HERE](#).
  - **Virtual Donation Drive:** You can share our virtual Wish Lists! Think of it as a registry, we list our top needed items, you pick what you would like to purchase, and the items are sent right to our door. Click [HERE](#) to view our Amazon, Walmart, and Target Wish Lists.

## TURN IN DONATION DRIVE

- **Walk Up Donation (No Appointment):** Our Donation Center is open every Wednesday and the Second Saturday of the month from 9 am - 12 pm.
- **Schedule an Appointment:** You can schedule an appointment with Mari Dahlke, by emailing [mdahlke@hope4youthmn.org](mailto:mdahlke@hope4youthmn.org) or call 763.323.2066 ext. 118. Availability Monday - Thursday, depending on schedule.

## SPREAD THE WORD!

- Repost our posts on social media and share why you connect with our mission
- Feel free to make your own posts about the challenge or use the premade posts we have linked on the main campaign page.

## QUESTIONS or READY TO SIGN UP?

Contact: Mari Dahlke, Community Engagement Coordinator at [mdahlke@hope4youthmn.org](mailto:mdahlke@hope4youthmn.org) or 763.323.2066 ext. 118

The following pages are resources for donation lists and marketing materials to support your drive.

# ESSENTIAL ITEM SUPPORT

Youth homelessness is unacceptable.

*Our mission is to provide pathways to end youth homelessness.*

**HOPE 4 Youth** is a nonprofit organization in Anoka County which helps young people ages 16 to 24 who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness. Our name is an acronym for our focus areas: Housing, Outreach, Prevention, and Education/Employment.

## FOOD NEEDS:

- Microwave Noodle Bowls
- Cereal Cups or Boxes
- Knorr Pasta or Rice Sides
- Potato Instant Sides
- Packet Tuna
- Packet Chicken
- Granola Bars, Protein Bars, and Breakfast Bars
- Fruit: Cups or Cans
- Snack Crackers

## HYGIENE NEEDS:

- Shampoo & Conditioner
- Body Wash
- Lotion
- Deodorant
- Shave Gel & Razors
- Body Wipes
- Pads & Tampons
- Diapers (all sizes)
- Pull Ups (all sizes)
- Baby Wipes

We are so thankful you've thought of donating items to HOPE 4 Youth.

Many youth visit our Anoka Center for essential items; including food, hygiene, diapers, and gift cards. These essential items help restore a sense of **hope**, **self-worth**, and **dignity**.

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## TOP NEED ITEMS:

- Microwave Noodle Meals
- Cereal Cups or Boxes
- Pasta Sauce
- Boxed Noodles
- Hamburger Helper
- Knorr Pasta or Rice Sides
- Packet Tuna
- Packet Chicken
- Granola Bars
- Fruit: Cups or Cans
- Apple Sauce: Cups or Squeeze Pouches
- Snack Crackers

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# HYGIENE DONATION DRIVE

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## TOP NEED ITEMS:

- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Body Wash
- Lotion
- Razors
- Shave Gel
- Deodorant
- Toothpaste
- Hair Brushes, Picks, Combs
- Hair Ties
- Body Wipes
- Tampons & Pads
- Diapers (all sizes)
- Pull Ups (all sizes)
- Baby Wipes

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Providing Pathways to End Youth Homelessness

# HOPE 4 YOUTH DONATIONS

Thank you for supporting our  
Summer Challenge donation drive!

**PACK** *the* **PANTRY**  
SUMMER CHALLENGE 

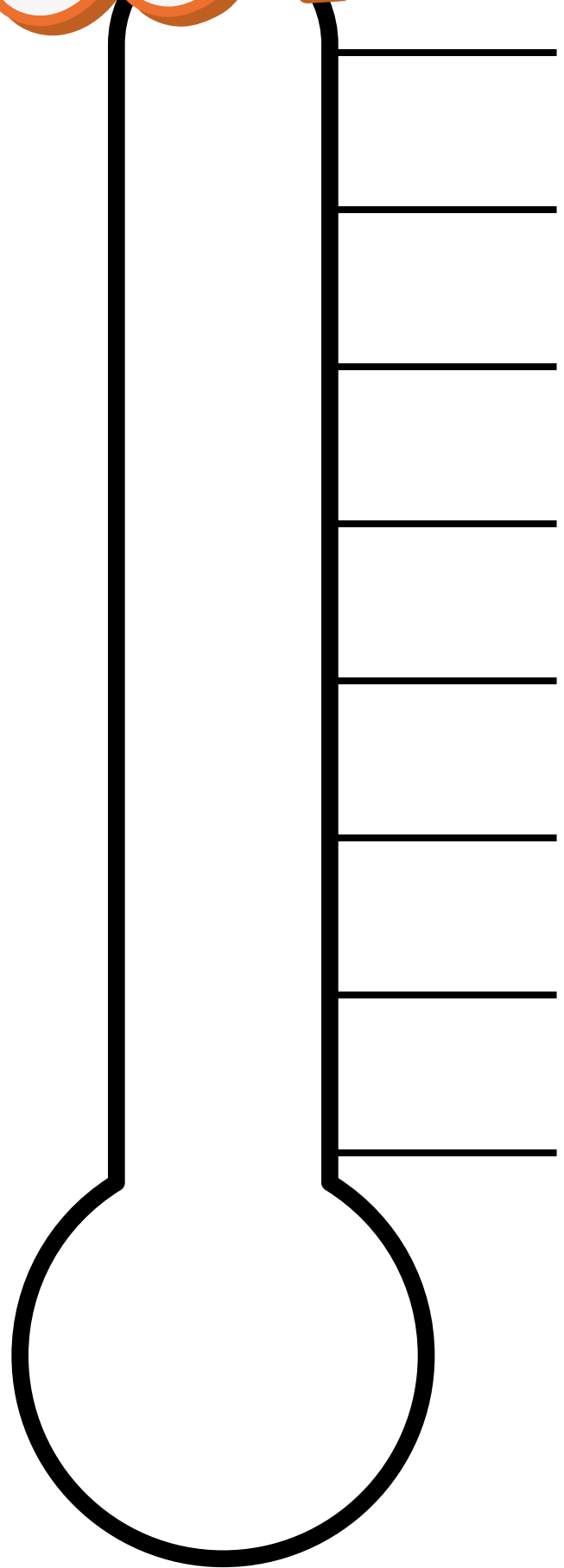
**GOAL!**



Providing Pathways to End Youth Homelessness

**HELP ME REACH  
MY GOAL OF  
\_\_\_\_\_ BAGS!**

**PACK *the* PANTRY**  
SUMMER CHALLENGE 



# SPEAKING POINTS & POST CAPTIONS

Social media is a quick and easy way to spread information about your donation drive to the community. Need help thinking about what to say? Below are examples of posts you could use to help share information about our mission and about your donation drive challenge!

Looking for a way to support a local non-profit in your community? HOPE 4 Youth is having a Summer Challenge. Help support their growing need by help them collect 600 bags of food each month this summer. Click the link to donate or see what food items they need: [CLICK HERE](#)

Did you know the summertime is when HOPE 4 Youth sees the most youth but the least amount of donations? They need your support! Join me in supporting them through their Summer Challenge. You can support the challenge by donating top needed items to their Center in Anoka this summer. Learn more [HERE](#)

I have been a supporter of HOPE for Youth for **BLANK** years, they are truly making a difference in the lives of young people. In 2025, HOPE 4 Youth supported a record number of 7,394 youth visits to their Center in Anoka. Learn more about HOPE 4 Youth by watching this short video: [VIDEO](#) I encourage you to support their Summer Challenge by donating top needed essential items.

Youth homelessness is unacceptable. HOPE 4 Youth's mission is to provide pathways to end youth homelessness. I challenge you to participate in their Summer Challenge by donating top needed essential items, hosting a donation drive, or sharing this post! Together we can end youth homelessness. Click [HERE](#) to learn more!

What to support HOPE 4 Youth, but can't reach their Donation Center in Anoka? They have virtual wish lists where your purchased support is delivered directly to their Center! You can support through [Amazon](#), [Walmart](#), or [Target](#)



Providing Pathways to End Youth Homelessness

**SCAN TO  
DONATE**



**OR**

**VENMO  
@H4YMN**



**Thank you for supporting our  
mission to end youth homelessness!**

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# TOP NEED ITEMS

## FOOD & HYGIENE ITEMS

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- Knorr Pasta or Rice Sides
- Potato Instant Sides
- Packet Tuna
- Packet Chicken
- Granola Bars, Protein Bars, and Breakfast Bars
- Fruit: Cups or Cans
- Snack Crackers
- Shampoo & Conditioner
- Body Wash
- Lotion
- Deodorant
- Shave Gel & Razors
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## QUESTIONS?

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Community Engagement Coordinator  
mdahlke@hope4youthmn.org  
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### WANT TO SHOP ONLINE?

Check out our Target, Walmart, and Amazon Wish Lists



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