

# **Children in Foster Care**

Imagine being a child and waking up in an unfamiliar home, surrounded by different smells, sounds, and people. This is reality for hundreds of children in Minnesota who enter into the foster care system. Many of these kids are uprooted at the drop of a hat without notice and arrive in a placement home without any belongings of their own.

# How can we help?

As a church, we can bring a bit of HOPE to these kids, their providers, and their social workers, through an organization called *Together for Good.* This December, lets join together to purchase and fill backpacks so these children entering foster care can have some essentials and comfort items during their time of transition. Join with friends, a small group, or as a family to choose an age group, purchase and fill backpacks, and write a note of encouragement; then bring them to WLC (drop-off info below).



# **Backpack Drop-off Dates**

**December 1–19**, bring your backpacks and hang them on the racks in the lobbies of the Oak Hill, Valley Creek, or Wakota Ridge campuses.

## Oak Hill

- Sunday mornings, 8am-11am
- Wednesdays 9am-2pm

# Valley Creek

- Sunday mornings, 8am-11am
- Monday Friday 9am-9pm

Wakota Ridge

- Sunday mornings 8am-11am
- Thursdays 9am-2pm



\*Please do not drop them in the church offices.



<u>Instructions</u>: Please choose the age & gender of a child you want to bless. Include new items listed in the box shown on this page. Print and attach the label (provided below) to the front of the backpack. Drop it off at the Oak Hill, Valley Creek, or Wakota Ridge Campus at a designated time. Your love makes a difference! Thank you!

## Infant: 0-12 Months

#### Backpack +

>1 package of diapers >1 package of wipes >baby shampoo (put in Ziploc bag) >pajamas >package of socks >book (age & gender appropriate) >stuffed animal > blanket >small toy (optional) >personal note expressing your care and prayers for the child.

## 4-5 years

#### Backpack +

>Toothpaste >toothbrush >kid's shampoo & conditioner (put in Ziploc) >pajamas >package of socks >package of underwear >book (age & gender appropriate) >stuffed animal >blanket >small toy (optional) >personal note expressing your care and prayers for the child.

## 10-12 years/13-14 years

#### Backpack +

>Toothpaste >toothbrush >kid's shampoo & conditioner (put in Ziploc bag) >deodorant >pajamas >package of socks >package of underwear >book (age & gender appropriate) >stuffed animal >blanket or small throw >small toy (optional) >personal note expressing your care and prayers for the child.



# Toddler: 18 mos.-3 years

#### Backpack +

>1 package of diapers or pull-ups >1
package of wipes >sippy cup
>toothpaste >toothbrush >kid's shampoo (put in Ziploc bag) >pajamas
>package of socks >package of underwear >book (age & gender appropriate)
>stuffed animal >blanket >small toy
(optional) >personal note expressing
your care and prayers for the child.

## 6-7 years, 8-9 years

#### Backpack +

>Toothpaste >toothbrush >kid's shampoo & conditioner (put in Ziploc bag) >pajamas >package of socks >package of underwear >book (age & gender appropriate) >stuffed animal >blanket or small throw >small toy (optional) >personal note expressing your care and prayers for the child.

## 15-16 years, 17-18 years

## Backpack +

>Toothpaste >toothbrush >shampoo &
conditioner (put in Ziploc bag)
>deodorant >pajamas (or optional gift
card) >package of socks >package of
underwear >book (age & gender appropriate) >stuffed animal >blanket or
small throw >personal note expressing
your care and prayers for the teen.