

## **DO 1 THING IDEAS**

### **Fulfill the immediate needs of all of our youth:**

1. Donate Hygiene Items (i.e. soap, toothpaste, deodorant, Q-tips, mouthwash)
2. Donate Feminine Hygiene Products
3. Donate Beauty Items (i.e. products for all ethnic hair types, make-up, nail polish)
4. Donate Eye Care items (i.e. contact solution and accessories)
5. Donate Hair Care (i.e. shampoo, conditioner, hair products, razors, after shave, combs, brushes, picks)
6. Donate First Aid supplies (i.e. first aid kits, BandAids, fire prevention supplies)
7. Donate NJ Transit bus cards (3 zone)
8. Donate Gift cards (Kmart, Shoprite, Target, Duane Reade)
9. Donate Clothing:
  - Adult coats
  - Sneakers
  - Undergarments in all sizes (small through plus)
  - Boxers
  - Socks
  - Professional clothes (suits, ties, dress shirts, shoes, socks – female & male)
  - Jeans & khakis
  - Belts
  - T-shirts
  - Sweatshirts
  - Sweaters
  - Sweatsuits
  - Thermals
  - Handbags
  - Shower shoes (flip flops)
  - All sizes – S through XXL
10. Donate personal items:
  - Blankets
  - Pillows
  - Clothes hangers
  - Large towels
  - Twin sheet sets
  - Comforters

### **Fulfill the comfort needs of our youth:**

11. Donate entertainment items:
  - Radios
  - Magazines
  - Motivational movies
  - Motivational books
  - Inspirational CDs

- MP3 players
- Portable CD players
- Digital Cameras
- Balls for our recreation center (basketball, football, soccer)
- DVD players
- Board & Card games
- AV cords
- Batteries (AA and AAA)
- Movie gift cards
- Extension cords
- I Tunes gift cards

12. Donate educational items:

- USB Flash Drives
- Pens/Pencils
- Paper – looseleaf and computer
- Bookbags
- Highlighters
- Scientific Calculators
- Notebooks
- Looseleaf binders
- Barnes & Noble giftcards
- New computers & printers for our learning center
- Stamps
- Envelopes

13. Donate items for the Crisis Center operation:

- Cleaning supplies - general
- Laundry detergent/fabric softener
- Sponges
- Storage containers
- Kitchen supplies
- Irons

14. Donate food:

- Non-perishable items

15. Donate vehicle needs:

- Gas cards
- Car washes
- Oil changes

**Rights of Passage & Nancy's Place/Transitional Needs**

16. Go grocery shopping for a ROP youth (i.e. buy basic food needs for a week of meals)
17. Arrange to go grocery shopping with an ROP youth
18. Donate supermarket giftcards
19. Donate desks, chairs, bookcases, beds, night tables (good condition please!)
20. Donate a gaming console and games for the community room (Xbox, Wii, etc)

### **Raphael's Life House/Moms & Baby needs**

21. Sponsor prenatal care items for pregnant youth
22. Donate feminine hygiene items
23. Donate diapers
24. Donate baby hygiene products (i.e. wipes, lotion, oil, shampoo, diaper ointment, teething gel)
25. Donate Thermometers, breast pumps, monitor, children's OTC medicines
26. Donate onesies & socks, clothes, blankets, crib sheets, booties
27. Donate NEW baby toys (i.e. rattles, teething rings, blocks)
28. Donate carseat, highchair, walkers, Pack n' Play, swing, gates, strollers, changing table
29. Donate basic cookbooks for new moms
30. Sponsor one month of childcare
31. Donate a small swingset

### **Post-Transition/Education/Independence Needs**

32. Donate small appliances (i.e. toaster oven, microwave oven, teapot, mini Foreman grills, blender, coffee maker)
33. Donate cooking needs (i.e. basic cookbooks, pots, pans, bakeware, utensils, kitchen towels and washcloths)
34. Donate a place setting for four
35. Donate heavy duty oven-safe ceramic dishes
36. Donate storage containers (all sizes and shapes)
37. Donate a laptop for a youth going to college
38. Donate luggage for youth to move belongings to their new homes

### **Donate Gift Cards for local stores**

39. Grocery Stores in NJ (Pathmark, ShopRite, CTown, Food Basics, Stop & Shop)
40. Department Stores (JC Penney, Sears, Macy's, Kohls, Target)
41. Drug Stores (CVS, Rite Aide, Duane Reade)
42. Convenience Stores (7-11, WaWa, QuikChek)
43. Convenient Restaurants (McDonalds, Burger King, Dunkin Donuts, Subway, Pizza Hut, Wendy's, KFC, Taco Bell)
44. Gas Stations
45. Home Improvement Stores (Home Depot, Bed Bath & Beyond, Lowe's)

### **Things You Can Do:**

46. Fill a bookbag with school supplies
47. Fill a duffel bag with toiletries
48. Donate money for one year of college textbooks for one youth
49. Run a "Change for Change" drive at your organization (ask members to donate their loose change for a month)
50. Hold a professional clothing drive for our job-seeking youth
51. Donate your age in dollars
52. Donate your weight in dollars

53. Donate money to cover one youth's medical expenses for one month
54. Host a jeans for teens drive at your office or organization
55. Hold a coat drive at your office or organization
56. Create a sock drop box at your office or organization
57. Collect books for a library at Nancy's Place or ROP
58. Collect parenting books for RLH
59. Host a baby shower for our young mothers to collect new baby needs
60. Collect Baby's first shoes at your office or organization
61. Run a canned food collection
62. Cook a dinner for our Crisis Center (60 people)
63. Buy a month's worth of formula or diapers for a new baby
64. Ask your child's class or youth group to donate their weight in canned goods
65. Collect used cell phones from friends, family and colleagues
66. Furnish a youth's kitchen with small appliances and basic cooking needs
67. Hold a fundraiser to buy a new van to transport our youth
68. Host a blanket drive
69. Host a winter drive – scarves, gloves, hats
70. Pay the utility bill for one month for an independent youth
71. Host a carwash fundraiser on behalf of homeless youth
72. Collect new linens for the our kids' beds
73. Host a book drive for motivational and educational books
74. Donate a magazine subscription for a youth
75. Ask young people (classes or youth groups) create Valentine cards for homeless youth
76. Host a "From Your Shower to Theirs" Drive – collect bath and hygiene products
77. Get our youth ready for summer – donate bathing suits, beach towels, sunscreen
78. Donate new or gently used furniture (bedroom, living room, office)
79. Bring light to a youth's life – batteries, flashlights, lightbulbs
80. Keep kids cool – donate fans or window air conditioners
81. Create goodie bags for shelters to use as youth incentives
82. Hold a "Sole Searching" drive to collect dress, casual and athletic shoes for young men and women
83. Help Kids see More Clearly – collect contact lens accessories, sunglasses and gift cards from eyeglass retailers
84. Throw a cocktail party fundraiser in your home
85. Host a silent auction on behalf of homeless youth
86. Host a bake sale to raise funds for homeless youth
87. Donate Food to prepare a holiday basket for a family
88. Treats to fill baskets for young moms
89. Collect household cleaning supplies to support our life link youth as they prepare to live independently
90. Donate a diaper bag filled with baby bundle items to welcome a newborn
91. Create "welcome baskets" for our residents transitioning to their own apartments
92. Sponsor a youth in driver's education classes
93. Make Events Special for a Young Adult – donate dresses and tuxedos for Prom

94. Host a graduation party in your home to celebrate the graduation of homeless youth from high school (donate gifts to the young adult)
95. Sponsor graduation costs for a homeless youth (i.e. cap, gown, yearbook, class ring)
96. Host a dinner dance at your local organization to raise funds for homeless youth
97. Sell 50/50s at your Super Bowl Party and give proceeds to homeless youth
98. Host a fashion show fundraiser
99. Create holiday gift baskets for upcoming spring holidays
100. Sponsor a retreat weekend for the youth to encourage spiritual and emotional growth
101. Volunteer to do a craft night, book club, poetry group or exercise class with our young adults
102. Sponsor a trip and join our teens as they experience something new and exciting.
103. Have a party and encourage guests to bring essentials that will help a young adult furnish his or her new apartment and gain independence
104. Donate 7 tickets for something fun: a sporting event, Broadway show, circus, theater, concert etc.
105. Be an Interior Decorator for a Day – donate new curtains, lamps, room décor for our youth in independent living
106. Give the Gift of Shopping – collect general gift cards from American Express, Visa and Mastercard
107. Fill a suitcase or large duffel bag with new clothes, underwear, toiletries or other needs
108. Send a care package to one of our young adults attending college
109. Sponsor a night out for our independent youth (dinner and a movie)
110. Host a first birthday party for a baby in our moms and babies program
111. Sponsor vehicle care for a month (gas, carwash)
112. Beautify one of our transitional living programs (landscaping, painting, etc.)
113. Give flowers to youth on Valentine’s Day (plants for bedrooms, etc)
114. Sponsor one month of public transportation (bus pass, train pass)
115. Sponsor medical or dental care for one youth
116. Sponsor a “Soup Drive” – collect non-perishable foods for making soups and sauces (canned broth, spices, canned vegetables)
117. Furnish a baby’s room with new furniture
118. Get a local restaurant to sponsor a fundraiser night (10% of proceeds from the night’s sales go to homeless youth)
119. Help an independent youth be a handy-man/woman – donate a starter tool box filled with basic tools
120. Host a Game Night for our youth and collect gaming consoles (Xbox, etc) and games, board games, cards, boxed games, etc from your guests
121. Run a Tricky Tray to benefit homeless youth
122. Host a Valentine’s Day candy sale to benefit homeless youth
123. Fulfill your organization’s community service obligations by hosting a fundraiser or raffle sale on behalf of homeless youth

124. Pamper a new mom – donate a gift basket filled with beauty products
125. Decorate a youth's apartment for the holidays – donate decorations, extension cords, and other holiday goods