

FREQUENTLY ASKED HOPE TOTE QUESTIONS

What is a Hope Tote?

A Hope Tote is a small plastic bag. We ask that you fill the bag with personal care items like soap, shaving cream, toothpaste and deodorant. The Mission will distribute Hope Totes to homeless individuals and families during the Easter season.

Why are Hope Totes a good way to help the homeless?

A Hope Tote may be the first contact the Mission has with a homeless or needy person. We've found that people feel better about themselves when they are able to shower, shave and change into fresh clothes. When they're physically refreshed, they're more likely to make other, more long-lasting changes in their lives—like getting involved with the education, work training and spiritual counseling programs we offer here at the Mission.

How do I get started?

You can request Hope Tote bags or fill your own plastic grocery bags up as many Hope Totes as you think you can fill. Distribute them to friends, family, students, members of your church to be filled with new, unused items like soap, shampoo, socks, toothpaste and lip balm. We also ask that whenever possible, each individual also send a gift of \$10 directly to the Mission to help provide meals, shelter, spiritual help and other essential care.

When do I need to get the filled bags back to the Rescue Mission?

Please return filled Hope Tote bags to the Rescue Mission by March 31 or soon thereafter.

Where do I bring my filled bags?

You can drop all filled bags at the Rescue Mission's 10 Mill Street, Springfield location

What goes in a Hope Tote?

Toothbrush/Toothpaste	Tissues	Nail Clippers
Soap/Body Wash	Hand/Body lotion	T-shirts/Socks/Underwear
Shampoo	Body Powder	Men's Shower Shoes
Deodorant	Disposable Razors	
Lip balm	Shaving Cream	

What size items do you need?

Determine the demographic for which you will be gathering supplies. Travel size items are given to the homeless; regular size items are given to those living in crisis and the men in our rehabilitation and transitional living programs; economy size items will be passed out to families in need.

Do the bags only go to men?

No. Items are needed for men, women and children.

Do I need to use the purple Hope Tote bags?

No. You can use regular plastic grocery bags or if you are doing a big collection at church or work, you can collect items in a box or bin and deliver it to the Rescue Mission in that container.