

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FROM: DAWN M. JONES, CITY CLERK SATURDAY, JANUARY 7, 2023

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SUBJECT: SOUTH BEND CITY CLERK'S OFFICE TO SUPPORT YWCA WITH A TOTE

DONATION DRIVE

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The South Bend City Clerk's Office in partnership with the YWCA, will host their first joint Women and Baby Toiletry Drive beginning Monday, January 16, 2023 (Martin Luther King Day). Donations will be accepted at the South Bend City Clerk's office located at 225 W. Jefferson Blvd. Suite #455, South Bend, IN 46614 between the hours of 10:00 am and 4:00 pm until Monday, February 3rd, 2022. The YWCA operates a safe place and shelter for women and children 7 days a week providing hot meals, social services to women of domestic violence, substance abuse, racism, and dating violence, clothing, and career development in the North Central Indiana Region. From the Clerk's office, "We take so many things in our daily lives for granted and it serves our office great pleasure to do our part in support of the women and children in need in our community."

"The work of the YWCA is personal to me. Nearly 30 years ago, my children and I sought safe shelter at the YWCA to escape a violent home. But we got so much more than shelter; we got a second chance to build happier, healthier lives free of abuse."

Today, the YWCA is still changing lives through its domestic violence, sexual assault, and substance use programs. Each year, over three thousand of our community members find the help and hope they need to begin again, just like my family did so long ago.

We are collecting the following women's toiletry items:

Body Wash / Soap /Lotion / Shampoo / Conditioner / Hair Gel / Hair Grease / Combs / Brushes / Towels / Deodorant /Toothbrushes /Toothpaste /Mouthwash /Dental Floss /Pillows /Sheets /Comforters /Tampons /Dishwashing Liquid /Laundry Detergent /Cleaning Supplies / Toilet Paper / Paper Towels, etc. in addition to planners for the year 2023.

We are collecting the following baby toiletry items:

Diaper Bags/ Baby Wipes/ Diapers/ Clothing/ Reusable Food Pouches/ Body Wash / Soap /Lotion / Shampoo / Conditioner / Bottles/ Sippy Cups / Pacifiers/ Teething Rings/ 1st Aid Kits/ Bottle Brushes/ Bibs/ Swaddles/ Muslin Blankets/ Towels/ Pack and Play Sheets/ Crib Sheets / Combs / Brushes, etc.

INTEGRITY | SERVICE | ACCESSIBILITY

This is a great opportunity for people to help women in our community and children in need. The YWCA is the leading community provider of domestic violence services including emergency shelters in St. Joseph and Elkhart Counties for women and children. The YWCA has been serving the community since 2011 when St. Joseph County and YWCA Elkhart County merged to become YWCA of North Central Indiana. The faces of people in need in our community is changing as the cost of living continues to increase; therefore, we are seeking new items to distribute.

Please learn more about this incredible resource in our community by visiting www.ywcancin.org. And, if you or someone you know needs help, the YWCA is there 24 hours a day. Just pick up the phone and dial or text 1-866-YES-YWCA.

All tax-deductible monetary donations and gift cards can be dropped off at the:

Office of the City 225 W. Jefferson Blvd. South Bend, IN 46601 southbendin.gov/department/city-clerk/ (574) 235-9221

The City of South Bend's Clerk's office is dedicated to complementing the Common Council's Mission Statement, "To Make Certain that our City Government is always responsive to the needs of our residents and that the betterment of South Bend is always our highest priority" while supporting the YWCA in their mission to eliminate racism, empower women and promote peace, justice, freedom, and dignity for all.

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