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UNITED WAY SHOEBOX PROJECT SUPPORTS VULNERABLE POPULATIONS
Personal care items to be distributed to local children, veterans, elderly, and homeless.

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS (March 5, 2019) – United Way of San Antonio and Bexar County is kicking off its 5th annual Shoebox Project.

The Shoebox Project will run from Monday, March 4, through April 26, and United Way is seeking the public’s help to create 15,800 personal care packages for 61 agencies by donating decorated shoeboxes filled with basic-need or emergency-preparedness items.

Individuals and organizations throughout Bexar County are being asked to donate shoeboxes filled with toiletries, including toothbrushes, toothpaste, lotion, deodorant, soap, shaving cream, etc., which will be distributed to nonprofit partners serving local children, veterans, elderly, homeless and vulnerable populations.

Nonprofit partners receiving boxes will distribute them to children in emergency shelters, long-term group homes, young sex trafficking victims, wards of the state, needy families, abused women and children, troops in need, local teens, lonely seniors and many others.

Interested Shoebox Project supporters also have the opportunity to join in during Community Shoebox Volunteer Days (filling shoeboxes) at the San Antonio Food Bank on March 30, April 20, April 24 and May 1.

“The Shoebox Project is a way to put United Way’s mission into action by improving the building blocks for a good quality of life for those in need across San Antonio,” said Brandyn Moore-Rodriguez, vice president of community relations and volunteer initiatives for United Way. “What many of us take for granted each day -- things like shampoo, soap, or even a comb – can offer confidence, dignity and hope to someone else,” she said.

Thanks to the generosity of San Antonio Shoemakers, empty shoeboxes can be requested from United Way by contacting shoeboxproject@unitedwaysatx.org.

For many in our community, basic comforts such as body soap, band aids, and other personal care items are a luxury. The United Way Shoebox Project is a way to provide essential care products to those in need so they can feel better and live better.

The decorated shoebox lids should be removable for safety inspections. United Way volunteers will conduct a thorough quality control process. To volunteer to help with the Shoebox Project, please click [here](#).

The 2019 United Way Shoebox Project is made possible through the dedication and commitment of the following sponsors and participating organizations: San Antonio Shoes, San Antonio Food Bank, H-E-B, SAMMinistries, USAA and United Way of San Antonio and Bexar County.

For those interested in items being picked up, drop-off locations, volunteer opportunities, or to purchase a pre-packaged shoebox, visit www.unitedwaysatx.org/shoebox, call (210) 352-7077 or email shoeboxproject@unitedwaysatx.org. To donate, text "ShoeboxUWSA" to 41444.

About [The Volunteer Center at United Way](#): The Volunteer Center at United Way engages volunteers for a variety of community projects including Volunteer of the Year Awards, the Write Start Project, Born Learning Trails, Literacy Kits and many other initiatives. The Center also supports the Raul Jimenez Thanksgiving Dinner, H-E-B Annual Feast of Sharing, Martin Luther King Day, natural disasters (hurricanes, floods, fires), and hundreds of non-profit and civic events during the year.

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