

99 Stockings

a.k.a. 99 Stockings & 500 Holiday Gift Bags!

Merry Makers: 2024

The 99 Stockings project creates a little holiday cheer for our neighbors at Tacoma's Stability Site, the Beacon Young Adult Shelter, and other local shelters. We also deliver holiday bags (with extra inclement weather supplies) to people in vehicle homes or living unsheltered. In 2023 we created and distributed 99 stockings and 400 gift bags.



Emergency shelters, safe parking sites, and camping communities continue to be shut down and reestablished in response to funding gaps, sweeps, and limited success in recognizing our shared humanity. There are determined people working on all of these problems and the Friday morning Zoom meeting of the Tacoma/Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness is a good place to collaborate. Links to the meeting and other resources can be found at www.pchomeless.org; all are welcome. Meanwhile, the 99 stockings team will provide as many small comforts as possible; our goal this year is 99 stockings and 500 holiday bags.

Teamwork

Do you have a family or friend group who could work together to gather needed items (e.g. 40 handwarmers or 20 hats)? We also need teams who can pick up supplies from our distribution hub (Christine's garage) and then assemble and deliver holiday bags to one of our locations. Individual volunteers are welcome too; there is plenty to do. Our Plan for 2024:

1. **Gather** most items on or before Tuesday, December 17th
2. **Organize & Count**, purchase any essential items that are still needed
3. **Pick Up Kits**, teams pick up by appointment between December 20th and 23rd
4. **Fill** the stockings & bags by December 23rd
5. **Deliver** to all locations on December 24th or 25th

NOTE: It is not uncommon to have more than one team involved in a single location. One team may pick up the kits and assemble holiday bags and another may bring the assembled bags to one of the sites.

If you can help with donations, gathering items, assembling stockings and bags, or distribution, please contact Theresa Power-Drutis (tpdrutis@nctacoma.org) or Marian Snyder (msnyder@harbornet.com). Check our [Google Sheet](#) to view the list of items needed and real-time progress as the stockings and bags are filled.

Seeking Makers

The beautiful hand-made hats and scarves we receive each year are especially treasured. If you are interested in creating something to share – let us know!

Single items and swag with logos are welcome. If you have ideas for other items to add to the stockings, let us know. Every little bit helps! Contact Theresa or Marian to arrange for drop off or pick up.

There are no administrative costs for this project; 100% of contributions designated “for holiday stockings” will be used to fill the stockings and bags. Any excess supplies will be saved for 2025, passed on to similar projects, or donated to agencies that provide services for unhoused people. A great way to have fun, build community, and share some joy with neighbors!

This Project is a collaborative effort of:

- New Connections, Tacoma
- Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness
- Common Good, Tacoma
- St. Leo’s Homelessness Workgroup

*Thanks for
the Socks,
Bombas!*

We are grateful to each person working in governance, non-profit agencies, faith communities, and independently to offer shelter, provide for basic needs, and address the systemic failures and individual challenges that contribute to homelessness.

Thanks to every volunteer who made the 99 Stockings project a success in 2023!

Questions?

99 Stockings Information Session

Monday, October 21st

5:30-6 PM

Followed by Q&A

Join us on [Zoom](#)

New Connections  www.nctacoma.org

