Individual Kit of Comfort (IKOC) Project for Children Living through a Disaster

You can help by building the needed kits!

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, CDS volunteers are not able to deploy and respond to the needs of children after a tornado, flood, hurricane, fire or other disaster damages their homes and disrupts the lives of their family. In response, the Individual Kit of Comfort was created to promote a sense of normalcy – an opportunity for the healing power of play. While CDS teams are not able to deploy to disaster sites, the IKOC will be handed out to children where they shelter after the disaster by Red Cross staff from the local area.

- **Appeal** - Our goal is to build 2,500 newly designed Individual Kit of Comfort (IKOC).
  - Packs are designed to be given to children between the ages of 4-10.

- **Collection Plan** - Beginning immediately through September 30, 2020, CDS will be collecting IKOC packs to be distributed to children affected by disasters.

- **Contents of each IKOC**
  - The contents of the kit are designed to have multiple uses and come with an activity guide for creative ideas to use the contents, along with resources for parents helping their children begin the healing process.
  - Please note: Each kit needs to meet these specifications so that children can all receive an equal play kit. Please do not add or substitute items. (see visual list for examples)
  - **Mesh A4 Pencil Pouch** – holds the materials in each pack – the items requested all fit nicely inside the A4 pouches, measuring 13.5 x 9.5 inches
    - 1 dough (2 oz.)
    - 1 clay cutter
    - 2 rulers (12-inch)
    - 1 mini-deck of cards
• 1 small beach ball (5-inch)
• 12 paper plates (6-inch plain white)
• 2 animal finger puppets
• 2 simple small wooden cars
• 2 small bean bags (3.5 inch)
• 3 rolls of washi colored tape (1/2 inch (10mm) wide)
• 1 child-sized jump rope
• 1 watercolor paint set (8 colors with brush)
• 1 small 3x5 notebook
• 1 colored gel ink pen
• 2 washable markers
• 1 stuffed plush dog (not larger than 4 inch)
• Activity/Trauma idea guide (supplied by CDS)

• **Funds** – The more packs we can produce in the next few months, the more children we can provide packs for – this may take a bit of creativity in funding and working together!
  o Larger quantities ordered of supplies will provide more cost savings
  o Church groups, Sunday school groups, families are encouraged to participate
  o CDS has some grant funds set aside for the IKOC project
    ▪ Matching funds initiative in place with current funds available as needed
  o With the current material list, the price per pack is approximately $17

• **Packing** –
  o Follow social distancing guidelines currently in effect for your geographic area.
  o Safety is a priority for all!
  o It works best to do quantities of 12 in ordering online, some bulk items are cheaper in larger quantities (100). The Mesh Pouch on Amazon comes in quantities of 24.
  o Recommend one person do the purchasing and tracking for group
  o We have additional supporting documents to help with group packing, order tracking, and engagement of congregation if interested.

• **Shipping Completed Packs**
  o Save some of the boxes you receive materials in for repackaging completed packs
  o Once Packs are completed and ready for shipment – contact Lisa @ CDS for information on shipping. lcrouch@brethren.org

• **Monetary Donations**
  o Gifts to the Emergency Disaster Fund are an important way to support CDS disaster efforts and can be specified to sponsor IKOC’s.
  o Donate online at [https://churchofthebrethren.givingfuel.com/cds](https://churchofthebrethren.givingfuel.com/cds) with IKOC in comments
  o or mail check to Emergency Disaster Fund, 1451 Dundee Avenue, Elgin, IL 60120 with a note indicating IKOC-CDS.

• For More Information: cds@brethren.org or call 410-635-8734.