



the encouragement project

ISSUE 45

OCTOBER 2023

A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

September was busier than usual, which is fine by me. In years past, the majority of our warm items have been given out in October and November, but this year people were clamoring for these things early to share with those they serve. By the end of September our “keeping shelves” were rather bare.

As our wonderful volunteers continue to make and donate more things to TEP, we will be able to get some more deliveries made over the next month to those now on the waiting list.

Do you know someone who would be willing to make hats/scarves? We know people who could use them! ~ Stephanie

THE ARTICLE

A few months ago, a friend connected me with Susan Schulz who is a freelance writer for a series of “Around [this community]” magazines in a few area counties. Susan writes about local ministries and nonprofits, and was so generous to write about TEP for the October edition! We have already received a fantastic response from people who have items to donate or who are ready to volunteer!



As for you, brothers and sisters, do not grow weary in doing good.

2 Thessalonians 3:13




the encouragement project
Nonprofit Inspires Hope Through Good Words, Deeds

By Stephanie Schulz

The Encouragement Project is a nonprofit organization that provides support and encouragement to those in need. It offers a variety of services, including food pantries, clothing closets, and job training programs. The organization is committed to helping people overcome their challenges and build a better future for themselves and their families.




the encouragement project

The Encouragement Project is a nonprofit organization that provides support and encouragement to those in need. It offers a variety of services, including food pantries, clothing closets, and job training programs. The organization is committed to helping people overcome their challenges and build a better future for themselves and their families.

HAVE ITEMS TO donate?

Check out the “donate” page on our website for items needed. We would love to help get your extra things to people in need.

IN MEMORY

We are so grateful to have received an incredibly generous donation of \$1,000 and 1,317 children's books for The Book Drop in memory of Marilyn Hoehne York. Marilyn was a much loved school librarian at Bascomb, and a group of retired teachers who worked with her chose to collect this monetary gift and the books for TEP. We have already started shopping for books with these funds, and am excited about the thousands of kids we will be able to help with these books. What a beautiful way to honor the memory of a friend!



DONATIONS IN

In August, a partner church hosted a stuffed animal drive and collected 461 stuffies for our Bears and Friends effort! That's as full as my van has ever been!

Last month, a church group of 40 or so ladies got together for a workday and cut and sewed 104 adult bibs, 90+ delivery gift bags for Bears and Friends, and cut and prepped the paper for around 200 Simple Gift containers. We were blown away by their loving productivity!

There has also been a steady stream of beautiful knitted, crocheted, sewn and quilted items, as well as resources — books, yarn, paper craft supplies, and stuffed animals — over the past few months. We sure like steady streams around here. And flowing rivers. That enables us to better make plans for helping those we can serve.

The more TEP receives, the more people we can help. And that's encouraging!



TEP VOLUNTEERS

To those of you who have spent time

- making
- prepping
- sorting
- tagging
- cleaning
- collecting
- packing
- sharing
- or otherwise helping

with a TEP project, we are so grateful!

Your time and efforts have enabled over 4,000 people to be helped, served, and encouraged in the last few months alone.

The willing hearts and generous hands of our volunteers make TEP beautiful.

Would you like to join us?

You're invited to be in touch about ways you can serve through this ministry!



DONATIONS OUT

Thanks to your generous donations, in the past few months we have delivered and shared:

- **2,600 children's/youth books**
- **1,370 warm hats, scarves, mittens, shawls, and blankets**
- **457 Simple Gifts**
- **60 stuffies**

We currently have a waiting list for hats, scarves, and other warm items. As things continue to be made/donated, we hope to fill these requests soon.

