

**Is it better to donate one of many things... or many of one thing?**

For us to be fair to our patient families and have consistency in our available items, it is helpful when a donor gives several of one item. Try delegating items to different groups in doing a drive!



**Have any questions or want to schedule a drop-off?**

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## **2023 Wish List:**

### **Helping Blythedale's Families in the Community**

#### **LAUNDRY DETERGENT**

There is a great need for laundry detergent for our patient families who are in the community. Blythedale is a safety net hospital, since we do not turn away any patients if they cannot pay, and about 75% of our patients are dependent on Medicaid. As a result, we have many families who often must choose what, among necessities, they need to skip over. When faced with buying food, diapers, and laundry detergent, it's the last one that often gets overlooked, and it is often the one not available through other sources. Therefore, collecting laundry detergent (regular detergent and/or unscented is preferred over Dreft) would be immensely helpful!

#### **NON-PERISHABLE FOODS**

Many of our patient families are grateful to receive non-perishable foods. The following items are especially helpful and most needed, and if you are able to focus on collecting just these items, that would be phenomenal! *Please make sure that the items are unopened and are not expired.*

1. Canned tuna & mayonnaise
2. Peanut butter & jelly
3. Cereals
4. Shelf-stable milk
5. Applesauce pouches
6. Canned coffee
7. Crackers
8. Low-sugar bottled juice or juice boxes
9. Canned soups & canned vegetables (with pull-tabs if possible!)
10. Can openers (since not all our families have one at home)
11. For our parents staying bedside:
  - a) Items that come in their own microwaveable packaging and do not need refrigeration, such as:
    - Cups of instant mac & cheese
    - Instant soups
    - Shelf-stable meals (like Hormel)
  - b) Granola bars (peanut-free)
  - c) Instant oatmeal packets
  - d) Canned soups & vegetables (with pull tabs)
  - e) Microwaveable bowls (to allow families to heat up other food)

#### **CVS GIFT CARDS**

Many of our patients in the community have a variety of over-the-counter needs, ranging from generic vitamins and lotions to specialized medical items. These items are usually not covered by Medicaid and can be quite costly. CVS gift cards (\$25-\$50 each) are very helpful to our patient families in making ends meet – it alleviates the frequent dilemma of choosing between their child's health needs and basic living essentials. When doing a service project or donation drive, if you find that there are people who want to donate money rather than buy items, this is an easy way to put that money to good use!