

The Allegheny County Department of Human Services (DHS) provides publicly funded human services for some of the county's most vulnerable individuals and families.

Using federal, state and local funding, we meet many of their needs through our extensive network of services.

But government funding can only be used to meet specific, eligible needs. It seldom pays for items or opportunities that are considered optional, supplemental or life-enhancing.

We rely on the generosity of county residents and organizations to help us meet these other needs. These life-enriching items and opportunities often help to bring a sense of normalcy to difficult circumstances.

The DHS Office of Community Relations (OCR) spearheads or partners on several annual projects in which the community can help.



Allegheny County Music Festival Fund

raises monies to purchase items and opportunities otherwise out of reach for vulnerable children and young adults.



DHS Holiday Project

provides new gifts for children and teens involved with child welfare and those living in homeless shelters with their parents.



SummerBooks

collects and distributes new and gently read books to children, ages birth to 12 years, to encourage reading while children are out of school.



Project Prom

provides new and gently used formal attire for teens served by DHS.

DHS is

responsible for providing and administering publicly funded human services to Allegheny County residents.

DHS Principles

All services will be:

- High quality, comprehensive and accessible.
- Individualized and designed to be respectful of the unique cultural characteristics of each individual and/or community.
- Integrated and offered through a team approach that recognizes the capacity of individuals and families to identify their own strengths, needs and goals; create relationships and natural supports; and take steps necessary to accomplish these goals.



Human Services Building

One Smithfield Street, Fourth Floor

Pittsburgh, PA 15222

phone: 412-350-5701

fax: 412-350-4004

www.alleghenycounty.us/dhs.aspx

DHS GIVING OPPORTUNITIES



Your
Generosity,
Appreciated!

The Allegheny County Department of Human Services does not discriminate against anyone on the basis of a protected class including: race; color; religion; national origin; ancestry or place of birth; sex; gender identity or expression; sexual orientation; disability; marital status; familial status; age (40 and older); use of guide or support animal because of blindness, deafness or physical disability.



DHS welcomes individuals and groups in the community to assist with our efforts to support the individuals and families we serve.

Below are items for which we often have a need. *But please, call the DHS Office of Community Relations (OCR) at 412-350-6787 before you begin a collection on our behalf, as most of our donation drives are seasonal. Once we know your intentions, we can provide advice and ensure that the timing is right and that there is a good match between your collected items and those needed.*

In-kind Donations

Baby supplies – diapers in various sizes, new crib linens, unopened wipes and bath supplies

Books – new and gently read books for infants, children, youth and young adults

Correspondence materials – new birthday and other special occasion greeting cards, stationery and “forever” stamps for older adults

Formal attire and accessories – new and used-but-ready-to-wear formal gowns, wraps, jewelry, cummerbunds, bow ties, pocket squares and shoes for prom

Furniture - new and gently used furniture for living rooms, kitchens and bedrooms for young adults moving toward independence

Handmade items – new knitted or crocheted blankets for infants, sweaters for children and shawls for older adults

School supplies – new backpacks, notebooks, pens, highlighters, glue sticks etc. for children, teens and young adults

Toiletries – unopened hair care, soaps, dental care, sanitary products and skin care items for adults in shelters and transition-age youth

Toys and gifts – new only art/craft kits, racially diverse dolls, action figures, stuffed animals, building blocks, cars and trucks, journals, bikes/helmets, clothing, purses etc. as appropriate for children - infants through teens



Items We Cannot Accept (if used)

Appliances
Bed linens
Clothing (except prom attire)
Damaged books (i.e. written in, musty odor, water damaged, etc.)
Items with religious connotations
Linens for bed or bath
Luggage
Mattresses
School or office supplies
Stuffed animals or dolls
Toiletries
Toys



Monetary Donations

We welcome monetary donations year round to support many of our efforts. Please contact OCR at 412-350-6787 to discuss how to turn your generosity into smiles.



Contact Us with Your Ideas

Do you have other thoughts about how your organization can get involved? Please contact OCR at 412-350-6787 to discuss your ideas. We'd love to hear them!



For More Information

Please visit the Engagement Opportunities page of the DHS website for more details about DHS giving and volunteering opportunities at www.alleghenycounty.us/dhs/Engagement

Or, call the DHS Office of Community Relations at 412-350-6787.



Donations for Homeless Men and Women

Operation Safety Net® serves men and women who are homeless by providing overnight shelter and specialized care. Donations of the following items, in NEW condition, are welcomed from October through February. No warm-weather clothing can be accepted. Please contact OSN at 412-232-5739 or OperationSafetyNet@pittsburghmercy.org for delivery details.

- Boots
- Hats, scarves and gloves
- Jeans
- Shoes
- Ski parkas
- Sweat pants
- Sweat shirts
- Thermal underwear
- Toiletries
- Underwear
- Women's sanitary supplies

