



GOTTA HAVE SOLE FOUNDATION

VOLUNTEER FROM HOME

Thanks for joining us to Volunteer From Home!



Like so many other non-profit organizations, Gotta Have Sole has been impacted by Covid-19 and our ability to donate to the homeless children we serve has been challenged. We have seen the need for our services increase, as more families face homelessness and home insecurity due to the economic effects of Covid-19. We immediately saw the impacts of Covid-19 in our conversations with our shelter partners, we heard stories of their lack of adequate PPE for both shelter staff and families. For many shelters social distancing is difficult because of the physical realities of the shelters.

In an immediate response to step up to this need, GHS has implemented sending sanitizing wipes or gel, and a face mask along with the delivery of every pair of shoes (which is also accompanied by our personalized cards and new socks). But most of all, your generous actions in volunteering from home can help us to meet these needs, and serve people most in need within your own communities!

Here's more details on how YOU can volunteer from home:

- 1) Hosting a New Shoe Drive remotely!**
- 2) Start a fundraiser for your local shelter + Gotta Have Sole**
- 3) Give new shoes now!**
- 4) Decorate a card - to accompany new shoe donations!**



GOTTA HAVE
SOLE.



VOLUNTEER FROM HOME

Best Practices for Hosting your New Shoe Drive, DURING COVID

Due to Covid-19 and the economic effects, we've seen a dramatic increase in the need for donations of new shoes. As more families face homelessness and home insecurity due to the economic effects of Covid-19. In discussions with our shelter partners we heard stories of their lack of adequate PPE for both shelter staff and families. For new residents they're only able to give one disposable mask for the duration of their stay, which is obviously not sufficient. Most partner shelters have been able to implement sanitizing and cleaning policies at the shelters, but are not able to provide additional "travel size" hand-sanitizers for residents as they come and go. Additionally, for many shelters social distancing is incredibly difficult because of the physical realities of the shelters. Through all of this the need for ALL basic materials is even more critical. In an immediate response to step up to this need, Gotta Have Sole has implemented sending sanitizing wipes or gel, and a face mask along with the delivery of every pair of shoes (which is also accompanied by our personalized cards and new socks).

- 1. All footwear must be brand-new, with NO exceptions.** At Gotta Have Sole we donate new sneakers to students in elementary school through high school, so all sizes are welcomed. We've seen donors become more personally invested in donating to the shoe drive if you encourage them to purchase a sneaker in their size. We hear from families that their children love to pick out and purchase sneakers at the shoe store in their own size and gender, if applicable, knowing they will go to a child who is near their age!
- 2. Set your logistics.** With Covid-19, this part is a little more difficult. Traditionally, many of our shoe drives are hosted at schools, local businesses, or community centers. That might still be an option with proper social distancing and depending on your local requirements. However, you might also decide to host a drive just in your neighborhood, or a smaller circle.
- 3. Gather your team, who you can work with in a safe + social distanced manner.** Gather a good crew of 2-3 people who will act as liaisons to the school, place of business, or wherever you're hosting your drive, and who will manage the shoe drive. This team will also educate people about our organization. Information about when and why the organization was started is readily available on our website but we will be glad to furnish you with those details, if you'd prefer.
- 4. Set a date!** Set the collection dates of the shoe drive and location and date of drop off. Usually two weeks to collect the footwear gives people ample time.



VOLUNTEER FROM HOME

5. Get the word out! Use our flyer to share via email, in your drive location, on social media, and any other creative socially-distanced high-traffic areas. The flyer is a working document so you can add the details of your shoe drive. Use of our logo is for the expressed purpose of the shoe drive only. All other uses of it must be approved by Gotta Have Sole.

6. Prepare the drop off box! Decorate a large bin or two, affixing the Gotta Have Sole logo on the sides of the bins and post your flyer directly above it. Decide if you'll donate locally or to Gotta Have Sole Headquarters. Decide if the footwear you collect will be delivered directly to a shelter in your area or shipped to GHS headquarters. If your location is one hour from our headquarters, we will be glad to pick up the footwear and thank you in-person!

****We always need sneakers, especially during back-to-school, for children who may be transitioning to shelters and still not outfitted with footwear for the school year. Other busy months for us are December when we give boots along with sneakers to children in colder climates, and March and April. However, all times during the year are great to hold a shoe drive and we will gladly accept your donations!**

8. Add some socks! We include new socks with the footwear so you can encourage people to include a correctly sized pair with the sneakers they are donating.

9. Coordinate shoe delivery. When your shoe drive is nearing completion, contact Gotta Have Sole to arrange pick-up or to discuss shipping or delivery of footwear.

10. Share your success! Remember to let the people who supported your shoe drive know the final tally of footwear that was donated and where the shoes will be going!



VOLUNTEER FROM HOME

2. Start a fundraiser for your local shelter + Gotta Have Sole

If you can't host an in-person shoe drive, or if you want to engage friends and family from across the country to help out - consider starting a fundraiser to bring Gotta Have Sole + new shoes to your local shelter!

We make it easy, just follow these easy steps:

1) Start your fundraising page on Give Lively

a) Go to: <https://secure.givelively.org/donate/gotta-have-sole-foundation-inc/fundraisers/new>

2) Complete your fundraising page.

a) "Whose name would you like to display on your Fundraising Page?" will show your name so this could be your full name, or the name of a community group who's hosting the fundraiser, however you want it do be displayed publicly.

b) Then it will ask for your email and password, so you can login and see the progress of your fundraiser.

3) Share: Then you'll be able to widely share with your friends and family, and your community. You can post it and share it on social media, you can send emails to your friends, or family, and even post it to community groups. Here's some sample language, or write what feels right to you!

I'm volunteering from home to support @GottaHaveSoleFoundation - Gotta Have Sole Foundation provides homeless children with brand new shoes to help them feel confident, comfortable, and special. The need is even greater now during covid, as shelters are struggling and seeing their population numbers rise. (link to your give lively page)

Or consider sharing this video about why the need is so important, using our [library of videos!](#)

I'm volunteering from home to support @GottaHaveSoleFoundation - Gotta Have Sole Foundation provides homeless children with brand new shoes to help them feel confident, comfortable, and special. Take two minutes to watch this short video about what it's like to be "In Their Shoes" and why we continue to be inspired and motivated to give homeless youth across the country new shoes. The need is even greater now during covid, as shelters are struggling and seeing their population numbers rise. (link to your give lively page)(Link to youtube video)

4) Questions? Contact us: Gottahavesole@gmail.com



VOLUNTEER FROM HOME

3. Give new shoes now!

It's simple - your donation can change a life today. We are driven to leave every child with more than a pair of shoes—to leave them feeling inspired, confident, and loved.

Our work has reached over 100,000 homeless kids in every state in the country. Together, we can reach even more.

Every \$25 provides new shoes for one child.

Go to gottahavesole.org/give to get started

4. Decorate a card - to accompany new shoe donations!

We include a personalized card with each pair of shoes. Decorate a card for a child right now, either online or by hand.

Go to: <https://www.gottahavesole.org/cards>

There you can either:

a) Use our online card-creator: Decorate a card and write a personalized message online. We will print your card and hand-deliver it to the next child who receives shoes.

b) Download + print the card to decorate by hand: You can also print out our template. Decorate a card by hand right now or invite some friends over for a card decoration party!

Print + decorate as many cards as you want and then mail them to us at

Gotta Have Sole Foundation

PO Box 8379

Cranston, RI 02920