

The number of children in need of a hand up grows everyday!

Bloomin' Boutique is a non-profit organization dedicated to giving a *hand up* by providing *new* clothing, shoes, bedding and personal care items to underprivileged children, empowering them to become confident, constructive members of their communities.

FALL 2023

Welcome to our newsletter. We value this opportunity to share stories with our community of supporters.

Help keep our shelves stocked by organizing a clothing drive!

Businesses do it.
 Schools do it.
 Churches and banks do it.
 And so can YOU!

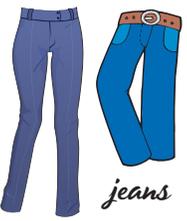
Organizing or participating in a clothing drive is something EVERYONE can do. A drive can be a friendly competition between groups or departments, or used as a team building event. Kids and adults alike enjoy the satisfaction that comes from helping a fellow human being. Pajamas, underwear, socks, toys to toiletries, these basic needs go a long way towards improving a child's life and brightening up their day.

The calendar below shows which items are needed the most at different times of the year. Pick a month, and let's get started! Bloomin' Boutique donation barrels are at the ready!

NEW CLOTHES ONLY - ALL SIZES GRADES K thru 12 - Boys & Girls

Patti Serres

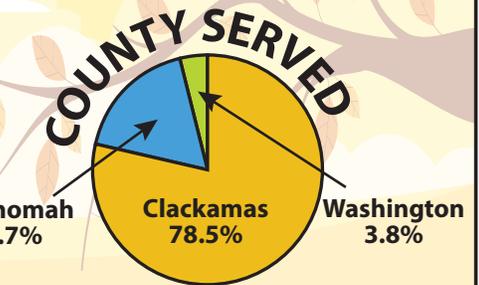
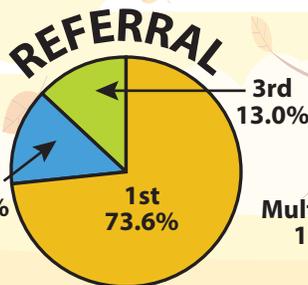
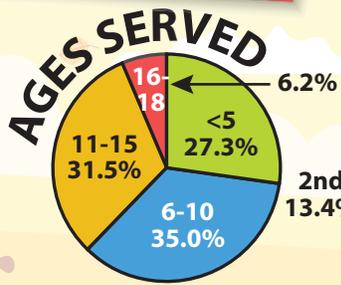
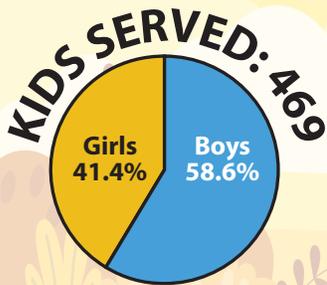
Patti Serres
 Bloomin' Boutique, Founder and Executive Director
 503.320.0789 • Patti.Serres@BloominBoutique.org

JANUARY  coats	FEBRUARY  socks	MARCH  jeans	APRIL  gift cards	MAY  underwear	JUNE  shoes	 fashion accessories always welcome
JULY  hoodies	AUGUST  backpacks	SEPTEMBER  comforters, blankets, pillows	OCTOBER  boy's shirts	NOVEMBER  girl's shirts	DECEMBER  PJs	

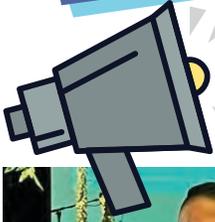
BY THE NUMBERS

Jul - Aug - Sept 2023

IN-KIND DONATIONS	\$92,053
CLOTHING DISTRIBUTED	\$234,500
VOLUNTEER HOURS	2278



SHOUT OUT!



AN UNFORGETTABLE EVENING!
Everyone was in "AWE" of
the beautiful venue, the incredible food
and the flow of the evening from start to finish!



Thank you Dylan for your attention to every detail and making the night absolutely magical!



My heart is filled with so much gratitude for the continued support of so many generous people!

Patti Serres

Special thanks to our donors and sponsors!

- Air & Auto Museum
- Alaska Airlines
- Ann Hagler
- B&B Leasing
- Bandito Taco
- Baskin Robbins Gladstone
- Bennington Properties
- Black Rock Coffee
- Blinds By Design
- Blushed by Jillian
- Bonnie Jeuris Wine Distributor
- Broadway Rose Theatre
- Bullwinkles
- Camp Dakota
- Chad Fuss, Estate Planning
- Chinook Winds
- Clackamas County Sheriff
- Dee Dee Montgomery
- Enchanted Forest
- Gail Stein
- Ginger Grove Gallery
- Great Harvest
- Grocery Outlet OC
- Hardware Barber
- High Standard GC, LLC
- Hulk Dad Construction
- I Love Kickboxing OC
- ilani
- Janice Moseley
- Jump the Party
- Kaady Car Wash
- Luxus Aesthetics
- McMenamins
- Modified Screen
- Morgan & Stephanie Carlson
- Movement Climbing & Yoga
- Mr B Soups
- Museum of Pop
- Nancy Steele Portraits
- Nebbiolo Wine Bar
- Oaks Amusement Park

- Old Growth Tree Climbing Adventure
- Oregon Coast Scenic Railroad
- Pat's Acres Racing
- Portland Ballet
- Portland Trail Blazers
- Portland Center Stage
- Portland Spirit
- Pumpkin Ridge
- Rebel Beauty
- Salt & Sage Spa
- Seattle Mariners
- Sidlab Haircuture
- Stephanie Briggs Massage
- Stumptown Escape Games
- Teresa Chipperfield
- Teresa Stonecipher
- Tootie Smith
- Tumwater Vineyards
- Vista Hot Air Balloons
- Wayward Sandwiches

- Weinhardts
- Wilco
- Wildlife Safari
- Willamette Garage
- Willamette Valley Vineyards
- Winterhawks Wurst Market
- ...
- Brian Allen
- Bright Minds Christian Dayschool
- Cameron & Danielle Azari
- CFCC Prevention Unit
- Churchill Mortgage
- Darrell & Jeri Livingston
- Estes Garage
- First American Title
- Fuji Produce
- Gray Gables Estate
- Graziano Food Service
- James Charriere
- Jeff & Mindy Brown
- Joanne Hazel
- Jon & Jenn Penovi
- Julie Bullock
- Mike & Sherie Rosenbaum
- Nora Hart
- OnPoint Credit Union
- Pam Bloom
- Rhonda Shelby
- Trecs Treats



We greatly appreciate the ongoing support from our sponsors, donors and volunteers.

● Because of your generosity, we served a record breaking 469 kids this quarter!

Clackamas County ARPA
thru Clackamas Women's Services

Marquis Foundation

Bloomin' Boutique Gala
Fundraising Event
held at Gray Gables Estate

Dutch Bros.
Bucks For Kids Fundraiser
Oregon City and Happy Valley

Cruzin' for the Kids
Car Show Benefit
held at Serres Farm

kw Portland Elite Realty
Swing For Kids
Golf Tournament Benefit

SPECIAL

Thankes

Does your company or organization encourage your group to support non-profits?

"Team building" opportunities for groups of 3 to 10 volunteers are available!

Come help us assemble newborn kits, school supplies, art and activity kits and toiletry bags!!!

contact Patti Serres at 503.320.0789 to see what opportunities await!



"Receiving the clothing and additional basic need items from Bloomin' Boutique has taken a significant financial hardship off my hands especially since each of my twins received their own bag. I love how much thought is put into what is included in the bags. My twins will be turning two soon and I plan on potty training, so to have received underwear for them, is one less thing for me to worry about. I also appreciate that a warm coat was included. I had been shopping around but those that I found have been out of my price range."
- MR, Healthy Families Oregon

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"I just want to say thank you so much for all the clothes and supplies you have provided for my children. I'm a single mother of 4 on limited income with few resources so I didn't know how I was going to be able to get everything they needed. With your help, I was able to ensure they would be okay. So thank you again for your services :)"
- HM, Housing Authority of Clackamas County

I just want to give a huge thank you to your organization, volunteers and, of course, yourself. I've made so many requests over the last few months and everything has been so wonderful.

I had a family who found themselves homeless, and another who didn't have very much in their current housing. Being able to provide clothing, bedding and supplies meant so much to these families!

I absolutely cherish what you do and consider you a valuable resource. I love that I can always depend on you guys!

Thank you so much for everything you do!
- JM, Clackamas County Public Health

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The last care package I picked up was just so appreciated. Baby Ryker immediately started pulling one outfit out, a jumpsuit, and seemed to really prefer it. The mother was overjoyed and wanted me to share her gratitude with you and your team! With finances very tight and housing requiring such a large portion of her income, it is so special to receive such a bounty of adorable and fresh clothes and toys for her baby's wardrobe. She especially loved the warm hoodie, and he has been wearing it regularly now that the weather seems to have changed. A huge and heartfelt thank you from their family and my team at Clackamas Public Health. It is a joyous part of our job to be able to deliver your fabulous care packages to families in need. - JG, Clackamas County Public Health

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The Mom told me that she is very grateful to all of the people who work at Bloomin' Boutique because, thanks to that work, her daughter received clothes, toys and so much more. She will be able to dress her daughter in Fall and Winter because she received clothes according to the seasons, and the dresses are beautiful as well as the bows for her hair.

Her income is not enough to buy clothing for her child, so you are helping so much. - MR, Healthy Families Oregon

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Thank you so much Patti for all that you, the volunteers and Bloomin' Boutique do! - DT, Oregon Dept of Human Services

Thank you so much for the opportunity to visit you at the Boutique. The two students I brought are so happy and grateful. The sibling pair that you helped on Monday had just gone through an unexpected move and are starting the academic year at a new school in a new city. Through such a challenging transition, Bloomin' Boutique was there and equipped them both with clothing (and confidence) for the school year. The work you do is invaluable and changes lives.
- KL, Northwest Family Services

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The Johnson family was very excited to receive the clothes. The youth wanted to try everything on as soon as they arrived. They say thank you so much for your support of them.

Your organization is so helpful to our families. We thank you so much. - PFJ, Multnomah County Behavioral Health Dept

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"I wanted to say thank you for the wonderful care packages that I received for my kids. They have enjoyed the toys and all of the clothes were high quality!" - MB, Clackamas Women's Services

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"I am a 61 year old grandmother caring for my grandson. People like me want to give our kiddos a fighting chance with back to school things needed to start off on the right foot in order to move forward to success. I have been on both sides of the coin, giving and receiving. Feeling grateful, humbled and blessed to be grandmother/ mother as sometimes he calls me both." - BD, Clackamas County Social Services

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"I would like to thank the people who made this donation of clothes and diapers for my twins possible. The truth is that I am very grateful and happy because it will be very helpful for me and my babies; the clothes are all perfect for them. I am delighted with all the items received. This helps me to be calm because I no longer have to stress about buying clothes, especially since I don't work and therefore, I can't afford clothes. Thank you" - MR, Healthy Families Oregon





The family with the three little ones send lots of love and blessings as they are going through a hard time and the packages have really made a difference. The kids opened up their packages in such a rush it was Christmas in July and it brought tears to their parents eyes.

Thank you for having such an awesome organization that makes a difference in so many people's lives. -YG, Todos Juntos

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Thank you, Bloomin' Boutique and your donors, for the incredible donation. Child welfare had three siblings come into care unexpectedly. We were able to place them all with a relative but they had almost no clothing or things that they needed to be comfortable. Bloomin' Boutique didn't just meet the basic needs for these children with clothing, underwear and shoes, you provided them with toys and things to do – fun stuff! The family was completely overwhelmed when we unloaded everything – it just kept coming and coming. Thank you so much for your generosity! As a worker, it made me want to cry when I picked it up and saw how much you had to offer. You blew us away. Thank you. - LP, Oregon Dept of Human Services

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"My son and I cannot even begin to express how much we appreciate this program! As soon as the referral sheet was placed in front of me, I was overwhelmed with joy. I have known of Patti for years. Our church helps her Boutique when we can and she is a huge contributor to our community.

My son was gifted so many items! Underwear, socks, shirts, shoes, pants, toys, blankets, pillows and so much more! He has been wearing these items non-stop. I loved how they included small little touches so he didn't feel like all the got were clothes, while much needed. Kiddo got excited over new toys and coloring items as well! One of his favorite items was the handmade blanket. It's on his bed every night now.

To say 'Thank You' seems so simple. It doesn't seem to hold the weight of how this program truly makes you feel. The smiles and joy I witnessed while he uncovered item after item is a true gift my mama heart can never thank you enough for.

Thank you to all involved for being such a blessing in a heavy time. We appreciate it more than you will ever know." - DT, ODHS

The last care package we picked up brought such joy to the little girl and mom when it was delivered. She literally had her eyes light up like Christmas when she saw the Squishmellow. Huge thanks to you and your team for what you do!
- JG, Clackamas County Public Health

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"I am so so so grateful for Bloomin' Boutique and everyone involved. You put big smiles on my kiddos faces when they received their bags. My little one especially jumped up and down with excitement as he pulled everything out. No words can express how thankful I am to you all, you have no idea how much of a difference you are making in the lives of many. Thank you!" I also wanted to personally add that this family was just coming out from a domestic violence case and was experiencing major hardships. As you can imagine, receiving clothes from Bloomin' Boutique was a great help!
- JL, Todos Juntos

"I would like to give a special thanks to some very wonderful people that have made a big difference in my life and the lives of my children. I am so very grateful for the clothing support that has been provided through the Bloomin' Boutique. It is such a blessing to have received the clothing for my children. Personally, I feel horrible when they don't have clothes to fit them OR if they are not in good condition. I'm sure it's is a burden on them because you just lack the confidence you need to participate socially and academically in school when you don't have the basic needs like clothing. So you see, it has been quite a tremendous blessing for myself and my children to have received these services. I can't thank you enough. I'm so very grateful and I appreciate all who make this happen including the staff members that are doing the referrals. Thank you all so much !!!!!!"
- HM, Housing Authority of Clackamas County

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"Thank you Bloomin' Boutique for all of these wonderful clothes! My children were excited to see all the amazing things you provided in their care packages. Because of Bloomin' Boutique, part of my stress was lifted off my shoulders and now my children have new clothes for the summer. Your kindness goes a long way." Thank you Bloomin' Boutique for your continuous service! - JL, Todos Juntos

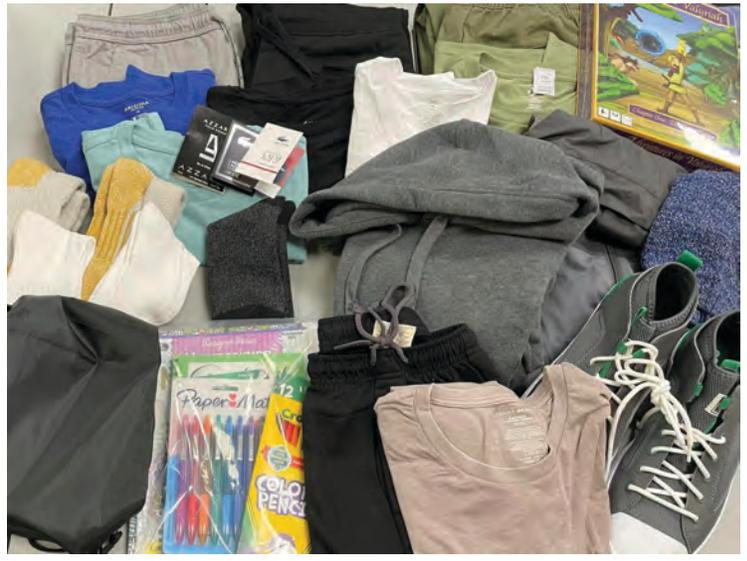


Our care packages are wrapped with love

Every care package assembled by our volunteers has been touched by the hands of many caring people...



By donating just two of your bottle drop bags, you are providing a child with a pair of quality shoes! Ask us how!



**over 450
children
served last quarter!**

LOOKING for a way to help local kids in need?

Instead of a
Toy Drive,
why not a
PJ Drive,
Underwear Drive
or Coat Drive?

We accept
NEW clothing
only!

ALL SIZES
Boys, girls,
infants, K-12



We distribute **7** pairs of **SOCKS** to every child...

that's **1000+** pairs per month last quarter!

*Bloomin'
Boutique*



Where futures blossom and confidence grows

Fill the need by organizing a SOCK DRIVE!

If you would like to organize a clothing drive or make a donation, please contact
Patti Serres, Executive Director: patti.serres@bloominboutique.org • 503.320.0789

serving Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington counties

Non-Profit 501(c)(3)

BloominBoutique.org

Contact us and ask for DONATION BARRELS to place at your workplace!

In addition to fulfilling requests for new clothing,
WE PROVIDE
added assistance through special programs



Each of us has a story –
an unforgettable life-changing event
making such an impact that we never forget the
feelings we experienced.

See that girl in the pink pants? That was me the first time I got to go shopping for something new – something I got to pick out for myself. *In that moment*, I could see beyond all that was going wrong – the mother I had lost, the father that did not have the skills to cope with four small children, the trail of domestic violence, the fear of foster care services looming at the door. *In that moment*, I felt confident to take on the world. *In that moment*, I was seen, I was important, I was loved.

Patti Serres
Founder and Executive Director

*Polka dots, black patent leather shoes, pink pants...
whose story will you be a part of?*



Q&A

Q: I've removed the price tags, but the clothes are NEW! Will you still accept them?

A: Yes! While we *only accept new clothes*, we remove all tags before placing the items into inventory. If you have *new* clothes and have already removed the tags, all the better!

Q: Do you only need/accept clothing for kids?

A: No. Bloomin' Boutique care packages include everything and anything that might make a child's life a little better. Only **NEW** items are accepted: toys, books, blankets, toiletries, sports equipment. Special requests often receive attention within 24 hours: a crib for a family that lost everything in a house fire, diapers and baby items for a family fleeing domestic violence, special swim trunks to enable a young man to compete on his high school swim team. The requests are varied, but our mission remains true: to give a *hand up*, not a handout, to underprivileged children, empowering them to become confident and constructive young adults.

Q: Is there anything children can do to support Bloomin' Boutique?

A: Absolutely! We encourage children to help those less fortunate, and truly appreciate their efforts! Saving pocket change in our "Giving Made Easy" banks, collecting cans and bottles in our blue bottle drop bags, going along on a "personal shopping" trip with Mom or Dad to help select clothes to donate... all of these tasks inspire children to volunteer while helping another child feel special and loved! Call or e-mail Bloomin' Boutique to pick up banks and bags or discuss other ideas you may have!!

Q: As we approach the holiday season, many organizations have "sharing" opportunities to provide for children. Does Bloomin' Boutique have anything similar?

A: Yes! Anyone can fill a need as a personal shopper whether it's a one-time assistance or ongoing help throughout the year. Bloomin' Boutique supports referred kids from birth through high school, so if you wish, you can request a particular age, boy or girl, to shop for. You will receive a worksheet with information about that child's requests, the items and sizes needed and perhaps even their favorite color or interest. As mentioned above, taking your own child along on the shopping trip can be a rewarding experience for both you and your child. A win-win for all!

GIVING
made
easy!



DONATE NOW

- Donate **gift cards or funds** to enable us to fulfill requests and "fill in the gaps" (*larger sizes, special needs*)
- Contribute your **Fred Meyer Community Rewards** to #HV581 (Bloomin Boutique); *sign up at fredmeyer.com/community-rewards*
- Collect **bottles and cans** and have your refund credited to Bloomin' Boutique; *for BottleDrop blue bags and tags, contact patti.serres@bloominboutique.org • 503.320.0789*

Q: How do you pronounce Patti's last name?

A: Patti Serres is the Founder/Executive Director of Bloomin' Boutique. She is the "girl in pink" and the soul of the organization. Patti's boundless energy is contagious. If you are involved with *any* part of the organization, you will meet, and remember, Patti. Her last name is Serres which is pronounced like the department store, Sears.

WE NEED
YOUR HELP

CURRENT NEEDS include

**PAJAMAS for BOYS and GIRLS
size 5T through 14/16**

as always, we only accept **NEW** clothes

Ready to donate? Please reach out to
Patti.Serres@BloominBoutique.org
to make arrangements for contactless pick-up
and drop off of donations.

Our personal shoppers will wisely use your cash donation
to obtain the specific items a child needs.

Our website can accept cash donations via credit card.

BloominBoutique.org

Thank you for making a difference!