

November 16, 2021

Hello Saint Raphael School Families,

My family has been an SRS family for over ten years. Some of you may know that my family recently became a licensed foster family. I have learned about the struggles that foster kids face, especially on the day that they are taken from their home and placed with strangers. Imagine if that was you- if you had only minutes to leave your house and everyone and everything that is yours. And, to top it off, a few things may be thrown in a trash bag as you are sent on your way.

A local organization founded by a former foster child is trying to change that. Here is a link to Comfort Cases so you can read more about their mission and how you can help. <https://comfortcases.org/>. They provide foster kids with a suitcase or backpack and some brand new essentials to make the worst day of their life a little better.

For my confirmation service project, I am holding a donation drive at SRS for Comfort Cases. I hope you can provide the following items (new):

- ✓ Backpacks
- ✓ Stuffed animals (no larger than 16 inches high)
- ✓ Travel size toiletries
- ✓ Pajamas
- ✓ Blankets/throws
- ✓ Socks

I am focusing this drive on elementary-aged kids.

If you are very busy and would rather give money, you can Venmo my mom, @Kristen-Cromwell and she will order items on your behalf from Comfort Cases Amazon Wishlist.

Items can be dropped off in front SRS main entrance in a large black tote box right at the front entrance during school hours beginning tomorrow. Or, items can be dropped off at any time (weekends too) at my dad's school, located right near SRS at 12300 Falls Road. Just leave it in the box on the porch.

I will be collecting until the Friday after Thanksgiving, December 3. Maybe you can find some Black Friday deals? I appreciate your help for foster kids around the country.

Sincerely,

Grant Dudley

SRS 8th Grader

