

February 6, 2024

BSA Troop 777 and Pack 777

Dear Scouts and Leaders,

Join us in believing in the healing power of books on young people's lives and bringing the happiness of reading to a homeless child!

The Whole Child, a children's charity, asks for your help with a new project called A Book of Their Own, which is a book drive for the children and teens we serve. We ask you to collect and donate new books to distribute to children in our Family Housing Program, which serves unhoused families, and to children and teens in our mental health program.

To let you know, we are a nonprofit that has served Los Angeles County for 67 years. Our cornerstone services – family housing, mental health, parent enrichment and nutrition education – combine to empower families toward healing, health and homes.

Children bear the brunt of homelessness. By the time their families come to us for help, their children may have been sleeping in a car, staying in an unsafe motel or spending time "couch surfing" with a family member. Their parents are struggling, without even the basics.

Here at TWC, our **Family Housing Program** helps families with the essentials – shelter in our Safe Families program, solutions for the problems, search for permanent homes and support to ensure they succeed in their new homes. We turn to the community for support for the extras.

Please give children a Book to Call Their Own. We ask you to consider this as a community service project where Scouts will collect new books at your meetings between February 13 and March 5. TWC will come by to collect them and thank you, please. For information, please contact Julia Scalise at jscalise@thewholechild.org or 562-378-7130.

While a book may seem simple, it's significant. It's something that truly belongs to them, one they can take with them as move on with their lives – with the help of the families, TWC and you.

With gratitude for your consideration,

Constanza Pachon

CEO

Julia Scalise

Senior Director of Development

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