

MY STUFF BAGS FOUNDATION

2024 Annual Report



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Our Mission: My Stuff Bags Foundation provides duffels of new belongings, comfort, and hope to thousands of children each year who must be rescued from abandonment, abuse, domestic violence, homelessness, and neglect across the United States. Tragically, these children often enter foster care or crisis shelters with little to nothing of their own.

By rallying widespread individual, corporate and grantor involvement and the labor force of thousands of volunteers, through our My Stuff Bags Program we address the immediate emotional, physical and psychological needs of rescued children and help support the agencies caring for them.



Unfortunately, hundreds of thousands of children in America annually are suffering from abuse, neglect and homelessness, and must be placed in crisis care. Almost all these children have one sad thing in common: they enter crisis care with nothing of their own. Rescuing agencies rarely have the resources to provide something as basic as a toothbrush or as comforting as a teddy bear. We fill that gap with My Stuff Bags, individual age- and gender- appropriate duffels lovingly filled with new childhood essentials.

My Stuff Bags Foundation, a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization, was founded in 1998 at President and CEO Janeen Holmes' kitchen table. The Foundation began as a response to a desperate cry for help from agency caregivers, who relay truly heart-wrenching stories of children transitioning through foster and shelter care with no toys, no change of clothes, no toiletries and no hope. We improve this desperate situation by providing our "Partner Agencies" across the U.S. with brand new My Stuff Bags, free of charge to distribute to the children in their care.

My Stuff Bags address the immediate physical and emotional needs of rescued children by providing items of necessity, dignity and comfort during a period of upheaval. Each Bag is packed with essentials and comforts tailored to each child. From toys and books to warm, hand-made blankets, these Bags deliver more than necessities; they bring

hope, stability, and a message that they are not alone. A stuffed animal can help calm a crying child, a blanket gives them something to hold on to and soothe themselves with, a new toy or game will keep a young child busy and give them a way to interact with others, personal toiletries help a teenager feel better about his or her appearance.

In addition to the many generous individual and corporate donors from across the U.S who send money, blankets, toys, clothes, etc., we run a large in-house Volunteer Program that on a daily basis hosts individuals, schools, corporations, churches and other community organizations. These amazing volunteers assist us in every part of producing My Stuff Bags from helping to unpack, sort and count in-kind donations, repackage items as needed, to stuffing and boxing the Bags to making fleece blankets, goody bags and other items for children.

2024 Highlights



The Foundation successfully delivered My Stuff Bags to 20,162 children through 84 child protection agencies across 13 states.



Our Volunteer Center welcomed hundreds of eager individuals, community groups, schools, churches, and corporations to prepare and fill My Stuff Bags for waiting children. Here is a list of some of the organizations who participated in “Stuff-A-Thons” and other activities to help us send out My Stuff Bags:

Delta Kappa Gamma

Assistance League of Conejo Valley

National Charity League, Conejo Valley

Lindero Canyon Middle School

In N’ Out Burger (Westlake and Simi Valley Locations)

Caring Calabasas

Shadow Ridge Apartments

National Charity League, San Fernando Valley

Rotary Club

B. Riley Financial

Daughters of the American Revolution – Don Jose Verdugo Chapter

AAA Ventura

Morgan Stanley

Girl Scouts Troop 5

Canoga Park Women’s Club

Chase Bank

St. Maximillian Kolbe Church

Bank of America

Smart and Final

Amgen

Thousand Oaks Women’s Club

Moorpark Women’s Fortnightly Club

Islamic Center Conejo Valley Youth Group

Viewpoint School

Boys Team Charity

Temple Adat Elohim

Anthem Blue Cross

Teradyne



Our Foundation received large contributions of new items to fill the Bags from generous donors such as Alexon Group Toys and Accessories, Assistance League of Conejo Valley, Blankets for Kids, Binky Patrol, Bombas Socks, Boys Team Charity, Cards for Kindness, DKG Sewing Group, Educational Insights, E.L.F. Makeup, Ella Fitzgerald Foundation, Gumball Poodle (Socks), Happy Factory Cars, Himmers International, Hot Taco, Inc., Games for Kids, Mark Chow Kids and Family Foundation, Little Poppy Company Hair Bows, Molina Book Foundation, My Very Own Blanket, National Charity League of Conejo Valley, National Charity League of San Fernando Valley, Off Topic Games for Kids, PackIt, Paper Pie, PetSmart Stuffed Animals, Piggy Story, SimplyFun Games and Puzzles, Valley Quiltmakers Guild, and Warm Up America.



Our longtime supporter Bombas socks donated 57,000 pairs of socks!



The My Stuff Bags Foundation also received thousands of donations from individual volunteers throughout the year. The Foundation is always receiving blankets from individuals, especially students who want to help neglected children by making no-sew fleece blankets.



President/CEO Janeen Holmes was awarded a Certificate of Recognition from California District 24 Senator Ben Allen at his annual Legislative Toy Drive. Selected from many other nonprofits, My Stuff Bags was also gifted dozens of new toys for all ages. We were thrilled to be recognized for our long-standing dedication to helping children across the country.



Our wonderful returning Big Stuff Donor Ella Fitzgerald Foundation donated over 5,700 books and 3,100 pencils to My Stuff Bags!



We received pallets and pallets of books and stuffed animals from PaperPie – what a tremendous impact this will have on waiting children!



Our new Big Stuff Donor Himmers International and our friend Quentin Qin happily donated flashlights, clocks, calculators, cups and frisbees for our teen Bags. This wonderful donation was coordinated by Allen Goldstein, the husband of one of our dedicated volunteers.



Our friends from Rotary Club of Westlake Village took on the challenge of prepping, stuffing, and boxing an amazing 1,000 Bags in a single two-hour shift! The My Stuff Bags Foundation has enjoyed a longstanding relationship with our Rotarian friends and we always look forward to seeing their passion to help.

Delivering Duffels of Love to Children in Crisis

To date, nearly 720,000 children in all 50 states have received a My Stuff Bag. In 2024, we delivered to children in 13 states.

The process starts with the arrival of new children's items to My Stuff Bags at our 7,000 square-foot warehouse and Volunteer Center in Westlake Village, CA. These in-kind donations are collected and shipped to us by thousands of people across America. Service organizations, manufacturers and corporations also donate large quantities of items.

Next, we ship our Bags nationwide to our Partner Agencies who serve children. Happily, we also have the pleasure of meeting child advocates who stop by to pick up Bags and distribute them to children in our own backyard.

The impact of our Bags is illustrated by the many heartwarming testimonial letters we receive from our Partner Agencies. The following are a few of these testimonials.



Our friends at Optimist Youth Homes & Family Services picking up Bags for children

“By providing My Stuff Bags to our foster children, we assist them to leave the shelter with a duffel bag making their transition more dignified. Our clients move from place to place often, and providing a duffel bag helps them to take their belongings with them. At the shelter the clients especially appreciate the make-up, hygiene products, and blankets. The staff join the client in coloring the mindful coloring books encouraging engagement. Optimist would like to express our gratitude for your organization in providing these thoughtful gifts.”

-Theresa Nunez, Optimist Youth Homes & Family Services



A child advocate from El Nido Family Centers getting ready to deliver comfort to waiting children.

“The children were very happy to receive a My Stuff Bag filled with toys, coloring books, blankets, care packages and other accessories that encourages them to develop their education. Receiving this donation was a pleasant gift to our community from the My Stuff Bags Foundation and we are pleased to be of service to the families in Jordan Downs and we hope to make a positive impact in their lives.”

-Nancy Miranda, El Nido Family Centers



A happy recipient of a My Stuff Bag!



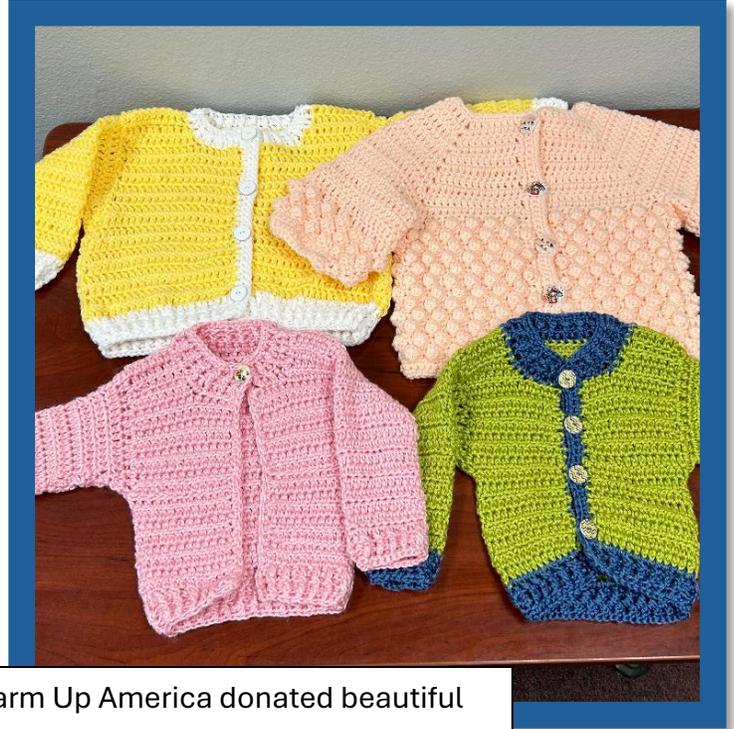
These kids are so happy receiving their own things!

Our “Big Stuff” Supporters

Our success would not be possible without the generous contributions of new children’s items to fill each and every My Stuff Bag. We are fortunate enough to have many partners who provide these essential items for our Bags. Take a look at some of our biggest in-kind contributions of 2024.



Bombas Socks donated 57,000 pairs of socks – we were overwhelmed with their generosity!



Warm Up America donated beautiful handmade sweaters.



The Ella Fitzgerald Foundation was so generous this year! They donated thousands of books, crayons, and toothbrushes to kids.



Happy Factory brings moments of joy to children in crisis.



Lovely Paper Pie donations are organized by our warehouse volunteer Bonnie.



PetSmart always comes through for us with adorable stuffed animals!



We are so grateful for the Mark Chow-Family & Kids Foundation – they are BIG supporters of My Stuff Bags!

Our Generous Volunteers

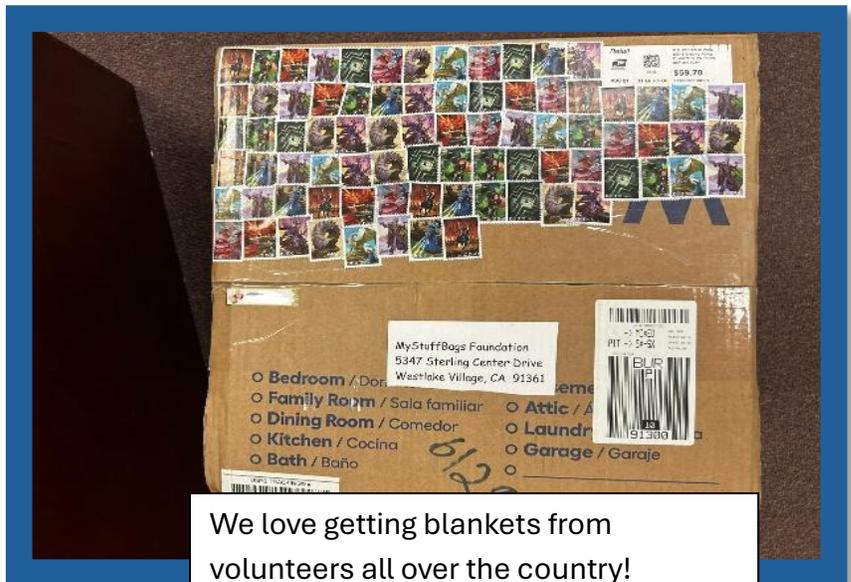
We have many supporters from across the country that donate blankets, toys and other much-needed items. Others come in to volunteer – some of them visit every month! We are happy to be a part of so many different communities. This dedicated volunteer force helps us maintain a small staff and to use our resources to distribute our Bags. Here are some photos of individual volunteers that keep this place humming!



Colorful donated blankets waiting for the hands of lonely children.



Long time donors Patricia and Cynthia with their adorable hand-crocheted animals



We love getting blankets from volunteers all over the country!



The Women's Council of Realtors showed their support by having an office event and making fleece tie blankets.



Volunteer Bonnie keeps our warehouse in tip top shape!



Audrey stuffs a blanket donated by Warm Up America.

Volunteering With Friends

Volunteering can be even more fun with a friend by your side. Below are some of the community groups and corporations that support My Stuff Bags and get the job done.



We appreciate the long-time support of the National Charity League of Conejo Valley!



Our friends at Caring Calabasas



St. Maximilian Kolbe hard-working volunteers assemble Bold Made games.



Boys Team Charity supports My Stuff Bags by making monthly visits.



Our lovely community groups are always collecting blankets for us.



Senator Ben Allen presents CEO/President Janeen Holmes with 2024 Certificate of Recognition during his Holiday Legislative Toy Drive to benefit children receiving our Bags.



Rotary Club enjoys stuffing Bags for us!



Our friends at the Assistance League of Conejo Valley have been volunteering for many years and we appreciate their dedication to our cause.



Longtime supporter Teradyne knows just what to do to help!



The mother/daughter team from the National Charity League San Fernando Valley always brings the smiles and enthusiasm.

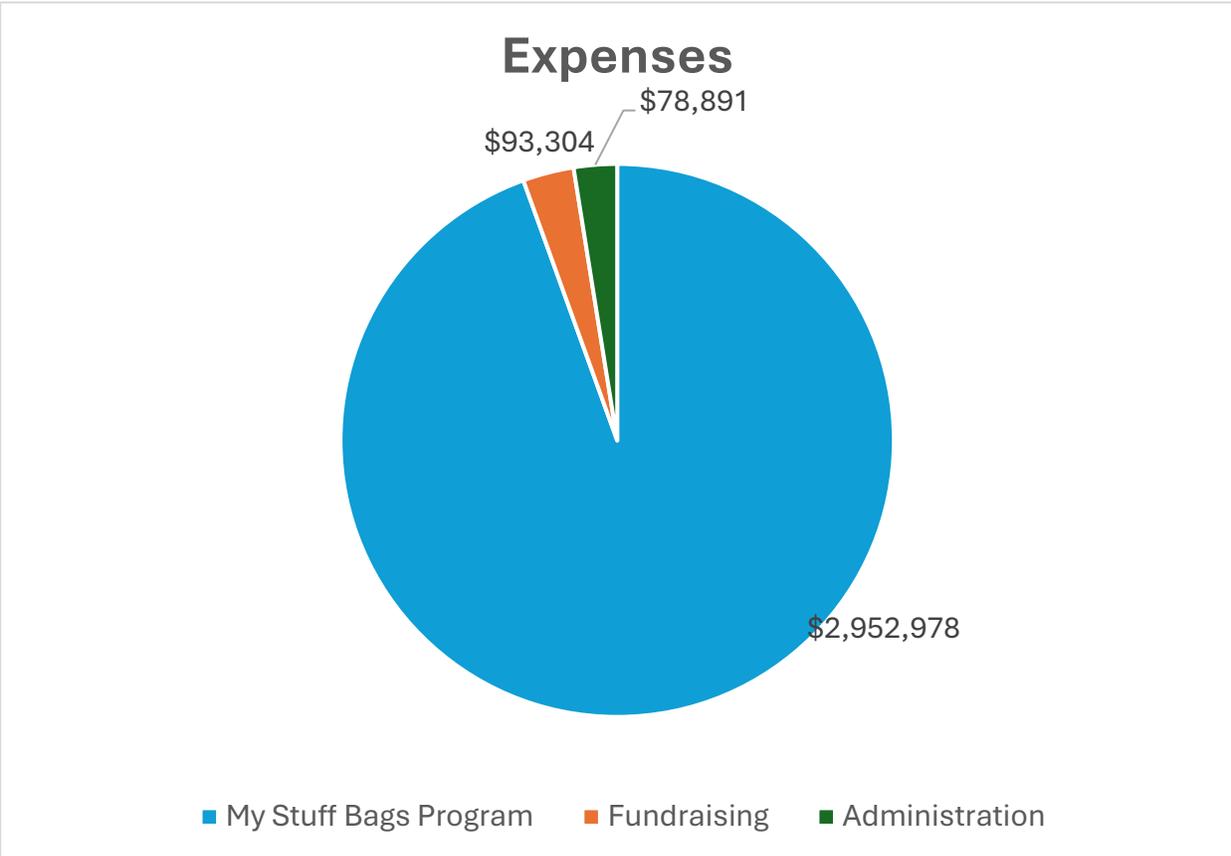
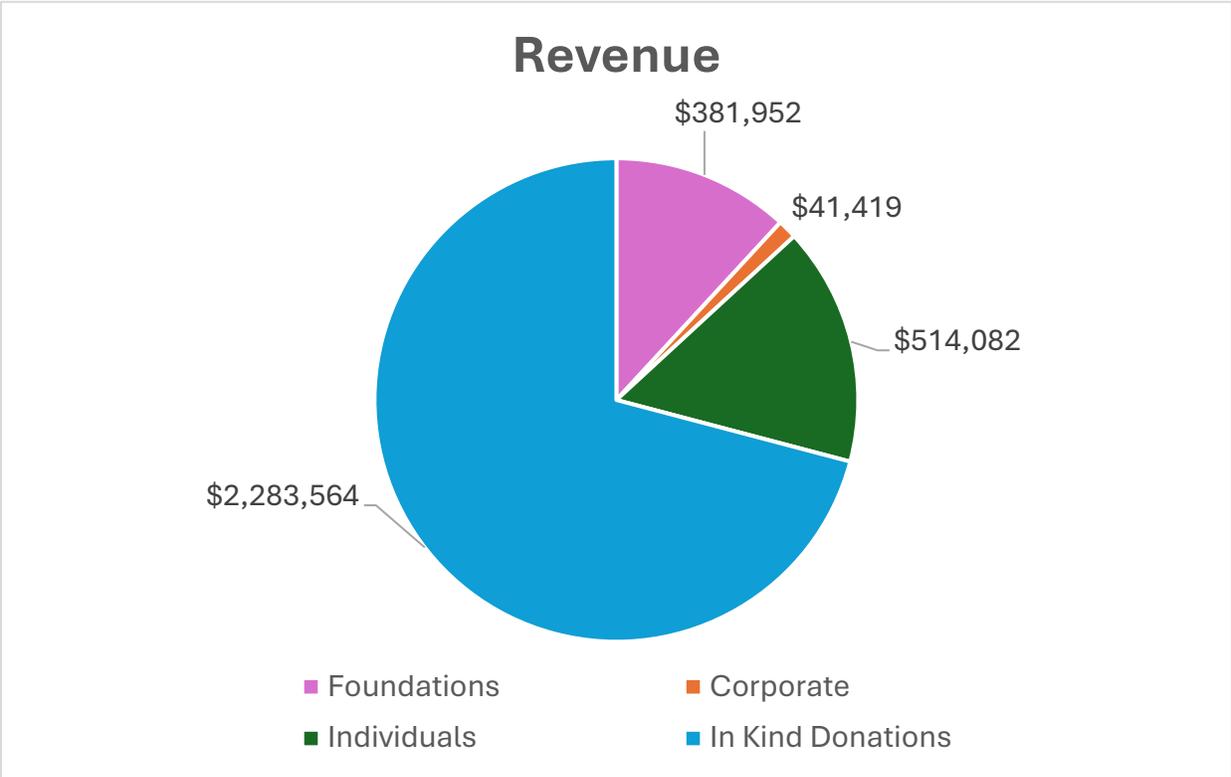


We appreciate the hardworking volunteers from Morgan Stanley!



A generous Amgen volunteer packs school supplies for us.

2024 Expenses and Revenues





My Stuff Bags Foundation

Board of Directors

Randy Strong, Chairman of the Board

President, ACT Strong Marketing

Teresa McKee, Secretary/Treasurer

Business Consultant and Humanistic Psychology Leadership Coach

Janeen Holmes

President/CEO, My Stuff Bags Foundation

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