

## **What is Kits for Kids?**

Sadly, it is a fact that children entering care often arrive with little or nothing of their own – sometimes just the clothes on their backs. While Family and Children’s Services is committed to providing basic necessities and clothing, the Elgin Children’s Foundation has developed an idea to provide additional comfort items. Something a little more personal. Something a child can call their own. The purpose of the project is to help kids with the transition of entering into care by providing them with useful and self soothing items.

Each kit comes with an implicit message - we care about you and you are important. Kit contents are comprised of age appropriate items that are geared to 3 specific developmental stages of children (age infant to 5, 6 to 11 and 12 to 15). Kits include things like pajamas, socks, toothbrush and toothpaste, hairbrush/comb, polar fleece coverlet and a stuffed animal (something small and soft to hold). Based on the developmental stage of the child, kits will be customized to include things like a disposable camera, photo albums, gift certificates, school supplies – the list is virtually endless. Items are packaged in a durable cotton canvas bag – handy for carrying personal belongings wherever you go.

## **Who Developed the Idea?**

Kits for Kids is a project of the Elgin Children’s Foundation in partnership with Family & Children’s Services of St. Thomas and Elgin. Although separately incorporated and independently governed, both entities are committed to helping meet the needs of abused and neglected children and youth across Elgin county.

Established in 1992, the Elgin Children’s Foundation supports local children’s programs where government resources fall short. It works closely with Family & Children’s Services of St. Thomas and Elgin to ensure that children who live in this community will always have their needs met.

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*An investment in the future of our community.*

## **How You Can Help**

**It is estimated that a donation of \$40 will purchase one complete kit.**

This year, to meet the anticipated demand, we will need to purchase enough items and/or solicit enough donations to fill at least 100 kits.

That's 100 kids in our community who need our help.

That's 100 ways your support can make a difference.

And that's.....amazing.

We believe that this project is an investment in the community's future but we can't do it without the community's support.

Please contact us and ask how you can make a contribution.

We would be happy to provide you with additional project information or come and make a presentation to your group – just give us a call.

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