

Contact: Cindy Turek
1-800-WHO-4-ONE
(1-800-946-4663)
Janeen Holmes
1-866-3MY-STUFF
www.mystuffbags.org

Comforting children in crisis: providing “my stuff bags” full of joy
*The WHO (Women Helping Others®) Foundation awards \$20,000 to
My Stuff Bags Foundation*

Westlake Village, CA – Each year in the United States, more than 300,000 children are rescued from dire circumstances of abuse and neglect. Traumatized by the events leading up to their necessary removal of their home, these children most often enter crisis shelters and foster care with little or no belongings. In 1998, My Stuff Bags Foundation was created to provide comfort and hope to America’s children in crisis, especially those suffering from abuse, neglect and abandonment. Through their unique program, My Stuff Bags, the organization spreads joy and hope to these children by providing them with duffel bags filled with necessary and comforting items.

While intake agencies are able to shelter and feed these children, they lack the resources to consistently provide such comforting childhood essentials. This is where My Stuff Bags steps in. Through this program, each child receives a new duffel bag filled with age- and gender-appropriate items, such as toys, school supplies, a stuffed animal and, most importantly, a handmade “security” blanket. Additionally, each My Stuff Bag has a bright red toiletry bag containing a toothbrush and toothpaste, comb or hairbrush, shampoo, body wash or similar items.

The WHO Foundation is pleased to grant My Stuff Bags Foundation with a \$20,000 grant to purchase these duffel bags and their contents.

“We are so very grateful to have the support of the WHO Foundation,” said Janeen Holmes, president and CEO, My Stuff Bags Foundation. “Children who must be rescued from abuse and neglect so often enter shelters and foster care with nothing of their own. Now, thanks to the generosity of Women Helping Others, thousands more will have a My Stuff Bag filled with new, necessary belongings and the message that many people care about them.”

The WHO Foundation is a non-profit charitable organization that was founded in 1993 and born from the philosophy of Women Helping Others. For 15 years, WHO has been giving and making a difference by supporting community-focused charities that serve the overlooked needs of women, children and families. Since its inception, the Foundation has awarded more than \$3.5 million to over 332 organizations throughout the U.S. and Puerto Rico.

For more information, call 1-800-WHO-4-ONE (1-800-946-4663); write to P.O. Box 816029, Dallas, Texas, 75381-6029; or visit www.whofoundation.org