

Philoptochos "Operation Classroom" Menu of Support Items

1. Academic Success – School Supplies

Support students with the tools they need to learn.

Basic Supplies:

Pencils (No. 2 and mechanical)

Pens (blue, black, red)

Crayons & markers

Colored pencils

Highlighters

Erasers

Rulers

Scissors (safety and regular)

Pencil cases

Paper Goods:

Spiral notebooks

Composition books

Loose-leaf paper (wide and college-ruled)

Index cards

Folders (2-pocket)

Binders (1" and 2")

Dividers

Technology Support (if feasible):

USB drives

Headphones for computer labs

Scientific calculators

Laptop sleeves or tech pouches

2. Nourishment & Food Insecurity

Many students face hunger at home. Help fill the gap with discreet and nutritious options.

Snack Packs (individually wrapped):

Granola bars

Applesauce/pudding cups

Crackers with peanut butter or cheese

Trail mix

Raisins or dried fruit

Shelf-stable milk or juice boxes

Weekend/Break Food Bags (non-perishable):

Canned pasta or soup (pull-tab lids preferred)

Instant oatmeal packets

Microwaveable rice or pasta bowls

Tuna or chicken packets

Cereal boxes

Special Notes:

Include items that are allergy-friendly or labeled "nut-free"

Ask schools for specific dietary restrictions or preferences

3. Hygiene & Wellness Kits

Promote dignity and confidence with basic care kits for students.

Individual Kits (travel-size or full-size):

Shampoo & conditioner

Soap or body wash

Toothbrush & toothpaste

Deodorant

Hairbrush or comb

Hand sanitizer

Feminine hygiene products

Tissues

Lip balm

Face masks

Optional Add-ons:

Laundry detergent pods (small packs)

Reusable water bottles

Moisturizing lotion

Nail clippers

Packaging Tip:

Distribute in discreet, reusable bags for student privacy (drawstring backpacks or cosmetic-style pouches).

4. Clothing Support

Help students feel prepared and confident—inside and outside of school.

Everyday Clothing (new or gently used):

T-shirts and long-sleeve tops

Sweatshirts/hoodies

Leggings or sweatpants

Jeans or uniform pants

Undergarments (new only)

Socks (new only)

Seasonal jackets and coats

Shoes & Accessories:

Sneakers

Winter boots

Gloves, hats, scarves

Belts

Uniform Essentials (if applicable):

Polo shirts

Khaki or navy pants

School-approved outerwear

5. Delivery & Distribution Options

Partner directly with school social workers or guidance counselors

Create a “Pantry Closet” stocked on-site

Offer seasonal donation drives (Back-to-School, Winter Warm-Up, Spring Refresh)

Customize kits by age group: elementary, middle, or high school

Optional Add-On: Encouragement Cards

Include a handwritten note of encouragement in each package to remind students they are seen and supported.