

# Birthday Bag Project

## *Volunteer At-Home Toolkit*



When a parent is struggling to provide the very basic necessities for their family, the extra expense of a birthday party is an indulgence many can't afford. Each birthday bag includes items such as cake mix, frosting, candles and much more.

The Birthday Bag project is perfect for groups of friends, coworkers, and families to complete in their home or office.

Before completing Birthday Bags, connect with your local pantry to verify their needs. You can find a pantry serving your area by visiting:

<http://accessofwestmichigan.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Pantry-Map-and-Locations.pdf>

## WHAT YOU'LL NEED

Each Birthday Bag includes:

- 1 Bag or Box (this can be a shoebox, birthday bag, or medium-sized paper bag)
- 1 Box of cake mix
- 1 Container of frosting
- 1 Pack of Candles
- 1 Birthday card
- 1 Small toy

All supplies should be brand new, in original packaging, and food items should expire at least 1 month after the donation date.

## EXTRAS

If using a shoebox or plain paper bag, be sure to decorate it! Fun paper, ribbon, markers, and stickers all help to make Birthday Bags special.

Stick a post-it or small note to the bag with age information on it, for example: toddler, 10-13, teen, or elementary child.

**Questions?** Contact the Volunteer Center, [thevolunteercenter@hwmuw.org](mailto:thevolunteercenter@hwmuw.org)

