



The Department of Health and Human Services (DHS) has been forced to place youth in hotels or house them in DHS offices because they do not have adequate foster families. In our area alone, more than 130 children spent at least one night in a hotel room or state office in the last nine months. One child, just 5-years-old, spent 55 days in a hotel room.

Boys & Girls Aid has created an option for DHS instead of hoteling kids, we will care for them in a safe and loving foster home. We call this home, the Nest.

In addition to the foster parents, Boys & Girls Aid is providing professional on-site staff to assist with support and day programming for these children. Because they have experienced severe neglect, trauma and abuse, these children are in crisis and will need as much support as we can provide. The Nest is able to serve 7 children and since opening on November 1<sup>st</sup>, all beds have been filled.

Serving such young children is a first for Boys & Girls Aid and we are seeking donations for infants and children up to 8-years-old. Items will go directly to children at the Nest. We are looking for the following items. All items should be new.

### **Needs for the Nest**

Children's books	Children's videos (DVDs)	Short book case
Children's puzzles	Diapers - all sizes	Pack N Play
Children's art supplies	Pull -Ups - all sizes	Rock N Play
Building blocks and toys	Children's pajamas (sizes newborn - 10)	Kids picnic table
Dolls and dollhouse	Children's clothes (sizes newborn - 10)	Kids art table
Train set and tracks	Bibs	Art easel
Play tunnel	Shoes (sizes 1 - 13)	Bouncy chair
Stuffed animals	Snuggle blankets	Sippy cups/water bottles
Gift Cards (Target, Carters, Amazon)		

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Nest

(nest) noun;

1. A shelter made by loving hands to house and protect the young;
2. A place to raise a family;
3. A safe and loving home.

Please drop items at Boys & Girls Aid. For more information please contact Irena Broadwater at [ibroadwater@boysandgirlsaid.org](mailto:ibroadwater@boysandgirlsaid.org).