

The Bandera PROPHEET

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Volunteers needed for the Foster Closet - where hope can thrive

By Jessica Nohealapa'ahi
The Bandera Prophet

Being part of the foster care system can be scary. Both children, and the adults who care for them, face the unknown while they desperately seek stability. To pave the way, the Gateway Fellowship Church is opening the Foster Closet - a place where new families can “shop” at no charge for basic essentials that will help restore comfort and dignity to a frightened child.

Some of the items in stock include clothes, shoes, toys and furniture. Also in abundance, though not on a shelf, will be plenty of “guidance, love, a friend to listen and a warm hug after a rough day.”

A new project, Closet organizers are now accepting donations to help fund the building, which will be located on the church grounds. Needed are shipping containers, metal sheeting, lumber for interior walls and sheet rock to finish out the inside of the building.

“We are also looking for volunteers / crews to complete the build,” Melinda Byrd said, who is helping spearhead the effort.

Other items being accepted include backpacks and travel bags, clothes ranging in size from premie to 18 years, toys, books, high chairs, cribs, mattresses, sheets, blankets, comforters, bed frame, car seats, bottles, diapers/pull-ups, wipes and hygiene kits.

Monetary donations may be made out to Gateway Fellowship Church and earmarked “Foster Closet.”

For more information, contact Byrd at melinda@bswws.com, or Brittany Seaman at 210-386-1436.