

ERC Community Service Program

COMFORT CLOSET

FAQ

Q. What is a Community School?

A. Community School - a place and a set of partnerships between the school and other community resources, focused on academics, health and social services, youth and community development, as well as family and community engagement with the mission of improving student learning, strengthening families, and creating healthier communities.

Prince George's County, MD currently has (97) Community Schools within its (9) School Districts. 70% of students qualify for free or reduce lunch. The (27) Community Schools chosen for our Comfort Closet have an approximate student population of 19,000.

Q. How were the schools chosen?

A. Collaboration with Prince George's County Public Schools [PGCPS] and its Community School Program Office made recommendations of schools in the 9 school districts with the greatest needs.

Q. How will the schools be able to sustain the project when Deltas return to their respective homes?

A. The schools are strongly encouraged to establish and/or strengthen their partnerships with local businesses, churches, non-profit organizations, etc. in order to maintain a well-stocked closet.

Q: If I am unable to order online, will there be another opportunity to make a donation?

A. We are STRONGLY encouraging donations to be purchase online because Amazon will ship directly to the schools. However, we will be providing a donation drop-off point at the host hotel (Gaylord) – date and time TBD.

Q. Is the project restricted to Sorors in the Eastern Region?

A. NO. Sorors are encouraged to share Comfort Closet info with all Sorors, friends, family, co-workers, other organizations, etc.

Q. Why are baby items on list?

A. The goal of the Comfort Closet is to support the needs of the students and their respective families.

Q. How can I help on Impact Day [Thursday, September 1]?

A. **YOUR GENEROUS DONATION IS YOUR IMPACT!** Encourage your family, friends and community to support the project.

Hostess Chapter sorors will continuously monitor the project throughout the summer. Additionally, Soror volunteers will visit two specific schools on Impact Day itself – but, due to limited occupancy at those two schools on Impact Day, additional volunteers are not needed at this time.

Q. What is the school system's guideline for the acceptance of gift cards?

A. PGCPS have established administrative policies and procedures to ensure compliance with budgeting and accounting procedures within its divisions. The receiving school shall coordinate donations of monetary gifts of any amount through the Office of Business and Non-Profit Partnerships (OBNP) using the Donations Form to prevent redundant or duplicative donations from the same sources which might hinder future initiatives. Cumulative monetary gifts totaling less than or equal to \$5,000 in value from any one donor during the course of a fiscal year may be donated to an individual school or program and may be accepted by the building principal or program director. Monetary gifts totaling more than \$5,000 and up to \$50,000 from any one donor during the course of a fiscal year will be accepted only with the advance approval of the Chief Executive Officer. Monetary gifts totaling more than \$50,000 from any one donor during the course of a fiscal year will only be accepted with approval of the Board of Education.

Q. Who can I contact if I have additional questions.

A. Email Community Service Committee - commerviceerc@gmail.com

