

At CTK, we value authenticity, simplicity, empowerment, relationship, and caring about the community we live in. One key way we serve is by empowering small groups to make a difference through our local partners who address important issues for those in the hardest life circumstances. The opportunity below is a chance to tangibly demonstrate God's care, compassion, and love for those around us. As your church, we hope this makes it easy for you to put the Great Commandment to love your neighbor as yourself into action!

## FOSTERING TOGETHER – DUFFEL BAG DRIVE

### Who are we serving?

Foster and adoptive families in Western Washington

### Who is helping connect us to their needs?

Fostering Together is a large nonprofit that aims to ensure safe, loving foster families are available to meet the diverse needs of abused and neglected youth. They strive to increase the number of foster families across Western Washington, help families with the licensing process, and provide free, ongoing support in a variety of ways to families caring for foster children.

### How are we serving?

When a child is removed from home and placed into the foster care system, it very well might be the move that saves their life. However, when kids are removed from their home, they often don't have a bag to put their belongings in. As they may move several times over this difficult transition, we want to provide a nice bag for them to keep their stuff in. Here's where your group can help: donate medium to large size duffel bags in new or excellent condition or reach out to your neighbors, friends and family to collect bags or donations toward buying bags. This helps bring awareness to the stories of the hundreds of Whatcom County kids in foster care and gives people some way to help!

### Who do you contact to commit to this opportunity and work out the details?

When the bags have been collected, contact Shala at [Shala-Crow@olivecrest.org](mailto:Shala-Crow@olivecrest.org) or (360) 220-3785 to find a time to drop them off. Think about maybe signing a card as a group thanking the folks at Fostering Together for the hard, meaningful work they do every day on behalf of foster kids and families!

If you need help in the process, Wendy at CTK is available ([wendyp@ctk.church](mailto:wendyp@ctk.church) or 733-1337 ext 212). Please share your project with us by using the hashtag #CTKserves on social media!