



the Beloved. Bulletin

Summer 2022 Vol. 1, Issue 1



Welcome and
Thanks!



This inaugural newsletter is first and foremost a thank you note to our compassionate, generous community. Without you, Beloved could not have:

- assembled and delivered more than 3,200 duffle bags stocked with care items for kids in crisis
- sponsored more than \$3,000 in clothing and supply purchases for foster and kinship care families at a local resale event
- delivered birthday presents and outdoor play kits to hundreds of local kids in crisis
- supplied handwritten notes of appreciation and gift cards to over 100 social workers
- hosted an engagement event that created connections between foster families, social workers, and local support agencies

So *thank you*: For all of the blankets you've stitched, the supplies you've collected, and the money you've donated to help Beloved make a meaningful difference. We look forward to sharing about both accomplishments and opportunities so we can find fresh, impactful ways to support vulnerable kids in our community.

—Amy Linnemann, Executive Director

Appreciating Cummins:

Successful Events...in the Bag

Since January 2020, Cummins's partnership with Beloved has been a force of support and encouragement for thousands of vulnerable children. Employees have dedicated hundreds of hours to assembling crisis kits, creating laundry bags, advancing website development, and offering corporate mentorship. Further, through community development grants, Cummins has purchased urgently needed supplies.

Last fall, Cummins partnered with Beloved to fill about 3,000 bags over two weeks to benefit displaced Afghan children who live at the Indiana National Guard's Camp Atterbury. Containing personal hygiene products, blankets and other necessities, the bags were a tangible support for those children transitioning to a new life in the US. Cummins has always bolstered Beloved's primary work of equipping and encouraging displaced children, foster families and essential care professionals. When Beloved joined the American Red Cross to support families from Afghanistan, Cummins employees brought expertise, infrastructure, and resources to help.



"This was an overwhelming need, resulting in an overwhelming ask, met with overwhelming support," said project lead Brian Mormino, an

executive director who serves as the community partner liaison to Beloved. "Beloved said yes to the Red Cross without knowing how it could be done, and I am extremely proud that Cummins employees provided the answer."

Added Beloved executive director, Amy Linnemann, "We're so very grateful to everyone at Cummins who helped to magnify our impact exponentially. As a small non-profit, we rely on synergistic community partnerships to reach more people than we ever could alone. The Cummins team has been a gift and, together, we've been able to remind these kids how much they're welcomed and loved."

Hand in Hand:

Community Partners Extend Beloved's Reach

There are too many stories of children in foster care having to carry their belongings from home to home in a trash bag, echoing a disposability some might feel in their hearts. And this is too big of a need, and too deep of a wound, to heal single-handedly. Thankfully, Beloved is able to serve hundreds of children and youth annually thanks to the community partners that come alongside us to lend a hand. In addition to Cummins (opposite page), we offer a grateful round of applause to these faithful community supporters.



**Bartholomew
County REMC**



Senior Projects/Local students: The following students also contributed time and talent to Beloved.

KJ Ely: 3v3 Soccer tournament

Lachlan Erb: Camp Atterbury donation drive

Kaylee Maschino: Dance performances

Shellie Wade: Photography

Max Mormino: DCS playroom

Corbin Bush: Donation drive

Collin Greenlee: Fishing tournament

Helen Keller had it right: *Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.* Many thanks to all of those who've supported Beloved and our area's most vulnerable kids.

Thanksgiving in May:

Day in the Park Supports Families, Social Services



Over 25 families received encouragement, support, connection, raffle prizes and a bonus thunderstorm on May 21 at Beloved's 2nd Annual **Day in the Park** event. Hosting a special preview hour for local social workers, Beloved aimed to connect professionals and agencies to better

support the foster families they serve.

"We wanted to really support our front-line professionals and foster and kinship care families and bless them with an event that was friendly, fun and resource-filled," explains Stephanie Morrissey, Beloved's Family Engagement Director. "We believe such face-to-face interaction is hugely important for both families and the support professionals who work so closely with them."

Save the Date: 3rd Annual Day in the Park, May 6, 2023

Join Us!

Beloved welcomes your event ideas, tax-deductible donations, volunteer hours and planning guidance as we continue to grow and serve. Find more details on how you can help at belovedbags.org or contact friends@belovedbags.org/812-552-6679

Events & Volunteer Needs

-July 15: Toyota volunteers pack bags and track inventory at Beloved storage space

-July 27: Cummins pack 200 birthday bag kits

-Ongoing: Small groups needed to 1) wrap birthday gifts monthly for Jackson Co. foster kids, and 2) stock snack table monthly at DCS office to bless both kids and social workers