



U.S. Customs and Border Protection

JUL 31 2014

Commissioner

Dear Partner:

Thank you for expressing an interest in donating to U.S Customs and Border Protection (CBP), and for providing aid to the families and unaccompanied children crossing the southern border of the United States. Your outpouring of support continues to be both substantial and admirable and I wish to commend all who have generously opened their hearts and donated their time, as well as food, clothing, and other items.

Recently, I received authorization from the Deputy Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security to solicit and accept items for use by children and families in CBP's care and custody. CBP has identified a specific need for new blankets and books as items that we would like to accept and utilize for the children and families, while they are in CBP facilities. These items must meet the following specifications and technical requirements for donation and use by CBP:

1. **Children's Books** must be in the Spanish language, new/unused, fiction, of a non-religious nature, and age specific for 0-17 years.
2. **Blankets** must be new/in the original package, machine washable, bleach safe, white in color, without large logos or markings, square/rectangular in size (see enclosed technical specifications).

Non-Profit organizations willing to donate these two specific items should complete and e-mail the Donation Request Form that accompanies this letter to CBP's Non-Governmental Liaison on or before August 15, 2014. Once CBP has received the completed form, we will notify your organization about the number of items to be accepted, as well as the dates, times, and locations where the items can be delivered.

I would like to encourage individuals and others to continue to donate items, such as clothing and toys, to charitable organizations in communities supporting this effort. CBP is not accepting donations from individuals and for-profit donors at this time. They should consider donating to your organization and other non-profit organizations. We have enclosed a list of some of the leading organizations accepting donations in Texas and Arizona.

I look forward to working with your organization. Once again, thank you for your support and selfless generosity as we work together to alleviate this humanitarian situation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Gil Kerlikowske". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent initial "R".

R. Gil Kerlikowske
Commissioner

Texas Organizations Accepting Donations

Bethany House/Laredo - www.bethanyhouseoflaredo.org

Calvary Baptist Church - www.calvarymcallen.org

Casa de Misericordia - www.casademisericordia.org

Catholic Charities of the Rio Grande Valley - www.catholiccharitiesrgv.org

Catholic Social Services of Laredo- www.doceseoflaredo.org

Food Bank of the Rio Grande Valley -<http://www.foodbankrgv.com>

Holding Institute Community Center - www.holding-institute.org

Laredo First United Methodist Church - www.fumclaredo.org

Salvation Army McAllen - http://www.uss.salvationarmy.org/USS/www_uss_mcallen.nsf

Sisters of Mercy- rwelsh@mercysc.org

South Texas Refugee Response - www.southtexasrefugees.org

St. John Episcopal Church and School McAllen - <http://stjohns-mcallen.org>

Texas Baptist Men - <http://texasbaptistmen.org>

United Methodist Church – <http://www.umc.org>

United Way of South Texas – <http://www.unitedwayofsotx.org>

Arizona Organizations Accepting Donations

Catholic Social Services <http://www.ccs-soaz.org>

CrossRoads United Methodist Church - descobedofrank@dscumc.org

Jewish Federation - <http://www.jewishtucson.org>

St. Andrew's Episcopal - <http://www.standrewsaz.org>

Southern Arizona Interfaith - www.arizonainterfaith.org

BLANKET SPECIFICATIONS & PACKAGING	
Size:	Approximately 62x80 inches
Weight of Blanket:	Minimum 1.57 lb.
Ounces Per Square Yard:	Minimum 6.7
Grams Per Square Meter:	Minimum 227
Content:	100% Polyester
Stitching:	Over edged 8 Stitches Per Inch on both ends / Minimum 6 Stitches Over edged
Color:	White
Pattern:	
Logo PMS Colors:	
Mfg. Type:	Non-Woven
Label:	ARC sew-in label
Flammability Test:	Meets or Exceeds ASTM D4151 -10
Care:	Machine Wash and Dry

**DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION
DONATION FORM**

This form must be completed and forwarded to:

For CBP: Anna Hinken, NGO Liaison, NGOLiaison@cbp.dhs.gov

Donor Organization Name: _____

Address: _____

501(c)(3) status: Y N

POC Name: _____

Telephone No.: _____ Fax No. _____

Email: _____

Description of Proposed Donation: _____

Estimated Value of Proposed Donation: \$ _____

[Note: The value listed is the donor organization's estimate, whether by fair market value or appraised value. The Department of Homeland Security does not confirm or endorse this as the value of the gift nor make any representation of the value of this gift for any tax purpose.]

Estimated Quantity of Proposed Donation (ex. 100 children's books):

On behalf of the above referenced organization, I hereby offer to donate these items to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Customs and Border Protection. I understand that the donation is given to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and will become the property of the United States Government, and that my organization retains no right to the donated items' use, control, or possession. I further understand that acceptance of this donation may not be deemed or used as an endorsement of my organization, its products, services, activities, or policies.

Print Name

Signature