

KIDS HELPING KIDS COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT

Girl Guides of Canada-Alberta Council has chosen to 'adopt' Kids Kottage, a temporary crisis nursery providing a safe and cheerful environment 24 hours per day, seven days a week throughout the year for infants and children up to 10 years of age who are at risk of child abuse or neglect, as a community service project in Alberta.

Kids Kottage staff work with parents to prevent child abuse and neglect, help strengthen and preserve families, help parents keep their children safe during family crisis and provide families with a bridge from crisis to calm.

Families come to Kids Kottage because the parents are afraid they are going to hurt their child, parents are completely stressed out, exhausted or depressed, parents are physically or mentally ill, there is domestic violence or the threat of it in the home or parents are having serious relationship problems.

Each child that visits Kids Kottage is supplied with a toothbrush and a set of clothing to take home. They are always in desperate need of toothbrushes, underwear and socks hence our Guiding community service project.

'Kids Helping Kids' is a community service project of Alberta Guiding to provide the young clients of Kids Kottage with toothbrushes, underwear and socks.

Since beginning in October of 2002, we have collected from Guiding Units, Members and the Public in throughout Alberta 5,017 toothbrushes, 4,097 pairs of socks, 3,479 pieces of underwear along with numerous other items such as toothpaste, baby items, clothing, craft materials, toys, hair care products, bath products.

For the 2007-2008 Guiding year we have collected to date 540 toothbrushes, 695 pairs of socks and 532 underwear. We have set goals of 1,000 for each so please help us reach our goals.

If you live in the Calgary Area and wish to donate locally to a similar cause, being a Crisis Nursery, please contact Patty Kilgallon, Executive Director of the Children's Cottage at 845 McDougal Rd, Calgary T2E 5A5, telephone (403) 283-4208. Please call her to see how you can help.

The next time you visit the Provincial Office in Edmonton, bring an item with you and drop it in the 'Kids Helping Kids' box, located in the Guide Shop. You can also mail the items to us at 11055 – 107 Street, Edmonton, AB T5H 2Z6

For more information contact Mary Chibuk by email funddev@albertagirlguides.com or call the Office at (780) 424-5510 x102.