

Relief After Violent Encounter – Ionia/Montcalm, Inc. (RAVE-I/M, Inc.)

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM VOLUNTEER AND DONATION NEEDS

Coming to the shelter is scary for an adult; just imagine what it is like for a kid! RAVE's children's program offers a weekly kid's club where kids staying with us can get to know one another, learn some new things, and have a great time! It takes work to put this program together and there are a number of ways you can help! Below is a list of needs that keep us up and running and making sure these kids can build positive relationships while we are here.

DONATE to the Children's Program

Quiet boxes:

Uprooting your family and bringing them to a strange place can result in some different behaviors in kids. It can be difficult for mom's in crisis to be able to occupy their children while trying to get things organized for their future. The shelter provides "quiet boxes" to mom's who need to get things accomplished, or simply take a break. These boxes are full of little, age appropriate activities that children can play with during these times. Maintaining these boxes can be expensive and need to be resupplied every couple of weeks. If you are interested in donating toward these boxes we are looking for the following items:

- Small coloring books
- Crayons
- Toy cars
- Fun necklaces
- Masks
- Silly putty
- Playdough
- Small puzzles
- Card games
- Party favors
- Feather boas
- Yoyos
- Slinky
- Water coloring books for babies
- Stickers
- Notepads
- Small stuffed animals
- Fidget toys
- Dress up supplies

And anything else you can think of that would keep little people occupied!

Busy Bags:

These bags are provided to any child coming into the shelter to welcome them! We try and give kids something that can help them feel safe and adjust to their new environment. These are helpful for mom's if they have young children who need to be distracted while they get everyone settled. For older kids it can give them something to do when they are feeling stressed or need a break. Items in these bags are similar to those of the quiet boxes, however, we are in need of pre-teen and teen activities! If you have any questions please let us know!

VOLUNTEER for Kid's Club

Volunteers: The children's counselor runs the program, and needs help setting up for kids club, working with the kids on activities, and cleaning up. If you are interested in this position, we are asking for a commitment of a few months since transitioning people in and out is hard for our kids!

DONATE to Kid's Club

Snacks: Each week we offer a small snack for kids to enjoy while we check in and get ready for our activity. Examples of these snacks include: juice boxes, crackers and cheese, fruit, granola bars, cheese sticks, trail mix, popcorn, etc.

Supplies: Supplies are limited and we are always in need of things to make activities possible. Things that are always needed are: paper, scissors, coloring supplies, stickers, large project paper, old magazines, or anything that you feel would be fun!

VOLUNTEER for Tutoring Tuesday's

3-4pm or 4-5pm

Volunteers: Domestic violence is so hurtful, especially to children. Having to leave home and come to a new place is very scary and can cause kids to struggle in school. We are in need of a volunteer to come and provide tutoring to kids in the shelter. We are asking that anyone interested in this position be able to make a commitment for a minimum of three months since transitioning people in and out is hard for our kids!