



PO Box 25072  Houston, Texas 77265  BooksBetweenKids.org

Dear Friend,

Thank you for your interest in hosting a book drive to benefit Books Between Kids! Throughout the school year, individuals and organizations like you host book drives at their schools, places of worship, book clubs, places of business, or just amongst their friends and family. Without the books collected from these book drives, Books Between Kids would not be able to fully achieve our mission of providing books to at-risk Houston students so they can build their own home libraries.

Over 85%, or more than 90,000, of Houston ISD's elementary-aged children live at or below the poverty line. For families in these situations, books wind up being low on the priority list. In May of 2019, Books Between Kids provided over 300,000 books to over 40,000 at-risk children in Houston. Our vision is to ensure that every Houston child is a book owner. We are certainly on our way to realizing that vision, and hosting a book drive is a great way to help us reach more children with the joy and hope of book ownership!

The best way to get all of your information and resources in one place is to visit our Book Drive Resource Page at www.booksbetweenkids.org/bookdriveresource.

On this resource page you will find files such as our Books Between Kids logo that you can use in your promotional material, the address to our warehouse, book guidelines, an editable PDF book drive flyer/poster template, a book drive checklist, and any other documents or information that we think may help you in hosting your book drive. If there is anything that you need that is not on the resource page, just let me know and I will be glad to help!

Lastly, I want to share some things with you that will be important to keep in mind when hosting a book drive for Books Between Kids:

1. At this time Books Between Kids does not, unfortunately, have any way of picking up books collected from book drives. You will want to incorporate in your plan how you will get the collected books from your book drive to the Books Between Kids warehouse.
2. Make sure to give your participants plenty of ways to learn about Books Between Kids. Participants typically like to know a lot about the organization a drive is benefitting. Provide them with the information or flyers on the resource page, direct them to our website, or share our Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram with them.

3. We often have spare, flattened, cardboard boxes at the warehouse that are waiting to be recycled. If you are in need of boxes for your book drive, please let me know, and we may have some for you to take and use during your book drive.
4. Remember to communicate with your participants about what types of books you are collecting and what books we can't use. Check out the Book Guidelines link on the Book Drive Resource page for a list of what books we are looking for and what books we cannot use in our program.

Once again, we here at Books Between Kids and the students we serve are so very grateful for your willingness to host a book drive. Know that your effort will directly impact the lives of students, many of whom will become book owners for the first time. Books Between Kids book drives, hosted by generous community partners and individuals, are what allow us to reach even more students within our local community — thank you!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ashley Henke".

Ashley Henke
Program Manager
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