

CHILDREN TO CHILDREN: EMERGENCY HEALTH & SCHOOL KITS FOR I.O.C.C. INTERNATIONAL ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHARITIES



What are Emergency kits? Each kit is a small package of supplies assembled in the United States & shipped to people in need in other parts of the world. The Emergency Kits program is run by IOCC's longtime partner Church World Service (CWS).

What goes in a School Kit? The recommended items are a 12-by-14-inch (or larger but not smaller) cloth bag with cloth handles & a closure (VELCRO, snap, zipper or button), filled with only the following items: 1 pair of blunt scissors, 1 30-centimeter (12-inch) ruler, 1 pencil sharpener, 6 new pencils with erasers, 1 large eraser, 1 box of 24 crayons, pads or notebooks of ruled paper (8½"x11", 150-200 sheets) & 12 sheets of colored construction paper.

What goes in a Health Kit? The recommended items are 1 gallon-size plastic bag with a zipper closure, filled with just the following items: 1 hand towel, 1 washcloth, 1 comb, 1 metal nail file or nail clipper, 1 bar of soap (bath size, new & wrapped in original packaging), 1 toothbrush, & 6 Band-Aids. NO TOOTHPASTE

Why are the kits being handled by Church World Service? The kits are a collaborative effort. IOCC generates the kits by appealing to Orthodox Christians to assemble them. Church World Service & its partners handle the processing, packaging & warehousing required for international shipments of humanitarian assistance. Kits are available to participating relief agencies, including IOCC, as needs arise in different parts of the world. Many of IOCC's humanitarian & self-help programs are done in partnership with other organizations.

What are the benefits of this kind of partnership? The overhead costs associated with warehousing, handling & preparing the kits for shipment overseas are shared by numerous organizations. This approach helps maximize efficiency & effectiveness, allowing IOCC & its partners to help even more children.

What do I do after I've assembled the kits? Secure the bag(s) & pack it/them in a box. Then secure the box with packing tape. Clearly mark the outside of the box with the type of kit & apply the correct amount of postage. Be sure to include the name of the parish, group or individual sending the kit(s) on the box.

Can multiple kits go in a box? Yes, as long as the box weight & dimensions are within U.S. Postal Service guidelines.

Please send them to the following address:

IOCC/Church World Service
Brethren Service Center Annex
601 Main St.
P.O. Box 188
New Windsor, MD 21776-0188

- Church World Service will acknowledge receipt of your kits by mail. *To ensure that you receive an acknowledgement, please mark clearly on the box that the kit is from (parish, group or individual).*
- For consistency's sake, the contents must be limited to the items listed above. This way, people who receive the kits will know they are being treated equally. In addition, in order to facilitate international shipping & distribution, the boxes into which the kits are packed at the warehouse, must weigh the same & contain the same number of kits. No Candy, toothpaste, personal notes or clothing.
- School kits & health kits are helpful any time of the year, & are accepted on an ongoing basis. The earlier the kits are contributed, the faster they can be shipped to people who need them.

More information at <http://www.iocc.org/giftsofheartfaq.aspx>