

Bottomless Closet's Clothing & Accessories Drive Information and Guidelines

Clothing & Accessories Drives are a fun way for groups to support Bottomless Closet and the women we serve. Whether among the employees of a large corporation or the members of community organization, clothing drives are a simple but effective way to attract the support of many individuals and support a worthwhile cause by donating business clothing you no longer wear.

Planning your Drive: Holding clothing drives can take some time and effort; below are suggestions that will help the process.

- Contact Bottomless Closet to schedule a date. Our space is limited and we want to ensure that we can accommodate your donations and treat your contributions with the care they deserve. Our goal is to get your donations into the hands of clients quickly and in good condition, coordinating a date will guarantee this
- Bottomless Closet has information about our programs and how people's donations will help.
- Consider an Accessories drive. The items listed below can be easier for people to transport, and are especially useful. Accessories make a big difference completing a professional image for clients
- All clothing & accessories donations are tax deductible, forms are provided for individuals

Holding the Drive: To ensure that the contributions you make are meaningful to our clients, we ask that all donations fit the following guidelines: Bottomless Closet accepts women's new or gently worn business appropriate clothing and accessories. This can include the following:

Business suits	Jackets	Skirts	Pants
Blouses	Sweaters	Dresses	Shoes
Scarves	Belts	Jewelry	Toiletries
Handbags & Attaché cases	Unopened Hosiery, Undergarments & Cosmetics		

- Plus sizes clothing (10 and up) and larger size shoes (9 and up) are particularly appreciated
- We are unable to accept exercise clothing, jeans, tee shirts, sneakers, evening wear or used/opened cosmetics or undergarments

Making the Donation: Given Bottomless Closet's limited resources, we ask that you be responsible for getting clothing drive donations to our offices

- Donations can be sent or delivered in bags, boxes or on hangers
- We are unable to accommodate boxes bigger than 3' x 3' x3'
- Drop offs can be arranged during business hours, Monday through Thursday or select evenings

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* Founder

Bottomless Closet was founded in 1999 to promote self-sufficiency among disadvantaged women in New York City.

VISION: Bottomless Closet envisions a time when all women overcome poverty and achieve self-sufficiency for themselves and their families.

MISSION: Bottomless Closet's mission is to be the connection that inspires and guides disadvantaged New York City women to enter the workforce and achieve success.

VALUES AND CORE PRINCIPLES:

- Building self-esteem and self-confidence
- Promoting professionalism and respect
- Upholding the spirit of volunteerism

INTENDED IMPACT: what we will hold ourselves accountable for

- Facilitate entrance into the workforce
- Build core competencies for workplace success
- Increase self-confidence
- transform women's vision of their potential

THEORY OF CHANGE: how we can best achieve our goals

- Offer a one-on-one connection with volunteers
- Enhance business presence and interview skills
- Provide on-going professional and financial education

From its start, Bottomless Closet has experienced steady, carefully planned growth. Originally a fully volunteer-run operation, the organization now functions with 9 full-time staff with over 50 years combined experience in the nonprofit sector. To this day we rely largely on the dedication and steadfast commitment of a corps of 250+ active volunteers to accomplish our mission.

PROGRAMS: Since Bottomless Closet's inception we have helped nearly 30,000 NYC women. The organization works to reduce the barriers many women face in the search for employment by providing interview-appropriate clothing along with one on one resume preparation and interview coaching; each year over 3,000 women walk out of our doors with the professional appearance, interview skills, and self-confidence to compete in today's job market. In addition, we offer an extensive series of educational workshops on a range of topics including Professional Development, Financial Management and Personal Enrichment. All services are provided with the goal of strengthening a women's ability to secure and maintain employment, advance her career, overcome the challenges of poverty, and ultimately reach self-sufficiency. All services are provided free of charge to our clients.

HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED: There are many opportunities to get involved: Clothing Consultation, Resume Review & Interview Coaching; Workshops & Programming; Fundraising; Career Days; Corporate Clothing Drives.

For more information or to get involved please contact us at 212-563-2499 or visit our website at www.bottomlesscloset.org.

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