

# HOPE & COMFORT

WORKING TO END HYGIENE INSECURITY



## The Mission

Hope & Comfort's mission is to provide essential hygiene products to support and improve the health, self-esteem, and hygiene education of student aged children, families and adults in need across Greater Boston.

Hope & Comfort's vision is that one day, everyone in the US will have access to the basic hygiene products they need to feel clean, confident, and healthy.

## The Need: Hygiene Insecurity

- Hygiene insecurity is the inability to regularly access and/or afford basic hygiene products.
- There are an estimated 1,000,000 children and adults in Massachusetts alone who are experiencing hygiene insecurity.
  - At least 35 million hygiene products are needed to meet this demand.
- SNAP benefits (formerly known as 'food stamps') do not cover any basic hygiene products.
- 58% of low-income individuals reported cutting back on food to afford hygiene products.\*

## The Model: Facts About Hope & Comfort

- Jeff Feingold founded Hope & Comfort in 2011 to teach his children the importance of giving back.
- Hope & Comfort is one of the few and largest nonprofits in Massachusetts solely focused on hygiene.
- Working with over 250 community partners, Hope & Comfort reaches more than 100,000 clients.
  - Roughly 50% of our distributions go to Youth Serving organizations, with the other 50% going to organizations serving Families and Communities.
  - Our partners include the Boston Public Schools, Boys & Girls Clubs, Cradles to Crayons, The Greater Boston Food Bank, and dozens more.
- Our five core products include soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, and shampoo.
- We engage about 800 volunteers a year, and half are under the age of 18.\*\*

## The Impact: COVID-19 Relief Efforts

- Hope & Comfort will distribute more than 2,000,000 hygiene products in 2022.
- Hope & Comfort distributed over 1,900,000 hygiene products in 2021, including more than 1,000,000 bars of soap.
- Hygiene products deliver health, confidence, and dignity to those in need.
- In a survey of youth hygiene kit recipients, 96% of respondents said their families had been economically impacted by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.
- One hygiene kit recipient commented on Hope & Comfort's impact: "I don't worry about running out of essentials and that makes me feel more confident."

To learn more about Hope & Comfort, email us at [info@hopeandcomfort.org](mailto:info@hopeandcomfort.org) or visit [hopeandcomfort.org](https://hopeandcomfort.org).  
Hope & Comfort is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, tax ID 45-1329518.

\* Source: "In Short Supply: American Families Struggle to Secure Everyday Essentials." Report by [Feeding America](#) in partnership with the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 2013.

\*\* Pre COVID-19