

# Christmas Shoeboxes



Houston International Seafarers Center, Inc.

## 2025 SEASON

Every year, the Houston International Seafarers Center delivers between 8,000 and 11,000 shoeboxes filled with essential items, treats, and small gifts to the hardworking seafarers visiting the Port of Houston. Many of these men and women spend months at sea, far from home and family—especially during the holiday season.

These special shoeboxes are hand-delivered directly to ships by our Chaplains, ship visitors, and staff—sharing not just gifts, but kindness, gratitude, and holiday spirit.



### SUGGESTED ITEMS

#### PERSONAL CARE ITEMS

BAND-AIDS (FABRIC)  
BODY WASH / SOAP  
DENTAL FLOSS  
DEODORANT  
DISPOSABLE RAZORS  
GOLD BOND CREAM  
GOLD BOND POWDER  
HAIRBRUSH / COMB  
HAND WIPES  
LIP BALM  
LOTION  
NAIL CLIPPERS  
Q-TIPS  
SHAMPOO / CONDITIONER  
SHAVING CREAM  
TISSUES  
TOOTHBRUSH / TOOTHPASTE

#### RECREATIONAL ITEMS

BASEBALL CAPS (NEW)  
CHEWING GUM / HARD CANDY  
EARBUDS / HEADPHONES  
FLASHLIGHTS W/ BATTERIES  
HANDKERCHIEFS  
KEY CHAINS  
MAGNETS  
MECHANICAL PENCILS / PENS  
NEEDLE & THREAD  
NON-PERISHABLE SNACKS  
PLAYING CARDS  
POCKET-SIZED NOTEBOOKS  
POCKET CALENDARS  
SOCKS  
TEXAS SOUVENIRS  
T-SHIRTS (NEW)  
WORD-SEARCHES / SUDOKUS

### 2024 STATS



# 10,002

SHOEBOXES DISTRIBUTED



# 412

VESSELS GIFTED



# 51

NATIONALITIES REPRESENTED



# 164

PARTICIPATING ORGS AND INDIVIDUAL DONORS



## THANK YOU

FOR HELPING US CONTINUE  
OUR MISSION SERVING  
SEAFARERS

#### GUIDELINES / OTHER THINGS TO CONSIDER:

- Set up and share an Amazon Wishlist with your team to help collect items.
- Purchase plastic shoeboxes: they will become an extra gift for seafarers.
- Pack only new, unopened/unused items.
- Include full-sized items (preferred over travel-sized items).
- Wrap securely as one unit, please DO NOT wrap lids and boxes separately.
- Add a personal note or card to make each box a special, one-of-a-kind gift.
- Fill boxes to the brim!
- Use holiday themed paper to wrap boxes

#### UNABLE TO GATHER A TEAM AND ASSEMBLE BOXES?

- Purchase and send shoebox items directly to the Center via our Amazon Wishlist. Use your smartphone's camera to scan our QR code, and you'll be taken directly to our wishlist.



Shoeboxes can be delivered to the Houston International Seafarers Center, 9750 High Level Road, Houston Texas.  
Please call ahead to coordinate a drop off time with Center staff 713-672-0511.