

Christmas Shoeboxes



2026 SEASON

2025
STATS



8,901

SHOEBOXES
DISTRIBUTED



68

NATIONALITIES
REPRESENTED



150+

PARTICIPATING ORGS
AND DONORS



385

VESSELS GIFTED

ABOUT

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.

TAKE ACTION



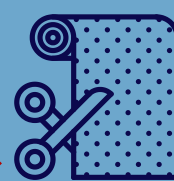
GATHER YOUR
TEAM



COLLECT ITEMS
& SHOEBOXES



PACK YOUR
BOXES



WRAP YOUR
BOXES



DELIVER TO
THE CENTER

RECOMMENDED ITEMS

PERSONAL CARE ITEMS

BAND-AIDS (FABRIC)
BODY WASH (LIQUID)
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 / PASTE

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

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.



**THANK
YOU**

FOR HELPING US
CONTINUE OUR MISSION
SERVING SEAFARERS

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.