

HALLOWEEN GIVEAWAY

- General Focus: Halloween candy for trick-or-treating children
- Audience: This project was designed to touch some of the underprivileged and challenged children who could not get out, had no place to go trick-or-treating, no Halloween costume, etc.
Benefiting: _____ School for Severely Handicapped
 _____ Family Shelter
 _____ Homeless Shelter
- Budget: \$50.00 + donations
- Date of event: October 23, 1999, the Saturday before Halloween
Delivery: Thursday October 29, 2000

HOW-TO

A. Preliminary Steps

1. Called each of the agencies to let them know we planned to bring items to them and the date we would deliver. Asked about any restrictions. Found out who our contact would be. Followed up with a call just prior to event.
2. Went to several local liquor stores/grocery stores and asked them to donate small brown bags. (Always offer to pay, bring a flyer, and explain your event.)
3. Drew up a flyer and sent an invitation to every friend, co-worker, and relative. (Make up extras to have on hand.)
4. Purchased candy at large wholesale outlet.
5. Used no other media exposure.

B. The Event

1. Placed candy in bowls
2. Lined bowls up on tables
3. Had friends bring children
4. Created teams:
 - Curlers - curled black & orange ribbon
 - Stampers - stamped the bags with rubber Halloween stamps
 - Stuffers - walked around large table and filled the small bags with candy (and ate a few candy bars!)
 - Trimmers - tied the ribbon
5. The project went great!! We filled 225 festive bags of great candy. Children who helped got to take a bag home for themselves.
6. We served punch, popcorn, chips, and M&Ms to all the helpers. With the exception of

- the additional candy, we stayed within our budget.
7. We delivered 100 bags to the _____ School, which were used in their school party. We delivered 75 bags to the family shelter (families with children on the street) and 50 bags to the _____ Home, a shelter for battered women & children.
 8. Everyone involved with this project had a good time and knew they had done something wonderful for others.

Stumbling Block: (not really any!) We let the children do some of the stuffing and ran out of candy before all bags were filled. My brother volunteered to run down and purchase a large bag of candy to complete project.

Most touching moment: One of the mothers, who brought two boys, ages 6 and 9, spent the drive over explaining how good it feels to do something nice (and asking her boys not to pocket all the candy). After working on stamping and stuffing, the smallest boy yelled out (with charming honesty), "Hey, Mom, this *does* make me feel good!"

BUDGET

150 bags purchased	\$ 2.00	(brown bags/grocery & liquor store)
75 bags	0	(donated)
Candy	32.00	(in quantity at wholesale discount)
Candy	0	(donated)
Black & orange ribbon	3.00	(craft store)
Small toys (ghost erasers)	0	(donated)
Food for volunteers	10.00	(punch, popcorn, M&Ms, etc.)
Postage	7.00	(+ donation)
Rubber stamp for flyers	0	(owned)

INVITATIONAL FLYER

This encrypted message is an ancient one indeed...
Whoever can decipher, here's a warning to take heed.
The pleasure of your company is requested to appease,
touch a bunch of tiny hearts...
Come and join us if you please!

Restless spirits will be gathering:
Saturday, October 23rd
11:00 am (we'll be done in less than an hour)
(address and phone)
(kids welcome to help; we'll be stamping, stuffing, and curling ribbon)



Stuffing over 200 Halloween bags to be donated to:

- _____ School (severely handicapped children)
- _____ Family Shelter (children on the streets with mom)
- _____ Home (children in a battered women's shelter)

Serving Witch's Brew/Cider & Bagels

Think about stopping by (bags of candy welcome but not mandatory), laughing with old friends, and helping lots of local children enjoy an old autumn tradition. I would love to see you....

☺ Project contributed by Maureen in Fresno, CA