

For Immediate Release

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Phi Theta Kappa National Honor Society of Columbia Basin College hosts Project Pajama and collects over 1000 items to support victim teens and kids of domestic strife

PASCO, WA – April 10, 2026 - Columbia Basin College (CBC) today announced the college chapter of Phi Theta Kappa will be delivering over 1000 items at 10am on Friday, April 10, to the Richland office of the Department of Children, Youth and Families as part of its annual Project Pajama collection campaign to support victim teens and kids of domestic strife in our region. PTK partnered with the ASCBC, ImPACT!Compassion Center and TriCU Credit Union to secure substantial quantities of **NEW** pajamas and sweats in all kid sizes (nb-teen), toiletries, backpacks, stuffies and books for local youth suddenly displaced from their homes - often late at night - due to family hardship and domestic strife. Children often arrive at the DCYF agency scared, confused and with only the clothes on their back. PTK hopes to heighten awareness of this issue and to provide gifts of comfort to youth in need!!

The month-long collection campaign at CBC was launched on Wednesday, February 25 when the campus hosted a *Wear Pajamas Day* event to heighten awareness to this great need. Throughout the month of March, collection bins were then made available at multiple locations on both the Pasco and Richland campuses.

The successful campaign resulted in securing well over 1000+ of the items listed below:

- New pajamas/sweats in ALL sizes for both boys and girls are greatly appreciated.
- Our greatest needs are sizes 10/12 and teen sizes S, M, L, and XL.
- Toiletries help provide comfort and dignity during a difficult time.
- New, cuddly stuffed animals always bring smiles and reassurance.
- Children’s books for all ages offer comfort, escape, and hope.
- New backpacks help children keep their belongings safe and together.

The Washington State Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF), is a state agency that oversees child welfare, early learning, and juvenile rehabilitation services, with an office in Richland. DCYF handles child abuse and neglect reports (via Child Protective Services or CPS), supports families, and manages programs for children and youth.

Phi Theta Kappa National Honor Society at Columbia Basin College (PTK) is a national honor society founded in 1918 and established to promote collaborative opportunities and unique programs for community college students to develop academic success and leadership skills. Its main objective is to mentor student role models who volunteer as "students serving students" at their respective campuses. PTK is a unique service club which strives to develop quality individuals who will make a significant positive difference at their college campus and local communities; and ultimately contribute back to society as upright-standing citizens aspiring to improve life conditions for mankind.

This event is a collaboration among the Associated Students of CBC Phi Theta Kappa National Honor Society, DCYF, ImPACT!Compassion Center and TriCU Credit Union.

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Columbia Basin College (CBC) is a public community college serving the Tri-Cities and surrounding communities since 1955. CBC’s mission is to inspire, educate, and support all students in an environment of academic excellence leading to the completion of degrees, certifications, and educational transfers, while fostering meaningful employment, engaged citizenship, and a life-long joy of learning. CBC offers both two and four-year degrees and one-year Certificates.