



## Hope for Students Without a Home

**There are at least 1.3 million students experiencing homelessness in the U.S., and teachers like you are in a unique position to support these students.** Thanks to generous support from Pearl Jam, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the Raikes Foundation, and Deutsche Bank, teachers can get funding on DonorsChoose.org for items they need to support students experiencing homelessness or empower their students to help their area's homeless community. This funding is a part of a collaboration with Pearl Jam's Home Shows in Seattle this August, meant to raise awareness, money, and support for efforts to end homelessness.

### What is DonorsChoose.org?

DonorsChoose.org is a nonprofit website that engages the public in public schools. Teachers from every corner of America create classroom project requests for the materials their students need to learn, which are funded by generous individual donors as well as corporations and foundations that want to support students.

### What can I ask for?

If there are students experiencing homelessness in your school or district, create a project requesting any materials those students might need, from basic school supplies like pencils, and books to take-home items like clean clothes, and hygiene products. Requests for professional development resources or trainings to learn more about working with students experiencing homelessness are also eligible. You may also create a project that empowers your students to support your area's homeless community. We recommend framing homelessness as an experience that individual people have, rather than a label.

### Do educators like me use it?

Yes! If you are an educator at a public or public charter school, are employed full-time by the school or district, and work directly with students at least 75% of the time, (including school counselors, nurses and social workers) you are eligible to post projects. Teachers in more than 75% of all public schools have had a project funded on DonorsChoose.org. They work in communities of every size and with every level of economic need.

### How do I get funded?

If you're a public school teacher in the United States, create a project for your classroom that describes how the resources you request will benefit students experiencing homelessness at your school or people within your community. Starting on July 30th, 2018, you'll automatically be eligible for matching funds from Pearl Jam, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the Raikes Foundation, and Deutsche Bank. Every time a donor gives to your project, it will be matched 1:1.

## Stories from fellow teachers

### Mrs. Carmany

requested shoes for students in her classroom who were in need of a fresh pair. One-third of students in her district were experiencing homelessness when she created this project.

Check out her project at [bit.ly/mrscarmany](https://bit.ly/mrscarmany)

### Mrs. Martinez

requested a washer and dryer for her classroom, so that students without these necessities could bring in dirty clothing to be washed at school.

Check out her project at [bit.ly/mrsmartinez](https://bit.ly/mrsmartinez)

### Ms. Mierzwinski

requested bedsheets, clothes and snacks for her elementary school students experiencing homelessness.

Check out her project at [bit.ly/msmierzwinski](https://bit.ly/msmierzwinski)

### Ms. Pederson

got art supplies that helped her students create unique gifts for individuals experiencing homelessness near their school inspired by a book they read together.

Check out her project at [bit.ly/mspederson](https://bit.ly/mspederson)

### Ms Horak

Requested hygiene and food items to make care packages for local community members experiencing homelessness.

Check out her project at [bit.ly/mshorak](https://bit.ly/mshorak)

See more examples of projects at [donorschoose.org/thehomeshows](https://donorschoose.org/thehomeshows)

## How it works

1. Sign up for an account at [donorschoose.org/teachers](https://donorschoose.org/teachers). (It's free.)
2. Create a project requesting the exact materials your classroom needs. If you keep your first request under \$1,000, it helps lead to speedy funding.
3. Make sure you describe in your project how your materials will support students experiencing homeless or empower your students to support the homeless community.
4. Starting on July 30th, you'll be eligible for a match offer from the Pearl Jam Home Shows Coalition. Every time a donor gives to your project, our generous partners will match that donation 1:1.
5. When your project reaches its goal, we'll ship the items to your school to make sure you and your students can start using them as soon as possible.

### Questions along the way?

See answers to frequently asked questions at

[bit.ly/pearljamdonorschoose](https://bit.ly/pearljamdonorschoose)

For more information on student homelessness visit:

<http://www.educationleadshome.org>

Reach out to our team at [donorschoose.org/contact](https://donorschoose.org/contact) or email us directly at

[fundingopps@donorschoose.org](mailto:fundingopps@donorschoose.org)