

2012

Zoroastrians Stepping Forward



Photo Courtesy of Behrose Taraporewalla

Resource Manual

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Welcome Letter

Dear Fellow Zarathushtis,

The Zoroastrians Stepping Forward (ZSF) initiative was born from a NextGenNow (NGN) session at the Fifth World Zoroastrian Youth Congress in Vancouver, Canada (2011). Our goal is to raise awareness for those in need, by focusing on the distribution of shoes. Together, we can make a difference locally by addressing a global cause. Our leadership team, in collaboration with members of the NGN leadership team, is grateful for your time in reviewing our appeal for participation in the *First Annual Zoroastrian Day of Service*.

WHY SHOES?

Many of us take shoes for granted. They ease our mobility and act as an accessory. But could you imagine living without them—working on a farm, going to school, or traveling along hot roads? Please join us this year and on the First Annual Zoroastrian Day of Service, to be held on May 5th, 2012.

WHY YOU?

We are asking for your support in making the Day of Service a success. Organize a day of fun with your community! Collect new or gently used shoes and/or help raise funds, for this important cause. There are many activities you can do, including: a sports day, picnic, silent auction or a community walk.

WHAT NEXT?

After collecting the new or gently used shoes, decide on where you can donate locally to make a difference. Choose from *homeless shelters, orphanages, community groups, YMCAs, Amvets, Goodwill, and those within your Zoroastrian community* who may benefit.

We look forward to sending you more details in the coming weeks and months. In the meantime, please feel free to contact us at zoroastrianssteppingforward@gmail.com or 626.378.5564 for more information.

On behalf of the Zoroastrians Stepping Forward and NGN leadership teams, we thank you for your time, interest and consideration. This project means a lot to many of us and we hope it means just as much to you. Let's follow in Zarathushtra's example by taking the first footsteps together with a good thought, a good word and a good deed.

Let's take the first step together!

Zoroastrians Stepping Forward Leadership Team
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What's Included In This Packet?

In this packet you will find many helpful resources to aid you in running a successful shoe drive.

The following will be included in the pages to come

_____ Contact information

_____ What can be donated?

_____ Kickoff party ideas

_____ Required supplies/materials

_____ Suggested checklist

_____ List of organization's around the United States you can donate your shoes to

_____ Data Recovery

Contact Information

Phone: 626.378.5564 (Behrose Taraporewalla)

Email: zoroastrianssteppingforward@gmail.com

Zoroastrians Stepping Forward Website: www.zoroastrianssteppingforward.weebly.com

NextGenNow Website: <http://www.nextgennow.org/>

Facebook Community: www.facebook.com/zoroastrianssteppingforward

What Can Be Collected

The type of shoes you collect varies based on your choice of organization to donate to. Some organization only want gym shoes, while others collect all kinds of shoes. Be sure to check with the organization of your choice on what kind of shoes they request to be collected. Organizations also may request new or gently used shoes. We acknowledge that donating shoes may not be the best decision for some, for those individuals we request a monetary donation to the local organization.

Kickoff Party Ideas

The Kickoff Party will set the tone for your shoe drive. Your center may run the shoe drive for one day, or an entire month. It's up to your community to decide on how you want to run it. However, feel free to base your shoe drive off of the ZSF Pilot program, located in Chicago, Illinois. Chicago has already started planning events such as a ski trip, to kick off the shoe drive. Chicago's shoe drive will last for a month; however the duration of the drive is up to you. We request that pictures and the data collection sheet be submitted by June 8th, 2012. Listed below are ideas that your center can utilize for the kick-off party. Please keep in mind these are generic ideas and may vary based on your location.

- Walk/Run
- Picnic or BBQ
- Sports tournaments
- Relay for Life® Style Event
- Competition between youth religion classes
- Walk-A-Thon
- At your event, consider adding a health component, like a blood drive or bone marrow registration drive.
 - Be the Match
https://secure.marrow.org/Get_Involved/Grow_the_Registry/Host_a_Drive.aspx
 - Red Cross
<http://www.redcrossblood.org/hosting-blood-drive>

Consider: If you have many associations or organizations in your local area, please consider holding your event in collaboration with each other. Pairing up with organizations has endless benefits and encourages the youth to see and feel the UNITY in our COMMUNITY.

Required Materials

Some materials are required to run a successful shoe drive.

- Organization you wish to donate to
- Pledge sheet for monetary donations
- Boxes to collect shoes in
- Location to keep drop box
- Flyers to advertise the event
- Dedicated volunteers
- Camera
- Positive attitude

Humanitarian Highlight

In the ZSF project we want to spotlight two members; one of the youth (under 35) and one older (over 35) who display kindness, and empathy to all humans. These people show continuous support and volunteerism for the center and should be honored on the day of your kick-off party. By celebrating the accomplishments of these members, the youth can have role models. These honorees can be recognized at the Navroze function and/or at the kickoff party on May 5, 2012.

Remote Areas

Zoroastrians are all over the world— even in remote areas. We can involve people living in areas that do not have their own local associations by inviting each other to meet up and host a walk or picnic and still donate to a charity locally. A family can host a shoe-giving party and invite their neighbors and friends to join in. If they choose, they can join organized events promoting health and giving.

Some ideas are listed below:

- Service with the Family—Create a small shoe-giving project that will afford disadvantaged children the opportunity to have a new or gently used pair of shoes.
- Forever Friends—Host a 5K walk/run or Walk-a-Thon in your neighborhood that promotes health and giving. At the event accept monetary donations or a collection of new or gently used shoes.
- Monetary Donations—Run/walk in your dreams. Donate collected funds to a local charity.
- Soles for Special Kids—Develop a partnership with a non-profit orphanage, foster or group home, where people can mail donated shoes.
- KNOW-- Zoroastrians Stepping Forward's Leadership team can assist you in these projects. Kindly send us an email.

Checklist

The following are suggested ways to start your shoe drive and fund raising.

- _____ Form a group of willing volunteers to plan this fundraising event.
- _____ Appoint leaders
- _____ Seek out an organization you wish you donate to
- _____ Get approval from the organization you wish to help
- _____ Brainstorm event ideas to kick off the shoe drive
- _____ Plan event
- _____ ADVERTISE
- _____ Get required materials
- _____ Run the event!
- _____ Take Pictures and send to zoroastrianssteppingforward@gmail.com
- _____ Organize shoes by requested categories requested by the donation center (i.e. Men's Gym, Men's Formal, Women's Gym, Women's Formal, and Kids)
- _____ Spot Clean/Sanitize shoes
- _____ Fill out Data Recovery Sheet
- _____ Box shoes and either deliver or have it picked up
- _____ Feel amazing about the good deeds you just did

Resources

Below is just a suggested list of non-profit organizations that collect donations of used shoes, around the United States. While these are a lot of great companies this is not all of them, be sure to look locally (Google® search).

State	Organization	Website	Phone #	Email
Alabama	Jimmie Hale Mission	http://www.jimmiehalemission.com	205. 323.5878	
Alabama	Brother Bryan Mission	http://www.brotherbryanmission.com/donations	205.322.0092	staff@brotherbryanmission.com
Alabama	Mission of Hope	http://www.missionofhopedora.com/	205.647.4766	
Arizona	Phoenix Rescue Mission	http://phoenixrescuemission.org/	602.346.3344	pcarlo@phoenixrescuemission.org
Arizona	The Southern Arizona Children's Advocacy Center	http://sozadvocacy.org	520.243.6420	ckoch@sozadvocacy.org
Arizona	ARR Running-Shoe Recycling Program	www.arizonaroadracers.com	602.954.8341	
Arkansas	Helping Hands, Inc.	http://www.helpinghandsnwa.org/donations.htm	479. 273.2511	
Arkansas	The Arc Arkansas	http://www.arcark.org/	501.375.7770	
Arkansas	Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Arkansas	http://www.bbbsca.org/donate/clothing-donation-program/	501.374.6661	
California	Orange County Rescue Mission	http://www.rescuemission.org/default.aspx	714. 247.4300	dnaccachian@rescuemission.org
California	Sacred Heart Community Service	http://www.sacredheartcs.org/	408 .278.2160	info@sacredheartcs.org
California	San Diego Rescue Mission	http://www.sdrescue.org/	619.819.1793	
California	Give Your Soul	http://www.giveyoursoul.com		
Colorado	Arc Thrift Stores	http://www.arcthrift.com/feel_great.php	303.322.6476	
Colorado	Good-will	http://www.goodwill-colosprings.org/shop-and-donate/donating/find-a-donation-center		
Colorado	Vietnam Veterans of America	http://www.clothingdonations.org/schedule-a-pick-up-by-state/donate-clothes-in-colorado/	888. 518.Vets	
Connecticut	Vietnam Veterans of America	http://www.clothingdonations.org/schedule-a-pick-up/	888.518.Vets	
Connecticut	Big Sisters of Rhode Island	http://www.bbbsos.org/donate_clothing.html	401. 921.2434	

Connecticut	Hartford City Mission	http://www.hartfordcitymission.org/donate.html	860.246.6655	
Delaware	Concord Presbyterian Church	http://www.concordpc.org/mission.html	302.654.9652	
Delaware	Purple Heart's Pickup Service	http://zc.purpleheartpickup.org/	800.338.1448	PA-NJ-donorservices@purpleheartpickup.org
Delaware	Friendship House	http://www.friendship-house.org/Ministry/c10th.asp	302.652.8278	
Florida	The Spring of Tampa Bay	http://www.thespring.org	813.247.5433	
Florida	Shoes for the Needy, Inc.	http://www.nbbd.com/npr/shoes/	321.269.7243	
Florida	Vietnam Veterans of America	http://www.clothingdonations.org/schedule-a-pick-up-by-state/donate-clothes-in-florida/	888.518.Vets	
Georgia	Must Ministries	http://www.mustministries.org/	678.218.4481	
Georgia	Habitat for Humanity	http://www.athenshabitat.com/	706.208.1001	
Georgia	Vietnam Veterans of America	http://www.clothingdonations.org/schedule-a-pick-up/	888.518.Vets	
Hawaii	Big Brothers Big Sisters of Honolulu	http://www.donatebigshawaii.com/gd.donations/default.aspx		
Idaho	Idaho Youth Ranch	http://youthranch.org/Index.aspx	208.377.2613	info@youthranch.org
Idaho	The ARC	http://www.thearcinc.org	208.343.5583	
Idaho	Aid for Friends	http://aidforfriendspocatello.org/	208.232.5669	
Illinois	Vietnam Veterans of America	http://www.clothingdonations.org/schedule-a-pick-up/	888.518.Vets	
Illinois	Share Your Soles	www.shareyoursoles.org	708.448.4469	mona@shareyoursoles.org
Illinois	Breakthrough Urban Ministries	http://breakthrough.org/	773.722.1144	info@breakthrough.org
Illinois	MorningStar Mission Ministries, Inc.	http://morningstarmission.com/index.html	815.722.5780	info@morningstarmission.org
Illinois	AmVets	http://www.amvetpickup.com/	708.388.7800	
Indiana	Vietnam Veterans of America	http://www.clothingdonations.org/schedule-a-pick-up/	888.518.Vets	
Indiana	Muncie Mission Ministries	http://www.munciemission.org/	765.288.9122 Ext. 442	
Indiana	AmVets	http://www.amvetpickup.com/	708.388.7800	

Iowa	Hope Ministries	http://www.hopeiowa.org/facilities/bargain.php	515.262.0876	
Iowa	St. Mary's Family Center	http://www.dmdiocese.org/st-mary-family-center.cfm	515.237.5019, 515.262.7290	
Kansas	Vietnam Veterans of America	http://www.clothingdonations.org/schedule-a-pick-up/	888.518.Vets	
Kansas	Ozanam	http://www.ozanam.org	816.508.3600	
Kansas	Sherwood Center	http://www.sherwoodcenter.org	816.363.4606	
Kentucky	Vietnam Veterans of America	http://www.clothingdonations.org/schedule-a-pick-up/	888.518.Vets	
Kentucky	American Council of the Blind		502.968.6666	
Kentucky	Cedar Lake Lodge		502.222.7157	
Kentucky	Salvation Army		502.935.7474	
Kentucky	Society of St. Vincent DePaul		502.584.2480	
Louisiana	Vietnam Veterans of America	http://www.clothingdonations.org/schedule-a-pick-up/		
Louisiana	Rolling Hills Ministries	http://www.rollinghillsministries.com	318.251.0065, 318.251.4640	rollinghills33@bellsouth.net
Louisiana	Shreveport - Bossier Rescue Mission	http://www.sbrescuemission.com	318.227.2868 Ext. 117	drives@sbrescuemission.com
Maine	Salvation Army			
Maine	Full Circle Community Thrift Store	http://www.fullcirclethriftstore.com/	207.703.0266	fullcirclecommunitythriftstore@yahoo.com
Maryland	Purple Heart's Pickup Service	http://zc.purpleheartpickup.org/	877.851.8111, 410.789.7692, 301.277.0063	MD- Donorservices@purpleheartpickup.org
Maryland	Vietnam Veterans of America	http://www.clothingdonations.org/schedule-a-pick-up/	888.518.Vets	
Massachusetts	Big Sisters of Rhode Island	http://www.bbbsos.org/donate_clothing.html	401.921.2434, 877.725.6843	
Massachusetts	Vietnam Veterans of America	http://www.clothingdonations.org/schedule-a-pick-up/	888.518.Vets	
Michigan	Vietnam Veterans of America	http://www.clothingdonations.org/schedule-a-pick-up/	888.518.Vets	
Michigan	Volunteers of America of Michigan	http://www.voami.org	866.333.8281	
Minnesota	Vietnam Veterans of America	http://www.clothingdonations.org/schedule-a-pick-up/	888.518.Vets	
Minnesota	Bridging	www.Bridging.org	952.888.1105, 651.631.3255	

Mississippi	Vietnam Veterans of America	http://www.clothingdonations.org/schedule-a-pick-up/	888. 518.Vets	
Mississippi	Hope Village	http://www.hopevillagems.org	601.553.8660	
Mississippi	Gateway Rescue Mission	http://www.gatewaymission.org	601.932.1668	
Missouri	Vietnam Veterans of America	http://www.clothingdonations.org/schedule-a-pick-up/	888.518.Vets	
Missouri	Ozanam	http://www.ozanam.org	816.508.3600	
Missouri	Sherwood Center	http://www.sherwoodcenter.org	816.363.4606	
Montana	Good Samaritan Ministries	http://www.goodsamministries.com	616. 392.7159	goodsam2@goodsamministries.com
	Montana Rescue Mission	www.MontanaRescueMission.org		mtmission@180com.net
Nebraska	Vietnam Veterans of America	http://www.clothingdonations.org/schedule-a-pick-up/	888. 518.Vets	
Nevada	Las Vegas Rescue Mission	http://www.vegasrescue.org/	702. 932.8170	donations@vegasrescue.org
Nevada	Vietnam Veterans of America	http://www.clothingdonations.org/schedule-a-pick-up/	888.518.Vets	
New Hampshire	Family Outfitters of Families in Transition	http://www.outfittersnh.org/	603.641.6691	
New Hampshire	Salvation Army			
New Jersey	Purple Heart's Pickup Service	http://zc.purpleheartpickup.org/	215.638.1020, 800.338.1448	PA-NJ-donorservices@purpleheartpickup.org
New Jersey	Vietnam Veterans of America	http://www.clothingdonations.org/schedule-a-pick-up/	888.518.Vets	
New Mexico	Vietnam Veterans of America	http://www.clothingdonations.org/schedule-a-pick-up/	888. 518.Vets	
New Mexico	Salvation Army			
New Mexico	Big Brother, Big Sister			
New York	The Bowery Mission	http://www.bowery.org/	212.674.3456	
New York	Finger Lakes Runners Club Shoe Recycling Program	www.fingerlakesrunners.org		
New York	Vietnam Veterans of America	http://www.clothingdonations.org/schedule-a-pick-up/	888. 518.Vets	
North Carolina	Vietnam Veterans of America	http://www.clothingdonations.org/schedule-a-pick-up/	888. 518.Vets	
North Carolina	Durham Rescue Mission	http://www.durhamrescuemission.org/	919. 598.7170	

North Carolina	Mainstay	http://www.mainstayhelp.org/	828. 693.7157	store@mainstayhelp.org
North Carolina	North Raleigh Ministries	http://www.northraleighministries.com/	919.844.6676	
North Dakota	New Life Center of Fargo, ND	http://www.fargonlc.org/	701.235.4453	
North Dakota	Prairie Harvest	http://www.prairieharvest.net/thrift_store.htm	701.795.9704	
Ohio	Vietnam Veterans of America	http://www.clothingdonations.org/schedule-a-pick-up/	888. 518.Vets	
Ohio	AmVets			
Oklahoma	Vietnam Veterans of America	http://www.clothingdonations.org/schedule-a-pick-up/	888.518.Vets	
Oklahoma	Prevent Blindness Oklahoma	http://www.preventblindnessok.org/	405.848.7123	
Oklahoma	Oklahoma Foundation for the Disabled	http://www.okfd.org/	405.842.6636	
Oklahoma	United Cerebral Palsy of Oklahoma	http://www.ucpok.org/	405.759.3562	
Oregon	Seattle Union Gospel Mission	http://www.ugm.org/site/PageServer?pagename=default&cvridirect=true	206.723.0767 Ext. 405	llynch@ugm.org
Oregon	Vietnam Veterans of America	http://www.clothingdonations.org/schedule-a-pick-up-by-state/donate-clothes-in-oregon/	888. 518.Vets	
Pennsylvania	Purple Heart's Pickup Service	http://zc.purpleheartpickup.org/	215.638.1020, 800.338.1448	PA-NJ-donorservices@purpleheartpickup.org
Pennsylvania	Vietnam Veterans of America	http://www.clothingdonations.org/schedule-a-pick-up/	888.518.Vets	
Rhode Island	Big Sisters of Rhode Island	http://www.bbbsos.org/donate_clothing.html	401.921.2434, 877.725.6843	
Rhode Island	Family Service of Rhode island	http://www.familyserviceri.org/donate_inkind.asp	401.831.5522 Ext. 3141	ron@aidsprojectri.org
South Carolina	Children's Chance	http://www.childrenschance.org/	803.254.5996	
South Carolina	Hospice of the Upstate	http://hospicehouse.net/	800.261.8636, 864-224-3358 Ext. 3102	
South Dakota	Volunteers of America	http://www.voa-dakotas.org/		
South Dakota	The Club for Boys in Rapid City	http://www.theclubforboys.com/	605.341.8878	
Tennessee	Vietnam Veterans of America	http://www.clothingdonations.org/schedule-a-pick-up/	888.518.Vets	
Tennessee	Gallatin CARES	http://gallatincares.org/	615.452.1601	

Texas	AmVets			
Utah	Utah Association for Intellectual Disabilities	http://www.uidutah.org/	801.654.8449	
Vermont	Listen Community Services in White River			
Virginia	Purple Heart's Pickup Service	http://zc.purpleheartpickup.org/	877.851.8111, 410.789.7692, 301.277.0063	MD-Donorservices@purpleheartpickup.org
Virginia	Vietnam Veterans of America	http://www.clothingdonations.org/schedule-a-pick-up/	888.518.Vets	
Washington	Salvation Army			
West Virginia	Union Mission	http://wefeedpeople.com/	304.925.0366	
West Virginia	Mountain Mission			
Wisconsin	Vietnam Veterans of America	http://www.clothingdonations.org/schedule-a-pick-up/	888.518.Vets	
Wisconsin	Easter Seals	http://www.eastersealswisconsin.com/	608.257.7780	
Wyoming	Central Wyoming Rescue Mission	http://www.cwrm.org/	307.577.7793	

Shoe Drive for New Shoes

Below is a suggested guide on how to host a shoe drive, for new shoes, at your center. Many organizations in your local area and abroad are in need of shoes, so find an organization that is close to your association's heart and plan accordingly.

1. Develop a goal on to how many new pairs of shoes your association can donate to a non-profit organization.
2. Contact local non-profits and obtain a list of children in need of shoes, with their shoe sizes and gender. At this time, explain the project to them and also give them an estimate on how many shoes your association would be able to contribute.
3. Ask members of your association to choose a child, so they can buy him/her a pair of shoes.
 - a. Families and groups can pair up to contribute to donate a pair of shoes.
 - b. Groups can raise money and give funds to a member of your executive board to purchase the shoes, etc.
4. After all shoes are collected, have your members write a note to each child.
5. Plan a day to visit the local charity and deliver the shoes to the children directly if possible. On that day, if the non-profit allows it, read and volunteer at the center (e.g., guest reader, share your profession with the kids).

Data Collection

On behalf of Zoroastrians Stepping Forward, we would like to thank you very much for your support. Now that the 1st International Day of Service has come to an end, we would appreciate your time in order to help us grow and improve in the years to come.

1. *How many shoes did you collect?*
2. *What organization were the shoes donated to (and please tell us a little about this organization)?*
3. *How many people were on your local leadership team organizing this service project?*
4. *How many people live in your local association? And how many of them came out to participate on this day of service?*
5. *How did you organize the shoe drive? (Did you group it with an existing program or on its own?)*
6. *What unexpected challenge(s) did your group face?*
7. *What could be done to improve the program next year?*
8. *Comments/Suggestions/Questions:*

Please send pictures to zoroastrianssteppingforward@gmail.com .