Dear Potential Donor,

As we anxiously make plans for our upcoming homeless graduating seniors celebration, we would like to share with you some information regarding this event. The Sunshine Committee of the Polk County Schools Learning Support Division will provide graduation gifts for all graduating seniors who are homeless. Our committee will fill a rolling duffle bag with items to help them get by day to day. We realize that graduation is not yet on the minds of anyone; however, our committee needs time to collect and prepare the gifts prior to April 28. Attached is a flyer listing what items are needed this year. Also we are looking for a sponsor for the luncheon that is provided to the students. If possible we are requesting your help in making this project a success. Words cannot express the excitement and appreciation shown on the faces of these students. They are so appreciative of the simpler things in life. Something as simple as a set of towels, sheets and a toothbrush light up their faces as they look through their bags, things that we sometimes take for granted.

We are happy to announce that there will be graduation party exclusively for them complete with a photographer to capture the many memories made that day. those students who attend the celebration will receive a laptop computer to help further their education. Students who accomplish graduation against all odds of homelessness need a moment in the limelight to show them they are an important part of the future. We hope that you will join us in celebrating the accomplishments of these students. All is only made possible from donations, no school funds are used.

Sincerely,

The Sunshine Committee, Polk County Schools Learning Support Division

STUDENTS FIRST
Homeless Graduating Seniors
Against All Odds Celebration 2020
Adopt a Senior Project

Our celebration event involves graduating seniors who are homeless and are in the Polk County School system under the care of the Hearth Project. These seniors may or may not have family members to live with. Some live on their own, in shelters or with friends....they live the best way they can.

They have worked hard and have achieved much in order to graduate on their own.

The Sunshine Committee of the Polk County Schools Learning Support Division provided for the past several year graduation gifts. This will not be an ordinary gift, but will be one to help them eat, live and survive day to day.

This year, due to the generosity of the entire community and many donations, we have already been able to purchase all of the personal hygiene items needed for our homeless seniors (such as shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste) and the rolling duffle bag. Our committee will fill the rolling duffle bag with a basic set of the recommended daily living items, so the students can have what they need as they move from place to place.

We would like to ask the employees of Polk County Schools and the entire community to help us provide the graduating seniors who are homeless with the following needed items:

- New Twin sheet sets preferably solid colors
- Washcloths & Towels
- Pocket size first aid kit
- Pocket size sewing kit
- Small pocket size flashlight w/batteries
- Poncho
- Laundry detergent (Pods only- please)
- Food/Restaurant gift cards in low denominations ($5, $10, $15)
- Monetary donations: Checks payable to Polk County Public Schools ($125 provides everything including the rolling duffle bag)

Mail all donations to NEW ADDRESS: Polk County Schools, Learning Support Division, Sunshine Committee 1860 E. Gibbons Street, Bartow, Florida 33830. Telephone: 863-535-6488 ext 416

These items will help them get by, day to day, as they leave the school system and head out on their own. We want to send them off with hope and the knowledge that people in their community care about them.

We thank you all,
Sunshine Committee, Polk County Schools, Learning Support Division