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### **Gardner-Webb University Sponsors Drive for Children in Foster Care**

Office of University Communications

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# Gardner-Webb University Sponsors Drive for Children in Foster Care

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Office of University  
Communications

September 4, 2019

## *Donations Accepted Sept. 10-16 as Part of Family Weekend*

BOILING SPRINGS, N.C.—Gardner-Webb University welcomes families to campus for Family Weekend, Sept. 13-15. This year, while enjoying the food, fun, football game and worship, the Office of Student Activities is asking students, their families, faculty, staff and the community to think about the thousands of North Carolina children living in foster care.

In partnership with Miss GWU 2019, Sarah Bragdon, the Office of Student Activities is sponsoring a drive for these children. Brad Vaughn, coordinator for Student Activities and Campus Recreation, said donations will be given to “Bags of Hope,” a project of Least of These Carolinas, a non-profit group that provides clothing and other items to foster care children.



Bragdon, of Anderson, S.C., grew up in a family that opened their home to 35 foster children over the years. Her sister is adopted from foster care. During her reign as Miss GWU, she wants to focus her efforts on raising awareness and helping children in the foster care system.

She said Gardner-Webb’s Family Weekend is the perfect time to gather items for children who need to feel valued. “The goal of being a foster family is to love and care for foster children as though they are biological family,” she said. “I believe ‘Bags of Hope’ is doing an incredible service to foster children by providing them with new items, which these children rarely receive, and providing them with a way to transport their belongings, since many of them unfortunately move their things in trash bags. This is a service we can do to show foster children that they are loved and cared for.”

In addition to accepting donations over the weekend, Vaughn invites the community to bring items to Tucker Student Center, beginning on Sept. 10, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Yellow donation bins will be located at the entrance through Sept. 16.

The following items are requested:

- Men's and women's shampoo, deodorant and body wash.
- Men's and women's underwear for teenagers.
- Boy's and girl's jeans sizes 6-12.

[Learn more about the Office of Student Activities.](#)



Sarah Bragdon

*Located in the North Carolina foothills, Gardner-Webb University is a private, Christian, liberal arts university. Gardner-Webb emphasizes a strong student-centered experience and rigorous academics to prepare students to become effective leaders within the global community. Ignite your future at Gardner-Webb.edu.*