

**Project Hope** “If you lose hope, somehow you lose the vitality that keeps life moving, you lose that courage to be, that quality that helps you go on in spite of it all.” –Martin Luther King Jr.

Dear Parents and Students of Collins Hill,

I’m sure everyone’s aware of the situation in Haiti. Project Hope is a project devoted to helping Haiti through this difficult time. Originally, Collins Hill had planned to have a drive collecting various items that they are in need of, but seeing as many leading companies are only taking donations of money or medical supplies, we had to change our drive. Instead, we are now working with Loving Hugs to provide children with comfort during this difficult time. SAFE (Stuffed Animals For Emergencies) is the name of our drive and will be devoted to collecting brand new stuffed animals to help bring a little light into a Haitian child's life. I've seen the smiles a stuffed animal can bring, and in the face of a tragedy such as this, much comfort and many smiles are needed. We will be collecting the stuffed animals in the Volunteer Center.

**VOLUNTEERS WILL RECIEVE ONE HOUR PER BEAR THAT MEETS THESE REQUIREMENTS!**

Loving Hugs criteria for stuffed animals:

- a) Bears must be **brand new** and in excellent condition
- b) Must be soft and cuddly, not stiff
- c) Not smaller than 6” or bigger than 18” tall (they can be a little taller if they are squishy-soft and can pack down
- d) No Beanie Babies
- e) Not animated or talking (battery operated)
- f) No TV cartoon characters (i.e.: Sponge Bob, Sesame Street characters, etc.) Exceptions: soft classic Disney characters like Mickey & Minnie Mouse, Winnie the Pooh, Eeyore; Snoopy, etc.
- g) No sea animals, bugs, or reptiles
- h) Holiday-styled animals with seasonal trimmings removed are OK (snip off Santa hats, Valentine hearts, etc.).

More information is on its way regarding our school collecting money for Haiti. These donations will be directed towards the American Red Cross.

We thank you in advance for your generosity and your willingness to help the people of Haiti in this great time of need.

Sincerely,

*Karen D'Souza*  
*Project Hope*

“Never before has man had such a great capacity to control his own environment, to end hunger, poverty and disease, to banish illiteracy and human misery. We have the power to make the best generation of mankind in the history of the world.”

*President John F. Kennedy*