Want to join the FBB Secular Week of Action Craft-a-Thon? Here’s how.

This year the theme for Secular Week of Action is “A Compassionate Response To Hunger And Homelessness.” Your team can have a direct impact in the lives of those experiencing food and housing insecurity. Our event this year is a combined craft-a-thon and fundraiser. Rally your team to get their craft skills to work! There is a lot of talent among us! (Don’t worry. There are beginner ideas below if you want them.)

Also spread the word far and wide to get sponsors to multiply your impact! Create a team for the fundraiser where your people can sponsor your team members for this craft-a-thon — same as when people sponsor folks for events like charity marathons — and a Facebook event here to share if you are on Facebook. Make sure to add Secular Week of Action as a co-host on your Facebook event so we can help promote and it will be easier for folks to find. Don’t forget to register your event on the Secular Week of Action website!

Craft donations are for Beyond Belief Network teams that do giveaways for people experiencing homelessness. And cash donations will be given as grants to the teams to help fill holes in their distribution stock.

What to do.

1. Join a fundraising team, create a fundraising team, or fundraise on your own.
   a. Join a team here. BBN team members — find your team to join. Individuals feel free to join the FBB team or whatever team is closest to home.
      i. Once you are on the page, click “join a team.” From there you can make your GiveLively account where you will be able to upload a picture, write a short blurb about why you are fundraising for this cause, and make a personal fundraising goal.
      ii. Your personal profile will be added to that team and you can share it far and wide. Folks can donate to you and it will be added to our overall total.
   b. Create a team here. BBN team leaders — create a fundraising team for your group.
      i. Once you are on the page, click “create a team.” From there you can make your GiveLively account, create a team name, and set up a team page with a fundraising goal.
ii. Your team will be added to the fundraiser for this cause and you can share the team page. Folks can join or donate to your team and/or individual team members. Donations will be added to our overall total.

iii. Don’t forget to join your own team!

c. Set up your own fundraiser here. Individuals who are not part of a BBN team or prefer to fundraise on their own — start your own fundraiser.

i. Once you are on the page, click “create my own page.” From there you can set up your own fundraising page and goal.

ii. You can share your page so that folks can donate, and donations will be added to our overall total.

2. Make a commitment to a certain item (ideas and how tos below) and amount that you will create by the end of Secular Week of Action (May 9th).

a. Let Wendy (wendy@foundationbeyondbelief.org) know so she can add your commitment to the event page and your name to the sponsor list on the donation page.

b. Share your commitment and the donation link among your people.

3. Get crafting. Here are some ideas.

a. Washcloths — Austin Humanists at Work give away hundreds of washcloths a year.
   
i. Crochet
   ii. Knitted

b. Hats — Austin Humanists at Work collects hats year round and store them for when they are needed.
   
i. Knitted
   ii. Crochet
   iii. No Sew Fleece

c. Blankets — Even if it is warm during the day it can be chilly at night and blankets double as padding when not needed for warmth. If you decide to make blankets, please make fleece only. Other materials are too heavy, fall apart too easily, and are harder to keep clean. No sew fleece blankets are quick and easy for anyone at any crafting skill level.
   
i. No sew fleece blankets
   ii. No sew, no knot fleece blankets

d. Reusable bags
   
i. From large feed bags bags
   ii. From tshirts

e. Plarn (plastic yarn) ideas (how to make plarn — from Austin Humanists at Work Communications Director Virginia Miller)
   
i. Plarn bag
   ii. Plarn sleeping mat

4. Keep folks updated on your progress. And on May 9th make a final update (making sure to send it to Wendy too) with a picture and final count.
5. Donate your crafts.
   a. Donations to Austin Atheists Helping the Homeless can be sent to:
      Austin AHH
      Attn: P. Session
      PO Box 33973
      San Antonio, TX 78265-3973
   b. Donations to Austin Humanists at Work can be sent to:
      Austin Humanists at Work – Donations
      1815 Beechnut Cove
      Cedar Park, TX 78613
   c. Want to donate to a BBN team closer to home?
      i. You can look for teams on our team page or you can email Wendy who can help.
      ii. Keep in mind that not all BBN teams are doing collections or distributions for homelessness. Check with your local team to make sure they can use your donation before you make your commitment.
      iii. If your local humanist team is not a BBN team yet, tell them about the BBN program and/or tell Wendy about them so she can invite them to join.
      iv. Are you a BBN team that can use craft donations to distribute? Let Wendy know so she can share your address to the crafters.