

HARBRO Cares: TEAM PORTLANDIA



MERCY WORLDWIDE



On Saturday, May 19th the Portland HARBRO team joined forces with the local MERCY Worldwide branch for a monthly event they host called MERCY Night.

Traditionally, MERCY Nights consists of putting together sack meals that are then distributed to the homeless population in Portland. Since funding is extremely limited for the non-profit most of the supplies they use are purchased by the volunteers. In fact, none of the proceeds they bring in ever go to marketing materials or swag – everything is purchased by volunteers (and this is true for the MERCY branches worldwide).

This MERCY Night, however, there was a special buzz amongst the volunteers. Thanks to HARBRO's generous gift of \$1,000.00, the MERCY team was able to purchase items (toothbrush kits, combs, razors, feminine care products, wet wipes, etc.) that we packaged for distribution. With using only \$250.00 we were able to put together 200 packages that were handed out that evening! In addition to these care packages, we were able to do something a little different and very special for the homeless:

we served bean and cheese burritos, rice and freshly-made fruit juices, all prepared right on the spot. The responses from the individuals and families we served was overwhelming. They were already so grateful for a hot meal but when they were handed a care package many left in tears of gratitude.



The MERCY team asked that we share how the remaining funds will be used in the months to come:

The remaining amount of \$700.00 (\$300.00 was used in total for the May 19th MERCY Night after kits and food were made) will go towards purchasing more supplies for care packages for the next two MERCY Nights; it will also go towards covering the cost of any needs that may arise for their annual International Day of MERCY, which is a huge community service event all of the MERCY branches put on all over the world in their local cities. Lastly, \$100.00 (or more if funds allow) will be sent to the over-seeing MERCY branch in Los Angeles; the funds sent here are placed in an emergency account that is used when disaster strikes any of the cities where a MERCY branch is located. In the past these funds have gone towards relief efforts in Haiti, Houston and Nigeria (just to name a few).

“It was an unforgettable night of serving the community with joy, laughters, and compassion. Team HARBRO added an energy and we are incredibly grateful for all they have done for us in partnering to make this city a better place!” – Cesar Limon, Lead Evangelist of Portland International Christian Church and MERCY Ambassador

