



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Fostering Hope Receives Grant from Aqua, an Essential Utilities Company to support Foster-Share Closet initiative

Pottstown, PA – April 7, 2026 – Fostering Hope, an organization passionate about the foster care community, is proud to announce that it has been awarded a \$5,000 grant from Aqua, an Essential Utilities Company, to support its Foster-Share Closet initiative. This funding will enable Fostering Hope to provide tangible resources such as diapers, clothing, toys, hygiene products, and books to youth experiencing foster care, ensuring they feel safe, valued, and supported during transitions.

“We are incredibly grateful to Aqua for their generous support,” said Alyssa Dourte, Co-Founder and Executive Director at Fostering Hope. “This funding will allow us to equip youth experiencing foster care with all of the items they need as they enter care or transition between homes. We’re doing more than providing youth with diapers, clothes, and a new pair of Nikes, we’re providing dignity, confidence, and the support needed for a youth to navigate trauma and thrive. We are so appreciative of this Aqua grant which will support the well-being of some of the most vulnerable children and youth in our communities.”

Funding for this program is provided by Essential Utilities through its Essential Foundation, which seeks to provide essential resources for life in the communities it serves.

“Our commitment to strengthen the communities we serve extends far beyond our utility services,” said Essential Utilities CEO Christopher Franklin. “Through the Essential Foundation, we are proud to partner with organizations like Fostering Hope to help make a meaningful difference in the lives of children. It is truly remarkable to know this contribution is helping provide essential resources to young people during vulnerable times, and I am honored that we can be part of this important initiative.”

By providing these critical resources, Fostering Hope aims to reduce the barriers that stand in the way of people opening their hearts and homes to fostering and to make the transition into the foster care system less traumatic for children. Since its founding in 2018, the organization has been dedicated to comprehensive support, advocacy, and compassionate care to ensure every child experiencing foster care feels valued, cherished, and equipped to thrive. In 2025 alone, Fostering Hope had the privilege of serving youth experiencing foster care over 6,000 times, across 12 chapters of Fostering Hope in 11 counties in Pennsylvania.