

Benefit Baby Shower



Baby Showers Benefit the Families of CRN

What is a Benefit Baby Shower? Hosting a benefit baby shower is a great way to help children and families in need. Invite your friends and family members over to learn more about the mission of Children's Relief Nursery and the life-changing services that Children's Relief Nursery (CRN) offers to families in crisis who are living in North Portland. The shower presents an ideal opportunity for your guests to give without pressure while enjoying themselves at your party.

Your friends, family members and/or co-workers will appreciate hearing about your passion for this cause and will gladly join you in supporting these high-risk children.

How Do I Host a Benefit Shower? CRN will provide you with the tools and support you need to plan and successfully execute your benefit shower including invitation suggestions, a Wish List of the most needed items, CRN program information, hand-outs, an informational video, donation receipts, and staff support.



First Steps

1. **Mark your calendar**—Choose a date and time far enough out to give you plenty of time to make your preparations. Contact CRN’s Volunteer and Resource Coordinator, 503-283-4776, to discuss what type of support and materials you will need.
2. **Send out your invitations**—You can send store bought, hand-made, download a CRN invite from our website or email Evite invitations (www.evite.com). Be sure to include information that Children’s Relief Nursery is the beneficiary of your event and ask guests to bring their checkbook and plan to make a gift to CRN, or bring an item from our Wish List. You should also mention that people can make a donation to CRN even if they can’t make it to your event.
3. **Wish lists & registry**—A fun part of hosting a benefit baby shower is the gift registry. Children’s Relief Nursery has a long list of wishes waiting to be fulfilled by your guests. From diapers and bottles to educational toys and art supplies, you can help collect items that we use at CRN every day with our children. Included in this packet is a Wish List you can copy or guests can view the Wish List at our website, www.crn4kids.org. CRN is also registered at Target Baby Registry, Babies R Us Baby Registry, and Home Depot (see Wish List or visit our website, www.crn4kids.org, for instructions).
4. **Party time**—Have fun! Whichever way you choose to present the case for giving, there ought to be a way that is simple, non-intrusive, and clear for guests to make their donations. A basket with pledge forms and envelopes on the table or a basket or box by the door as guests arrive. CRN will supply you with receipts that your friends can fill out for tax purposes. We encourage you to invite your friends to consider hosting a shower of their own. We will follow up with those guests who request more information about CRN.
5. **Post-Party**—Following the event, you can send or deliver the donations and guest list to CRN. You will probably want to send thank you notes personally to your guests, but CRN staff will send a letter of acknowledgment as well.

That’s all there is to it! It’s a win-win-win kind of event. You win by creating good will with your friends and volunteering to help a great cause; your friends win when they feel good about doing something for children and families at-risk; CRN families win by being supported—with your help—by Children’s Relief Nursery programs.

Wish List



Diapers in sizes: newborn - 5, Pull-ups in sizes M, L, XL, and baby wipes.

Infant formulas: milk-based and soy-based

Children's Clothing: Toddler Clothing (size 18 months – 5T): Sweatsuits (pants/shirts), pants, shirts, sweaters, jackets, underwear, socks, and t-shirts.

Home Health & Safety: Outlet covers, infant/toddler cabinet locks, refrigerator locks, and baby gates. Child size toothbrushes, children's toothpaste, baby and child digital thermometers, infant grooming kits, nail clippers and nail brushes, children's shampoo, fabric Band-Aids, sun screen, and antibiotic ointment.

Misc. Items: White bath towels, twin sheet sets, and crib sheet sets.

Toys and Books: (for ages 3 months to 5 yrs) Board books and children's books in English & Spanish, toys, puzzles, games, ethnically and culturally diverse dolls, child's doll stroller, and a child's grocery cart.

Supplies for Crafts & Sensory Activities: (related to touch, sight, sound, etc.) Easel paper, glue sticks, stickers, pipe cleaners, cotton balls, crayons, markers, water-paint, finger-paint, cans of shaving cream and colored foam soap, bulk foods - flour, beans, noodles, barley, sunflower seeds, child size plastic scoops, and pouring utensils.

[Gift Registries](#)

www.target.com, first name 'Children's', last name 'Relief Nursery'

www.babiesrus.com, first name 'Children's', last name 'Relief Nursery'

www.homedepot.com, last name 'Relief Nursery'



Shower Games

Treasure Hunt

Hide baby paraphernalia or small gifts around your house, or wherever the shower is being held. Equip guests with clues and a map, and you're all set. Depending on the number of guests, people can hunt individually or in teams.

Pins in rice

Take a large bowl and half fill it with dry rice, then take a pack of small gold colored diaper pins and mix them in with the rice. Then each guest in turn, while blindfolded, has to find as many diaper pins as they can in one minute. Make a note of how many safety pins each guest finds. The guest who can find the most diaper pins in one minute is the winner. This is a harder game to achieve than you may think as the safety pins feel very similar to the rice when blindfolded. Be sure to replace all the pins in the bowl of rice before each guest takes part.

Remembering Baby Items on a Tray Game

Place several baby items on a tray. Present the tray to the attendees for 15 seconds. Then hide the tray and have them write down the baby items they remember. The baby shower attendee with the most correct items wins! The tray is then given to Children's Relief Nursery to distribute to families in need.

Instead of putting the items on a tray, place them in a bag (do not use anything sharp) and let each attendee feel in the bag.

The Price is Right Game

Buy 10 to 12 baby items. Get little envelopes and cards from the florist department of grocery store. Write the price of the item on the card and on the envelope write the item name, then seal envelopes. Play it like the tv show - "the price is right." The one that collects the most price cards without going over the amount wins.

What prizes should I give?

Just about anything will do — prizes don't have to be elaborate or expensive. Here are some ideas winners are sure to enjoy:

- Gourmet goodies — flavored vinegars and oils, fancy jars of mustards or preserves, boxes of herbal tea
- Beauty items — small bottles of lotion, bath gel, bars of soap
- Kitchen gadgets — a set of measuring cups or spoons, a fancy vegetable peeler, a garlic press, an egg slicer
- Confections — small boxes of truffles, tins of hard candies, toffees
- Gift certificates — movie theaters, bookstores, restaurants
- Small photo albums or magnetic picture frames