



The Think Big Foundation is a non-profit clothing recycling program that generates financial resources to support mentoring programs for at-risk youth through Big Brothers and Big Sisters of the Ozarks. 100% of the proceeds are used for this charitable purpose.

Think Big Donates Winter Coats!



Through a new collaboration, we were able to deliver approximately 3000 lbs of used coats to *Victory Mission*. *Victory Mission* will be distributing the coats to individuals experiencing homelessness. Pictured are Tommy Hawkins with *Victory Mission* (left) and Jacob Pemberton with the Think Big Foundation.

“The meaning of life is to find your gift. The purpose of life is to give it away.”

William Shakespeare



Happy Holidays!

This holiday season we want you to know how grateful we are to all of our volunteers who give their time at Think Big Foundation to support Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Ozarks. Volunteers are the backbone of the Think Big Foundation and we couldn't do it without you!

The purpose of the Think Big Foundation is to support Big Brothers Big Sisters' local youth mentoring programs. These programs are statistically proven to help break the cycle of poverty for the children involved.

Space utilization at Think Big has been greatly improved thanks to a donation of pallet racking from *Gammon Enterprises*. Better space utilization will allow us increased efficiency which will be converted into dollars to help at-risk kids. Pictured is our pallet racking set-up crew. From left, Byron Pearson, Robert DeVore, and Robert Estes.



Join Us On Social Media

The Think Big Foundation now posts regularly on Facebook, Instagram, & Twitter. To find us and connect:

 "Like" *Think Big Foundation* on Facebook

 Connect on Twitter
@*ThinkBigMO*

 Follow us on Instagram
@*theThinkBigFoundation*



Photo op with staff at the PTA Clothing Bank where we've developed another partnership to supply coats for the winter for families in need.



Think Big Foundation Leads the Pack in Diverting Reusable Clothing From Landfill

As noted in the last newsletter, the EPA reports that the average person discards 70 lbs. of clothing per year. 85% of these materials wind-up in landfills or incinerators, with only a scant 15% entering the recycling stream. Fortunately, in recent years the U.S. has seen a shift in overall recycling activity due to a greater understanding of the impact we are having on the environment. However, it is not commonly understood that nearly every kind of textile has some kind of recycling value as long as it's clean, dry, and free from contamination. The opportunity to engage the community in campaigns to recycle textiles for reuse has never been better. The Think Big Foundation plays an important role in these efforts – through the regular collection of clothing from 54 drop off bins in the Springfield area, area clothing drives, and other initiatives. The Think Big Foundation is non-profit organization and 100% of its proceeds go to Big Brothers Big sisters of the Ozarks.

Give 5 Program

The *Give 5 Program* Class 5 recently visited the Think Big Foundation warehouse. Mark Ringenberg, a Give 5 Class 3 graduate, has been working with volunteers at the warehouse on Tuesday nights. He presented information about how the Think Big Foundation and Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Ozarks work together to help kids at-risk in the Ozarks. This group showed a lot of enthusiasm about the program and several signed on to be regular volunteers for the program.



Here's the new Think Big Foundation truck! We wish to thank our ongoing sponsors - *Don Wessel Honda*, *Ozark Fence Co*, and *Great Southern Bank*. The photo features sponsors *Don Wessel Honda*.



We appreciate the hard work of *Commercial Underwriters* in sorting and matching a massive mountain of donated shoes!

Money Saving Partnership!

We have a new dumpster through a partnership with *Republic Services*. This will allow the Think Big Foundation to save over \$100 per month in disposing of waste items left at our bins. They have also generously agreed to donate 12 large wheeled containers which will be used for in-office clothing drives at area businesses. In addition, they will be hosting a staff wide clothing drive at their location in December.



Thanks to the *Downtown Kiwanis Club* for organizing a volunteer night at Think Big! The *Kiwanis Club* gives members the opportunity to make better the lives of the children in our community. If you would like to organize a volunteer night at the Think Big Foundation for your organization email Tmoles@bigbro.com



A good time was had by all at the first ever Helping Happy Hour hosted by Networking Today International at the Think Big Foundation. The folks pictured above came in and helped us pair donated shoes and then we all enjoyed refreshments and networking in the Think Big Foundation common area. A big thank you to Lindsay Smith for organizing the event and providing refreshments.



New Bin Location! *John Deere Reman Electronics /SRC Logistics* on Division Street



Volunteers from class 5 of the *Give 5 Program* came out to help at our weekly Tuesday volunteer night.

Thanks Pam and Dave Buhr!