

#### CIRCLEOFLOVEXO.ORG

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### HAT NOT HATE

### A MESSAGE FROM BARB

Bullying... we read about it all the time. Some of us may have experienced it first hand in elementary, middle or high school. Today, through social media, bullying has taken on a whole new dimension. What once started in the school yard, has now escalated onto every social platform out there.

Hat Not Hate is an anti-bullying campaign, started in 2018 by Shira Blumenthal, herself a victim of bullying when she was nine. While her passion was spurred on by a personal situation, the problem has spread into an epidemic where victims often experience depression, anxiety and sadly, suicidal behaviors.

Our Circle of Love volunteers embraced this campaign and over the years have donated over 300 blue hats. We will continue to do so as long as the need exists. Hopefully, it won't exist for long!

### ONGOING PROJECTS

The Hat Not Hate Campaign is ongoing all year. Hats should be handmade using any blue yarn and should be at least 75% blue. Sizes range from ages 5 to 18 years approximately 16–20" wide. Styles can be varied to include beanie and slouchy style. This year, hats must be received by August 1. You may send your donations to:

Hat Not Hate PO Box 630 Howell, NJ 07731

All donated hats will be distributed to select schools throughout the country during the month of October which is National Bullying Prevention Month.

In addition to providing hats, the Hat Not Hate organization offers virtual and in-person assemblies as well as curriculum to interested schools. What began as an idea has bloomed into a movement.

Already made your Blue Hats? Not to worry.... you can get a head start on holiday hats and blankets for newborns as well as hospice blankets and shawls.

At this time, we are not in need of any NICU items. We will let you know if that changes.





# BLUE HAT PATTERNS

There are several blue hat patterns (knit and crochet) listed on the following website:

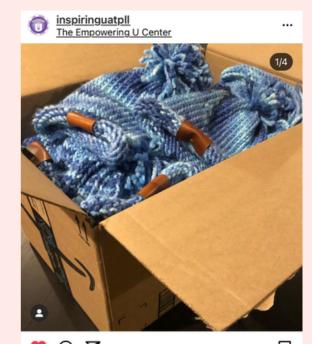
https://hatnothate.org/wpcontent/uploads/2022/01/HNH\_Patterns.pdf

If you have a favorite pattern of your own, please feel free to use it!

To learn more about Hat Not Hate organization and the many programs they provide, visit their website:

https://hatnothate.org/about-us/

Thank you for helping us reach their goal of 5,000 Blue Hats!





inspiringuatpII Hats are all boxed up to give to @circleoflovexoinc where they will be send to @hat\_not\_hate!

circleoflovexoinc Awesome!!! Thanks so much for being a part of this wonderful anti bullying campaign. Always always always "be kind"!





### **OUR NEXT ISSUE WILL FEATURE**

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED WITH CIRCLE OF LOVE



Contact us via email at circleoflovexo@gmail.com or CircleOfLoveXO.org

## **MAKING A DIFFERENCE**

A MESSAGE FROM THOSE WE HAVE HELPED

