

# **Declutter for a Cause**

### **Transform Your Space and Give Back!**

Decluttering is not just about tidying up—it's a powerful way to improve your mental well-being, reduce stress, and make a difference in your community. By thoughtfully donating items you no longer need, you can turn your organization efforts into an act of kindness.

## **Benefits of Decluttering**

Clearing out clutter can have a significant impact on your health and well-being by:

- Reducing stress and anxiety
- Boosting productivity and focus
- Feeling in control of your surroundings
- Helping others by donating gently used items to those in need

# **Decluttering for Your Mental Health**

Living in a cluttered space can take a toll on your mental health. Regularly clearing your environment helps foster a sense of calm and can lead to longterm improvements in mood and mental clarity.

#### **How to Get Started**

Not sure how to begin decluttering? Use these tips to get started:

- 1. Focus on one area at a time, like a desk or a single drawer.
- 2. Apply the "one-year rule": If you have not used an item in a year, it may be time to let it go.
- 3. Sort your items into categories: Keep, Donate, Recycle, Trash.

### **Donating**

Consider giving a second life to the items you no longer use. Donations to local charities and shelters can benefit your community while reducing waste. Common items to donate include:

- Clothing and shoes
- Books and toys
- Furniture and household items
- Unopened toiletries and non-perishable food

### **National Donation Organizations**

You can donate clothes and other items to well known organizations like Goodwill, The Salvation Army, and Habitat for Humanity ReStores, which use proceeds to fund community programs. Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA) offers free pick-up services, while American Red Cross and local shelters accept donations for those in need. For professional clothing, consider Dress for Success, which supports those entering the workforce.

Local options include community centers, schools, and churches, which often host donation drives. Look for smaller thrift stores in your area that support specific causes for an even greater local impact.

#### **Sources**

- Be Mindful of Clutter
- Buried in Clutter