

Things to consider when collecting things to donate or bring with you to Ghana:

1. **“Ship-ability”**(Think about how much it will cost to ship, whether or not it will make it halfway around the world in one piece, etc.)
2. **Relevance** (Many things that we may consider essential to daily life are not needed in Africa, make sure what you are sending is genuinely needed and will truly make the lives’ of those who will receive the items better)
3. **Sensibility** (if an item, such as diapers or tissues are sent, they will be used for a very short time and will most likely not be able to be replaced – it may not be worth the effort or cost). Ask yourself these questions, “Will this make one person happy or many people?”, “Will this make someone happy for just a minute or is it something that will have a lasting effect?”

Many things are much cheaper if bought in Ghana as opposed to the US. In short, don’t waste money shipping items that would be less expensive if bought in Ghana. In most cases monetary donations just make more sense.

We recommend only collecting and shipping items that are widely unavailable in Ghana. Here are a few suggestions:

- Underwear (for kids and adults)
- Books (try to focus on informational texts that are applicable to Ghanaians’ daily life or that would broaden their knowledge of the world. Most children’s books from the US are not relevant to the lives of children in Ghana.
- Small, simplistic toys (nothing requiring batteries or anything that is easily broken)
- Solar lights (Ghana has an extremely unpredictable supply of electricity, but they do have plenty of sun!)
- Cloth diapers/pins
- medical supplies /Vitamins/ band aids/ Tampons
- nail clippers
- potato peelers

Please visit our website futureleadersofghana.org for information on where to ship items