

Dear Students,

This year, as we learn about multiculturalism, I want us (as a class) to take into account the very real issues that surround us in our own communities and learn to give back to our own diverse and multicultural environments. For this reason, I have chosen Lotus House as a charitable organization to focus on this year.

Lotus House is a charity that focuses on homeless women, children, and teens. Their mission states that they wish to “improve the lives of homeless women, youth and children by providing sanctuary, support, education, tools and resources that empower them to improve the quality of their lives on every level, achieve greater self sufficiency, and build safe, secure lives.” You can find more information about them at [lotushouse.org](http://lotushouse.org)

Now, although I would love it if the giving spirit took you all for the sake of it, I will be offering letter grade incentives for students who bring any 3 of these items in one semester.

**Three** of these unopened items to donate to Lotus House will earn you an A on 1 homework assignment of my choice. Please, bring your items in a bag with your name and period stapled, along with the items that you brought to my classroom before school to receive credit. For members of the NEHS, donations will amount to 2 points for each 3 items (for a maximum of 6 points)

Thank you for all that you accomplish as you become responsible citizens of our community,

Ms. Alonso

### **Lotus House Wish List**

For Babies:

- Baby Wipes
- Diapers
- Baby Blankets
- Infant Toys (unopened)

For Youth and Teens:

- Notebooks (at least 3)
- Pens
- Packages of Paper
- Spanish/English/French books or dictionaries

For the house:

- Paper towels
- Lysol Wipes
- Cleaning solution(s)
- Batteries (AA, C, D)
- Package of Trash bags