

TEACHER'S GUIDE  
**Primary Source Document Collection**  
MISSION 5: "Up from the Dust"

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**President Hoover Encourages Private Charity**

*President Herbert Hoover wrote the following letter to 10-year-old Barbara McIntyre of Columbus, Ohio after she wrote to him 1931 to report that she and her friends planned to collect old blankets, clothing, shoes, and food to send to him in Washington, for distribution to the poor.*

The White House  
Washington  
November 19, 1931

My dear Barbara,

I have your very sweet letter of November 10th. It is a beautiful undertaking. I would suggest, however, that instead of sending the contributions which you collect to me, that you should distribute them to those in need in your own locality.

Yours faithfully,  
Herbert Hoover

Source: Stanley Weintraub and Rodelle Weintraub, eds., *Dear Young Friend: The Letters of American Presidents to Children*, Mechanicsville, PA: Stackpole Books, 2000.  
<http://herb.ashp.cuny.edu/items/show/1373>

