EANING INTO A STRONG PLACE TO LAUNCH

Practical Ways to Support a Mama You Love

Things You Can Bring or Send	
 Hand cream Cozy blanket or prayer shawl Quality tissue with lotion Spiral notebook or journal and pen Gift cards to hospital cafeteria, local restaurant, a favorite coffee shop, or Grubhub/UberEats Slippers Magnetic picture frame with inspirational quote 	 Nice water bottle with straw Dry shampoo or face mist for quick refresh Portable charger Snacks (include something sweet, something savory, and something fresh like washed and cut fruit or veggies) Ear buds and gift membership to Audible, Headspace, or Pandora Plus Good book
Things You Can Do	
 Keep reaching out and reassure her that she doesn't need to respond but that you are there for her Make a plan to go on a walk, even if just around the hospital grounds Offer to come over so she can take a break (or even just a shower) Ask if it would be helpful to take on the role of point person to share updates with a family/friend group Offer to sit with her at rounds or doctor appointments to take notes Drop off a large cooler on her front porch to hold groceries and/or delivered meals 	 Place an order for "Grief groceries" with Instacart or a local grocery store with a variety of healthy foods and comfort foods, along with kid-friendly staples for any siblings at home Organize a meal train with one of the free online resources and send it to friends and family for easy signups Offer to bring her kids along on outings you're already planning or for playdates at your house Set up a rotation for people to help with household tasks like mowing, walking the dog, and shoveling snow
Things You Can Say	
 I'm happy to listen if you want to talk You're doing a great job You can do hard things How are you doingreally? Thank you for sharing with me and allowing me to be on this journey How can I pray for you? You are not alone 	 Can I bring you coffee or lunch? I'm happy to come sit with you or drop it off I just want to let you know I'm thinking of you I don't know what (child's name)'s future will look like, but I know she will grow into the best version of herself with you as her mother

"Human relationships are primary in all of living. When the gusty winds blow and shake our lives, if we know that people care about us, we may bend with the wind but we won't break" – Fred Rogers