

Holiday Hopes



THE HOUSE
of the Good Shepherd

1550 Champlin Ave., Utica, NY 13502

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHEN WILL I RECEIVE MY ASSIGNED WISH?

The Development and Communications Office will send you the name and wish list of child(ren) by Friday, November 17.

WHAT DOES THE “FAMILIES IN NEED” LEVEL MEAN?

More and more local families are in need of our help. These families are working so hard to provide a safe environment for their children but simply do not have the resources. Families ask for simple items like blankets, towels, and dishes—a list will be provided for you.

WHAT GIFTS DO THE CHILDREN ASK FOR ON THEIR WISH LISTS?

Each child completes a wish list with the help of a staff member. Wish levels are \$85 for Residential Children, and \$25 for Children in Foster Care and other community services programs.

WHY DO SOME CHILDREN ASK FOR A GIFT CARD?

Many of our children are older and/or are preparing to live independently. This gives them an opportunity to make their own purchases. Also, many of the children are saving their pennies to get something bigger, and a gift card helps them complete that purchase.

WHAT IS A PROGRAM WISH?

A Program Wish is a \$25 gift that children share at their program site such as a board games, DVDs, arts and crafts, or toiletries. Program wishes are also a great way for your company or organization to support Holiday Hopes. Please contact us should you like to arrange for gift drive tags.

WHAT IS THE SPIRIT OF JOSH FUND?

The Spirit of Josh Fund is dedicated to changing children's lives by encouraging health, wellness, and activities. This Fund was created by the family of Josh Zbytniewski, who passed away in January, 2016, to honor his memory and support a cause close to his heart.

WHAT IF I WANT TO PURCHASE ONE BIG GIFT FOR ALL THE CHILDREN TO SHARE?

Sure! A gift that children share at their program site such as a TV, DVD player, or gaming console is always something the children love! (Please call to inquire about these items.)

I WOULD LIKE TO HELP BUT I CAN'T SHOP...

You can still participate with financial support. We will designate a shopper to purchase gifts for a child with your sponsorship.

WHAT IF I WAS ASSIGNED A WISH, BUT CAN NO LONGER COMPLETE THE SHOPPING?

Please call 315.235.7771 to tell us as soon as you know. Wishes are assigned to specific sponsors. We don't want to disappoint any of the children. Please alert us so we can make alternative arrangements.

WHAT ABOUT A NOTE FOR THE CHILD?

It's an extra treat for a child to receive a note with their gift. A note can be a simple greeting or an explanation of why you chose to be a sponsor.

SHOULD GIFTS BE WRAPPED?

PLEASE DO NOT WRAP YOUR GIFTS. We must check each gift for accuracy and safety.

SHOULD I INCLUDE THE GIFT RECEIPT?

Yes, please do. This assists us in recording your generous support and identifying your gift.

WHEN & WHERE CAN I DROP OFF MY GIFT?

Gift drop-off dates are December 7-15 at the Development & Communications Office, located at 620 French Road, between the hours of 11:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Monday-Friday.

Have questions or are you interested in volunteering with Holiday Hopes?

Call Jenna Webb at 315.235.7771 or email jennaw@hgsutica.com

Visit our website at ChangingChildrensLives.com for more information, or to donate online.