



"Adopt a child": Participate in Kids Crossing's 2007 Holiday Gift Drive

Dear Potential Holiday Gift Drive Participant...

Can you believe that it is already the time of year to start planning for the quickly approaching Holiday season?

It will be here (and the snow!) before we know it!! So, already in September, you are being contacted as a potential participant in Kids Crossing's 2007 Holiday Gift Drive for children being served by the foster care system. Last year, thanks to your help, we were able to provide gifts to over 600 children & families--gifts specifically provided based on each unique child's/family's wish list.

Details for the 2007 Holiday Drive include:

General Information:

Kids Crossing is a non profit child placement agency celebrating our 15th year of providing foster/adoptive services to children, ages 0-18, who have been abused or neglected in Colorado Springs, Denver & Pueblo. Started BY foster parents in 1992, especially FOR foster parents, we have grown to become the largest agency of our kind in Colorado. Our website www.kidscrossing.com provides a great overview of our history, services, children & families and gives information on becoming a licensed foster parent as well.

Over the past years, we have committed to providing gifts to each and every child in our foster care system--and have only been able to do this with help from people like you. "Santa" then distributes the gifts directly to the children (by name) at our Christmas parties in December (always before Christmas Day). This is an amazing experience as there are 100's of families and as you can imagine, very excited children (many feeling like this is their most favorite day of the year!). Last year we were lucky to have representatives from T-Mobile and Pikes Peak Association of REALTORS come to experience the excitement first hand!

Our Holiday Gift Drive is for our foster children, however, we want the experience to be what

YOU and/or your family, business, church wants it to be. For example, if you'd like to wrap the gifts, deliver them yourselves, participate in our Christmas party (#'s are limited), have pictures emailed to you after the event, and so on--please ask! We want you to be as involved as you would like to be and have it be as meaningful and personable as possible.

If you sign up to adopt a child/children, we depend on your follow through! So, with that being said, please only participate if you are fully committed. If you are unsure how many children your business will be able to adopt, please sign up for fewer and you can always increase the numbers later on.

If you adopt a child, you will be given a tag with the child's first name, gender, age and foster home. Additionally, there will be a few items listed that the child would like for Christmas. Please do not feel like you need to buy him/her everything on the list--although this is up to your discretion.

We recommend that you spend around the same amount on the children as Santa will be delivering the gifts to them at our December Christmas Party (ie. They are opening them around other children). With this being said, suggested amount spent on each child is 20-25\$.

All donated gifts must have the (provided) tag (with the child's name, age, foster home, wish list) securely attached. It is helpful to have gifts given to Kids Crossing in gift bags (instead of wrapping paper) just so staff members can ensure that mistakes have not been made (ie. A 6 year old being given a present that was meant for a 6 month old).

Important Dates:

October 1: Suggested deadline in providing the following information-

- #1 Name of individual/business/church interested in participating
- #2 Contact person and contact information for that individual (Email is great!)
- #3 How many children you would like to help this year
- #4 If you have any preferences (ie. Age groups, gender, families, et cetera) or special requests.
- #5 How you would like the children's wish lists... Ie. In Excel format, on Holiday ornaments(paper) that we make, on your own Holiday ornaments that we can fill out, et cetera.

#6 If you have any time frames of your own that we need to know about. Ie. Your church puts up the Christmas tree the Sunday after Thanksgiving, thus, you need the ornaments decorated and sent to you prior to that date.

1st Week in November: This is our staff's deadline for providing the children's wish lists for me. After this time, I can start assigning specific children to specific donors.

Month of November: Depending on your time frame, November is the month that you can request your gift tags to be given to you.

December: The date of our Christmas party has not been secured thus far. We typically have our party the **2nd week of December and request gifts to be brought/picked up by the 1st week of December** (giving us a few days to ensure each child has a present and they are organized) by the time of the party.

I hope this has been helpful information for you as you decide if you can adopt a child again this year! Please feel free to contact me with any questions or if you need more information

(Contact info below).

Thanks so much for considering this request.

Sincerely:

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"Think Foster Care, Think Kids Crossing"
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