

2008-2009 Holiday Wish List

Gifts that Children and Teens Love to Get



- * Books for children, pre-school to grade six (*unwrapped, new*)
- * Educational toys and gifts for children (*unwrapped, new*)
- * Exercise videos such as hip hop abs and Yogi ball
- * School uniform clothing required by Hartford Public Schools in children's sizes 6-20, white Polo shirts and khaki pants for boys and girls
- * Warm coats, sweaters and sweatshirts for children (*all ages*) (*new*)
- * Gifts of warmth (*unwrapped, new*) for children

Gifts that Adults and Families Need and Appreciate

- * Gifts of warmth (*unwrapped, new*) for adults: mittens, gloves, scarves, hats and socks (*LOTS of men's cotton sports socks*)
- * Warm coats, sweaters and sweatshirts adults (*new*)
- * Toiletry items for teens and adults (*unwrapped, unused*)
- * Stationery and stamps
- * Gift cards to department stores and grocery stores; pre-paid phone cards
- * Sheet sets (*30-45 twin-sized*), towel sets (*30-45*), heavy blankets, throws and comforters
- * Children's furniture: changing table, potty seat, cribs, high chairs (*new, or gently used*)



Foods that Everyone Enjoys during the Holidays



- * Specialty foods for Thanksgiving baskets for families
- * Turkeys and hams (*baked or frozen*) and cakes, pies, cookies and candies for Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years Day holiday meals
- * Holiday cookies for children's parties

Handy Items for Year-round Use in Hands On Hartford Programs

- * MANNA Food Pantry: non-perishable foods/staples, baby formula, diapers, cleaning supplies
- * MANNA Food Pantry and Peter's Retreat: personal hygiene supplies (*shampoo, deodorant, nail files, hair brushes, combs, razors, bar soap*)
- * Center for Youth Family Resource Centers and Peter's Retreat: New computer equipment (*IBM compatible*)



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- ✧ Center for Youth Family Resource Centers: HD-compatible television set
- ✧ Peter's Retreat: Industrial-strength vacuum
- ✧ MANNA and Peter's Retreat kitchens: Professional-grade kitchen knives; professional-grade blender
- ✧ Peter's Retreat kitchen: Glass (Pyrex-like) dishes with lids
- ✧ Peter's Retreat and Community Engagement Projects: Lawnmower, weed whacker, shovels, rakes, hoes, hand-held garden tools, work gloves and paint brushes
- ✧ Peter's Retreat: Rug steam cleaner/shampooer
- ✧ All direct service programs: Cash donations for ongoing (year-round) provisions for food, shelter, clothing and supplies

Fun and Festive Holiday Volunteer Opportunities

- ✧ Opportunities to "adopt a family" and provide for specific family's holiday needs and wishes
- ✧ Musicians/choral groups to provide entertainment on Thanksgiving (12:00 noon on Thurs., Nov. 27), Christmas (12:00 noon on Thursday., Dec. 25) and New Year's (12:00 noon on Thursday., Jan. 1, 2009)
- ✧ Participate/mix and mingle/prepare and serve meals on Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's
- ✧ Prepare and/or deliver gift baskets to home-bound seniors and families with children at Thanksgiving and Christmas
- ✧ Help residents at AIDS residence to write and send holiday cards plus shop for, wrap and mail gifts
- ✧ Assist at Center for Youth Toy Shop - gift shopping, sorting, wrapping and transporting
- ✧ Holiday parties - Play Santa Claus, Mrs. Claus or an elf
- ✧ Bake holiday cookies (parties scheduled early to mid December)
- ✧ Assist with holiday field trips (late December)
- ✧ Sponsor/assist at Three King's Day parties (early January 2009)



Our Big Bodacious WISH for the Coming Year!



A new or nearly-new cargo van to be used for: transporting food from the regional food bank to program sites each week; weekly distribution of meals from central agency kitchen to two congregate meal sites at senior centers and for delivery of meals to homebound seniors; moving furniture and equipment; and carrying tools and materials to engagement project sites (schools, parks, non-profit agencies, etc.).

Please give us a call to be sure that your specific in-kind donation is needed. Staff can then make arrangements with you to receive them.

Center for Youth – Betances School 860.695.2952 Peter's Retreat 860.247.4140
 Center for Youth – Sanchez School 860.524.6842 Central Office 860.728.3201
 MANNA Basic Needs Programs 860.246.6757 *Thank you!*