



Adopt - a- Family for the Holidays Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is the Adopt-a-Family project?

A: RESOURCE hosts this project as a way to give the families we serve a chance to celebrate the holidays and find hope in their lives. We look for individuals, families, churches, and companies who wish to adopt or sponsor a family for the holidays.

Q: Who are the families participating in the project?

A: Families that will benefit from the Adopt-a-Family project are low-income families with single or double-parent households that are using RESOURCE services in employment, training, chemical health, or mental health to achieve greater personal, social, and economic success. A RESOURCE counselor has approved their need and helped them complete a Wish List. Families range in size from 2 members to over 10 family members.

Q: Who can participate as a donor?

A: Adopting or Sponsoring a Family for the holidays is a great opportunity for individuals, families, church groups, groups of friends, and companies. Anyone who finds themselves wanting to bring hope to others during this holiday season. We can accommodate companies that would like to be matched with multiple families or matched with a large number of individuals for a company "Giving Tree."

Q: How do I get involved?

A: Contact Samantha Sleeman at ssleeman@resource-mn.org or 612-752-8030 for more information or to sign up to be matched with a family. You will be asked what family size you feel most comfortable with and if you'd be willing to meet the family if they are open to meeting the donor. Also, groups and families are welcome to adopt more than one family if desired. You may also choose to sponsor a family if you do not wish to purchase gifts yourselves.

Q: Is this tax-deductible? Can we get a receipt?

A: You will receive a letter thanking you for your gift and recognizing what you donated to our organization. RESOURCE is a 501c3 nonprofit which makes your donation tax-deductible.

Q: Are there any spending guidelines?

A: We have not set spending guidelines as all of the families we serve are different sizes and have differing needs. On average spending could range from \$50 to \$100 per family member. But again, that could vary based on the family as well as the donor. Families are told not to expect to receive everything on their Wish Lists.

Q: How do I know what to buy?

A: A Holiday List is given to donors about each family that describes the family members and their own wants or needs this holiday season.

Q: We already have some of the items on our family's Wish List. Is it appropriate to give them used items?

You are able to donate your gently used items to the family if they are all in good condition. However, we ask that you not pass these on as gifts or count them as the family member gift as everyone deserves something new.

Q: To wrap or not to wrap?

A: If you would like to wrap gifts as part of your experience please feel free to do so, wrapping them is not a requirement and if you choose not to we will have the ability to wrap them before giving them to the family. When wrapping please either color code or write which family member they go to. Names may not be available for all families.

Thank you for bringing hope and sparkle to families in need this holiday season.

If you'd like to be matched with a family in need or if you have additional questions, please contact Samantha at ssleeman@resource-mn.org or 612-752-8030.





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Q: Are there any deadlines I need to know?

A: The following are registration and Gift Delivery Deadlines, they are negotiable so please feel free to ask more about them if you have concerns.

Registration Timeline- We are hoping to do most of the matching before Thanksgiving Day, so if you are interested in adopting or sponsoring a family please act soon and contact us. We almost always need donors after Thanksgiving too so don't hesitate to check in with us to see if there are still families available.

Gift Deadline- We are asking that the gifts are given to our agency by **December 16** so that we have the week before the holidays to distribute them.

Q: How do I get the gifts to you?

A: Gifts can be delivered to our main location at 1900 Chicago Avenue in Minneapolis. If you have adopted more than one family or are unable to transport gifts please contact us to see if a pick-up would be an option for you. Either way - we would like to receive the gifts on or before December 16. Our building hours at 1900 Chicago are from 7:30 to 5, Monday -Friday.

Q: How do the gifts get to the families?

A: Once we have received the gifts from you they are distributed to the programs that the families are involved with and are either given to them at holiday events where all families were matched or directly to the individual families receiving services. In 2013, we were able to match and successful distribute gifts for 145 families.

Q: Can we meet the family?

A: If you would like to meet the family please inform of this when you inquiry so that you can be matched with a family that is open to meeting the donor(s). Please understand ~ it is often very hard for people to acknowledge that they need help or can't provide for their family so meeting the person that is helping them seems intimidating or makes them feel ashamed.

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