



www.celebrationofexcellence.org

Interfaith Children's Movement "Celebration of Giving" Appeal to Help Youth in Foster Care *Support youth in foster care by donating gift cards.*

The Interfaith Children's Movement and Gift for a Child, Inc. are partnering to honor Georgia youth in foster care who are graduating from high school and college this year **by providing \$25 gift cards** to these youth during the Celebration of Excellence graduation. This year, the celebration will be held at **6:00 p.m. on July 1, 2014, at the Westin Peachtree Plaza**. We are asking the interfaith community to join us in recognizing the academic accomplishments of these youth by donating gift cards during our ***Celebration of Giving*** campaign, in recognition of the 22nd anniversary of the *Celebration of Excellence*.

Helping graduating youth in foster care prepare for life is an investment that provides many rewards. Your support can help them successfully transition to adulthood. We recognize the obstacles that these youth face as young adults. Currently,

1. only 50% of youth in foster care will graduate from high school;
2. 30% of youth who age out of foster care will be homeless within a year of graduating from high school; and
3. only one out of every 10 youth in foster care will enroll in college.

From now through June 23, 2014, please participate in the ***Celebration of Giving***. We invite you to involve your family, friends and faith community. ***Please consider being part of the Celebration of Giving by having your faith community or organization sponsor 20 gift cards each in \$25 increments. Our goal is to collect 300 gift cards by June 23, 2014. The gift cards should be from statewide merchants such as Wal-Mart, Target, Dollar General or Family Dollar where graduates can purchase food, clothing, school supplies or other basic needs at lower costs.***

We understand that everyone cannot give at the 20-card level. Therefore, we have levels of giving:

- Individual effort: 1 to 4 gift cards @ \$25 each
- Team effort: 5 to 15 gift cards @ \$25 each
- Faith Community/Organization effort: 15 to 20 cards @ \$25 each

About the Celebration of Excellence:

The Celebration of Excellence is an annual graduation event and scholarship program hosted by community partners to recognize the educational achievements of youth in Georgia's foster care system who are graduating from high school, GED programs, vocational school or college. As we celebrate the 22nd anniversary of this event, we couldn't think of a better way to serve these youth than by focusing on ***our Celebration of Giving*** appeal. Please contact Pamela Perkins Carn, Interfaith Children's Movement, at 770-498-2141 / info@interfaithchildrensmovement.org for more information.



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CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE ("COE") GIFT CARD DONATION

- A. I, _____, am donating ____ cards at \$25 each or making a donation of _____ dollars for my COE gift card donation.
- B. My team raised _____ cards at \$25 each or a donation of _____ dollars for the COE Gift Card Campaign for Georgia's graduating youth in foster care.
- C. Our faith community, _____, held a special COE Gift Card event on _____ and raised _____ dollars for Georgia's graduating youth in foster care.
- D. Our faith community, _____, held a COE Gift Card Campaign from _____ to _____ and raised _____ dollars for Georgia's graduating youth in foster care.
- E. Our faith community, _____, is donating ____ number of gift cards in \$25 increments for Georgia's graduating youth in foster care for the COE Gift Card Campaign.

PERSONAL OR FAITH COMMUNITY INFORMATION

Name: _____

Faith Community: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Please **make your check payable to the fiscal agent**
for the Celebration of Excellence gift card program:

Gift for a Child, Inc.

Memo: Celebration of Excellence 2014

Please **mail your completed form and check/gift cards** by June 23, 2014 to:

Interfaith Children's Movement, Inc.

***P. O. Box 54149
Atlanta, GA 30308***