YWCA Holiday Toolkit for Giving

During this 2021 holiday season, the YWCA of the Harbor Area recognizes the challenges faced with the COVID-19 pandemic. Our YW prides itself on its Holiday Program, which benefits members of our community in need. Here are the programs we offer during the Holidays, which all rely on special donors like you:

Why should I help?
- Elena is one of the thousands of women of her generation who finds themselves caring for grandchildren as well as parents and the burden is heavy and even more so during the COVID-19 pandemic. The responsibility to support and care for three generations is significant. She came to the YWCA of the Harbor Area through a temporary job program and found a community. She now has a stable income with a job she finds fulfilling, access to information and programs and people who care deeply that she is healthy and progressing.

Thanksgiving Turkey Giveaway:
- We secure turkeys and baskets and give them to low-income households so that everyone can have a special Thanksgiving meal.
- Our goal this year is to provide 50 (or more) turkey baskets.
- In addition, we are offering approximately 100 premade meals that give Thanksgiving to those who do not have an oven, and cannot prepare the meals themselves.
- Distributions are scheduled for November 23rd and 24th

Breakfast with Santa:
- When: Saturday, December 11, 2021
- A distanced, mask wearing walk-by event, where over 250 community children will have a chance to receive breakfast to go, see Santa and get a special gift and book from him and his elves.
- We collect over 250 toys and books around the $10-$15 price ranges and books from individual and corporate sponsors.

Adopt-a-Family:
- We recognize even more the need for this program this year. However, we will be suggesting that instead of gifts that gift cards be presented to individuals and families in need.
- Because of COVID-19, gift cards or money for gift cards would still provide families with a Christmas season.
- With the help of individual and corporate sponsors, we adopt needy families in our community for the Christmas season. Sponsors would still receive their adopted family’s needs list and instead of gifts, they would provide the equivalent in gift cards.
- Last year we successfully adopted over 50 families with generous sponsors. We hope to help more families this year.
- It has always been our goal to assist families who are struggling, but are making an effort to empower themselves by being involved through several of our programs such as our Childcare, Food Distribution, ENCOREplus, Second Chances Voucher Program, Strive Digital Computer Skills classes, and others.
Some Easy Tips on How You Can Help This Season!

- Donate a turkey or a dinner meal gift card!
- Adopt-a-Family! An average family of four can cost you as little as $200! Instead of actual gifts, because of COVID-19 restrictions, we suggest the same program; only offer gift cards to the families that would otherwise not have a holiday season. This donation truly makes a difference for a family in need. This program can be the difference between a joyous Christmas and not having one at all.
- Donate gift cards.
- Donate a toy and/or a book for Breakfast with Santa or needed supplies.
- Any monetary gift is welcome and put to good use for the families.
- Team up with a friend, co-worker, or a family member to support one or more of our Holiday Programs!
- Hold a toy drive for us!

Thank you in advance for any contribution that you are able to make this year. Please remember that the Holiday Season is a time for giving and our staff, community, families, and children truly appreciate your generosity and support.

Although we are still facing a challenged economy, there are still simple and small ways to give this Holiday Season.

Thank you for supporting this valuable program.

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