



Donator FAQ's

1. What is the Holiday Giving /Sponsor-A-Family Program?

The Holiday Giving Program matches community members and businesses with children and families that are involved with the Division of Children, Youth and Families and are in need of assistance during the holidays. As the donator, you provide gifts and/or other items to a child or family in need.

2. Do I pick the family I donate to?

Once you sign up on the Jefferson County website the holiday coordinator will match you with a child(ren) or family based on the preferences you provided. Once you have been matched you will receive a form with the first name, gender, age, wish list and needs list for each child or member of the family.

3. Is it possible that the gifts I donate will go to someone who has harmed their child?

There are many unique situations that bring a family to be involved with the Division of Children, Youth and Families. Many of our children who are at high risk are living with relatives or in foster care. Our hope is that this program will provide many families in various situations the opportunity to celebrate the holidays.

4. How will I know if the family is really needy? What if they have an ipod on their wish list?

Each family and child that is matched is referred by their caseworker. Caseworkers are asked to only refer families who might not otherwise be able to provide gifts for their family, and who are not receiving help from another agency, so that we can meet the needs of as many children and families as possible.

Each individual is asked to provide a needs and a wish list. Even though a child may NEED winter boots he/she may also desire the latest toy or gadget, the same as their peers and classmates. It is up to you what you wish to buy off the list or not.

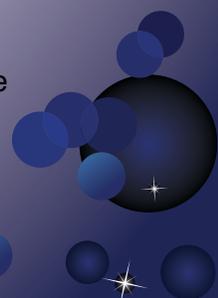
5. Do I need to buy everything on the list?

How much should I spend?

The list is provided as a guide with suggestions on things the child or family may need or like. You are not required to buy items from the list. You should expect to spend around \$50-75 per person on the list. If this amount is higher than you are able to contribute, please consider asking your family, friends or office to get involved and spread the spirit of giving. There are also other ways you can help, please see #10 for more ideas on how you can give.

6. Is it ok to give used or second-hand items?

Because it is likely that the gifts you give will be the only gifts the child or family receives, we ask that only new items be gifted. However, if the family had an item such as a vacuum or dresser on the list and you have a gently used one to donate, that is appreciated.



7. Can I wrap the gifts?

You may wrap the gifts. Please make sure they are CLEARLY labeled with the name and the FAMILY NUMBER so that they are sure to be delivered to the correct person. We also appreciate any donations of gift wrap and gift bags to wrap gifts that are donated unwrapped.

8. Can I deliver the gifts to the family?

Many donators ask to meet the family; however, due to confidentiality and privacy laws this is not possible. We make every effort to obtain a personalized thank you note from each family that will be mailed to the donator, though that is not always feasible. The gift delivery will be December 2nd-4th to the Human Services Building: 900 Jefferson County Pkwy.

9. Are my gifts eligible for tax receipts?

Yes, you will receive a letter in the mail confirming your gift donation. We ask that you hang on to this letter and any receipts from your purchases.

10. I want to do more, what else do families need?

Most families appreciate gift cards to grocery stores, Wal-Mart or Target. Household items like toilet paper, cleaning supplies and toiletries cannot be purchased with food stamps and are also appreciated. Teens appreciate gift cards for music or for Wal-Mart or Target. In addition to gifts, we will also be collecting non-perishable food items so that families can also receive a bag of food if they are in need. We also have many families that become involved with us late in the season and have not been matched with a donator. We will be collecting additional gifts for these families.

**** If you would like to do a general gift drive or food drive please contact Korina Keating at kkeating@jeffco.us or 303.271.4103 to coordinate****

Thank you for your contribution to the Sponsor-a-Family Program. It is because of the generous community that we are able to make the 2013 Holiday Season a little brighter for so many families in need.

