

**ATTENTION GENEROUS COMMUNITY MEMBERS. . .**  
**Share your holiday cheer with children in foster care and/or**  
**children who live with relatives!**

***Did you know?*** Across North Carolina, approximately 11,000 children are in foster care. Additionally, about 11% of children in NC are raised by grandparents and other relatives in informal non-foster care homes. Caring for children who are unable to live with their parents can be emotionally and financially challenging.

**What is the difference between relative caregivers and foster parents?**

Relative caregivers are responsible family members (grandparents, aunts/uncles, etc.) who have decided to provide care to children from their family because they are unable to live with their parents. The most common reasons for these arrangements are because the parent(s) are medically sick, deceased, in prison, financially unable or abusing substances. Most of these families have made their own plans without resources from Social Services.

Foster parents are concerned responsible community members who have been licensed by the state to parent children who have been removed from neglectful or abusive homes by the court system. Foster parents receive monthly compensation and medical coverage is provided to help cover the child's basic needs. Children enter foster care for many of the same reasons that they live with relatives.

**Make a difference this holiday season**  
**Share your cheer with children & families in our community!**

***How can you help?***

- Families request assistance with necessary basics (clothing, shoes, coats, bedding items), as well as other common items that every child deserves. They make a "wish list" of items for you to choose from. Contributions can also be in the form of gift cards so families can shop for their own children.
- Children in foster care request items they would like to have {basic needs are being met}. Children in Foster Care make a wish list for you to select items from or you can provide a gift card to a teenager.

**Who are some relative caregivers & children in foster care in our community?**

- Mr. and Mrs. H, ages 87 and 84 are raising their 12 year-old grandson
- Antonio age 16 – lives in a group home
- Ms. A, age 74, raises her grandsons ages 6 & 14
- Jasmine and Hannah ages 12 & 5 – live with a foster parent

***How do I get wish lists or get started?***

Contact **Teresa Bryant** at 703-3744 or [bryanttc@forsyth.cc](mailto:bryanttc@forsyth.cc) or **Brigitte Lindsay** at 703 – CHILD (2445) or [lindsabp@forsyth.cc](mailto:lindsabp@forsyth.cc) to coordinate your holiday service project.  
Please see the back side of this flyer for the sponsorship process.

**Holiday assistance donations must be received at Social Services by**  
**Friday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm.**



**This holiday assistance project is proudly sponsored by**  
**Social Services' Relatives as Parents Program, "RAPP" groups & Foster Home Adoption Services .**  
**Always remember, "It Takes a Village to Raise a Child!"**

**Thanks so much for your servant heart  
and the willingness to serve!!!**

## **Flow of the “Sponsor” Process:**

### **Step one:**

The sponsor calls the appropriate coordinator (Teresa Bryant or Brigitte Lindsay) and notifies the agency of the family size or number of children they desire to sponsor.

When asked for a guide, we generally ask that minimally \$50.00 be spent on each person sponsored. No one will request an item on their list that is more than \$50.00.

### **Step two:**

Purchase items you wish to give. We are unable to accept used items.

1. Families and children understand there is **no commitment** that they'll get any or every wish
2. If you are purchasing an item for an adult, PLEASE WRAP the gift.
3. If you are purchasing an item for a child, PLEASE DO NOT WRAP the gift. This allows the adults in their lives the opportunity to joyfully wrap the gifts for their children.

### **Step three:**

To ensure staff are available, contact appropriate coordinator (Teresa Bryant or Brigitte Lindsay) to schedule your delivery date and time (must be by 5:00 pm on Friday, December 10<sup>th</sup>).

Deliver your items on the date and time that was arranged through your coordinator.

### **Step four:**

Social Services ensures that children and families receive their items by Saturday, December 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Teresa Bryant 336-703-3744 or [bryanttc@forsyth.cc](mailto:bryanttc@forsyth.cc)**

**Brigitte Lindsay 336-703-CHILD (2445) [lindsabp@forsyth.cc](mailto:lindsabp@forsyth.cc)**

