

2 0 0 9 F A L L I S S U E

*U.S. Coast Guard Family & Friends*  
**HOLIDAY STOCKINGS** *for Homeless Children*

HOLIDAY STOCKING, P.O. BOX 6392, BELLEVUE, WA 98008-0392



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✕ *In the Spirit of Giving* ✕

The air is cooler and winter is near. The holiday decorations are starting to peer at us out of boxes in our basement while we at Holiday Stockings are donning our elf hats and going down into our workshops to get things ready for the holidays.

This year we anticipate another large increase in homelessness. In the past 2 years demand has gone from 2000 stockings for children to 3500 this year. This is an increase of over 40%. Sad as it is to see so many children affected, it makes us work harder to get a stocking to each of these children. We need your help more than ever to make that happen.

Secondly, we have received only a part of the money and in-kind gifts we need to fill all the stockings. We are currently at 30% of our required donation goal. Since we buy ahead to take advantage of all the sales, this means a major short fall in stocking materials and gifts. We really need your help this year more than ever. We ask that you spread the word about these homeless children to your family, friends and co-workers.

Shelters have already started contacting us. They are really excited that we have continued to do this effort. However, because we buy a lot of the stocking items in bulk (such as hats and toothbrushes and gloves) the best donation we can get right now is cash. Nothing is more contrary to my Canadian roots than to ask for money. But if my requests mean that one more child gets a holiday this year, it is worthwhile.

All of us want to make sure that children in the area have a reason to celebrate and believe that someone out there cares about them despite their circumstances. Now let's work together to make this holiday miracle happen again this year.

Donations can be mailed to: Holiday Stockings,  
PO Box 6392, Bellevue, WA, 98008

Drop off sites for in-kind donations are listed on our web page,  
www.holidaystockings.org or contact Bobette at 206-232-9854.

*"Our Mission ...  
of the U.S. Coast Guard Family & Friends Holiday Stockings for Homeless Children is to provide and deliver handmade Holiday Stockings filled with new gifts and useful essentials to the Puget Sound Area homeless children ages birth to 17 years living in and out of shelters."*



*It began with just 8 Shelters and 215 Stockings ...*

### *Champion Volunteers!*

Many Girl Scouts from the Eastside Council used their “cookie” money to buy a small mountain of gifts for holiday stockings. Special thanks to the East Side Coordinator, Janice Michelette, for her help.

Thousands of homeless children received hand selected gifts from the employees of two Bellevue companies. Dorothy of CCS Printing, in Bellevue, organized and infused the Holiday Spirit in her fellow employees. She then went door to door involving other companies up and down SE 30<sup>th</sup> Street involving many in this charity.

Janet Johnson of Uniguard put out the word to fellow employees, and collected many gifts, one with a small teddy bear in sunglasses.

We would like to thank these businesses that let us put a box in their stores: Urology Northwest, Urban Scrapper, Curves of Mill Creek, Curves of Aurora, 1<sup>st</sup> Lutheran Preschool, Laurie's Village Saloon, Ace Hardware in Magnolia, Ballard Optical, Wild Rose's Antiques and Radiant Optic's.

If you are interested in taking charge of a box for us Contact [Bobette@holidaystockings.org](mailto:Bobette@holidaystockings.org)

*New Dates*  
*Sorting: Dec. 11, 2009*  
*Stuffing: Dec. 12, 2009*

### *Volunteer Hours are Compensated?*

Does your company have Volunteer Hours compensation? You can help twice as many homeless children by going to your employer's Human Resource office and find out if your company participates in a Matching Fund Program. Yes, you can volunteer to sew stockings, sort gifts and stuff stockings and your companies will make a donation in a range of \$8 to \$20 per hour in your name for the number of hours that you work in our charity. The companies listed below have Volunteer Hours Compensation. Ask your HR if it is necessary for us to submit paper work in advance. Call Marianne at 425-957-0469 or email [Marianne@holidaystockings.org](mailto:Marianne@holidaystockings.org). Bank of America, Merrill Lynch, Safeco/Liberty Mutual, BP America, Microsoft, Verizon Wireless, Citigroup, Nike, WAMU/Chase, Frank Russell, PSE, JP Morgan & Chase, or Q-West. Let us know your company has joined us.

### *Limiting the Numbers for Stocking Stuffing Volunteers*

We've already started our list and volunteers have been calling. If you are interested in coming on Friday, Dec 11th from 1-6 or Sat Dec., 12<sup>th</sup> from 10-Noon we strongly encourage you to make reservations with Bobette at [bobette@holidaystockings.org](mailto:bobette@holidaystockings.org) or call 206-232-9854. Adults must bring an ID and groups are limited.



...to 79 Shelters and 3000 Stockings in 2008.



*A Big Thanks.....*

to the **Puyallup Tribe of Indians Charity Trust Board** for their VERY generous surprise gift of almost double what we asked for in our grant proposal. Mary Ann Liebert met with Mrs Landry, Chairperson of the Charity Trust Board, in September, was so excited to receive the grant, which far exceeded

our expectations in these difficult economic times. We are now able to work hard for the season knowing we will have gifts to supplement all the gifts we will receive from our generous supporters

Jan was also privileged to attend the Puget Sound Regional Group of the **Early Ford V-8 Club of America**. They gave the Holiday Stockings their **total** proceeds from their Ford Picnic Fund Raiser. They said it was a particularly sunny day so they had a very good turn out. What a great gift! The group was very warm and welcoming, and we were honored that they recognized the Holiday Stockings program to be a worthy recipient of their financial contribution.



***These special folks who have donated \$1000 or more to Holiday Stocking and the 3500 homeless children since January of 2009 deserve our Special Thanks!***

\*Champion Center \*Employees Community Fund of the Boeing Company \*Derek & Karol Jamison \*Microsoft Matching Gifts Program \*Puget Sound Regional Group Early Ford V-8 Club of America \*Puyallup Tribe of Indians \*Suquamish Indian Tribe \*Ernest R. & Audrey M. Turner Foundation



**Sofia Herrera, owner of Meyamo**, an online apparel and accessories store, will be selling a stocking kit for the upcoming holidays. The stocking kit is a beautiful canvas stocking and a set of wonderful holiday inspired letters and decorations. The letters can be easily ironed onto the canvas to create an adorable and long-lasting holiday heirloom.

These stocking kits will be featured in ReadyMade magazine, and DailyCandy Kids Seattle. In addition, a portion of the sales of stocking kits will be donated to Holiday Stockings. Also, Sofia will be working on our logo and completing some design work on our stocking patterns. Available the first part of November at: [www.meyamo.com](http://www.meyamo.com)

DONATIONS NEED TO BE RECEIVED BY THE WEEK OF DEC. 7TH

## Toy and Gifts Wish List

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST IN THESE HOMELESS CHILDREN.  
YOUR DONATIONS ARE WELCOME AND GREATLY APPRECIATED.  
GIFTS MUST BE NEW, INDIVIDUALLY WRAPPED, AND SAFE FOR CHILDREN.**

**FOR PICK UP OR QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT  
BOBETTE SCHEID AT 206-232-9854, PEARL GRANTHAM AT 425-641-8577 OR  
MARIANNE PARSONS AT 425-957-0469  
HOLIDAY STOCKINGS P.O. BOX 6392, BELLEVUE, WA 98008**

**THE ITEMS THAT ARE STARRED\* ARE IN SHORT SUPPLY**

### **For Infants & Toddlers:**

Infant washcloths  
Baby rattles  
\*Small stuffed animals,  
for infants  
Infant bibs & \*hats  
\*Diapers, or  
Pull-Ups for 25 lb. child  
Chunky books  
\*Bath toys, small  
Bubbles  
Three-inch balls  
\*Fat crayons  
Any small toy

### **For Elementary School Age:**

\*Boy & Girl socks  
\*Child toothbrushes, wrapped  
\*Travel size toothpaste  
Small brushes & combs  
Chap sticks  
Crayons or Markers  
Colored pencils  
\*Small craft kits  
\*Yo-Yos  
\*Bendable characters  
\*Game cards, Uno, Go Fish, ect.  
Trading cards  
Punching balloons  
\*Stickers

Play clay  
\*Bouncy balls  
\*Action figures

### **For Teen Age Youth:**

\*Socks, adult, low-tops  
\*Toothbrushes, wrapped  
\*Travel size toothpaste  
\*Dental floss  
Combs, & \*small brushes  
\*Nail clippers & Emery boards  
Deodorants for men & women  
Body Wash, small size bottles  
Small size colognes  
Chap sticks  
Key chains  
\*Jewelry making bead kits  
\*Playing cards  
Chap sticks  
\*Small notebooks & pens  
Hacky-Sac balls  
\*Sudko game booklets  
Make-up  
\*Harmonica's  
iTunes gift cards  
Breath mints & chewing gum  
Lunch box snack foods  
\$5.00 food coupons  
Phone cards

### **For Street Youths:**

Adult men crew socks  
Knitted stocking caps, dk colors  
Gloves, dark colors  
Scarves, dark colors  
\*Toothbrushes, wrapped  
\*Small toothpaste  
\*Hand or Foot warmers  
\*Purse size hand sanitizes  
Disposable razors, wrapped  
Comb  
\*Pocket size kleenex  
\*Travel size games  
\*Nail clippers & file  
iTunes gift cards  
\*USB drives, any size (used ok)  
\*Breath mints & chewing gum  
\*Lunch box snack foods, fruit  
leathers, Trail mix, nuts, cheese  
& crackers, granola bars, ect.  
(no plastic containers)  
\*\$5.00 food coupons  
Phone cards

