

Holiday Stockings for HOMELESS CHILDREN

Fall 2012



Who Are They?

By Jan Maxson

Each year as we begin our charity for homeless children I think back to the first holiday, many years ago when we began our charity.

That first December as we delivered our stockings to shelters I thought about those who would be receiving our gifts. I wondered about all the children's faces and expressions when they dumped out their stockings and examined the contents. I thought about whether one of the little girls would wear her hair in braids as I used to as a child.

What I didn't realize that first year, was that I would never actually see the boys and girls who would receive our gifts. These children would be safely behind the doors of the shelters when we made our deliveries.

Over the years I realized that I was left to imagine the faces of these children. I learned that I would never meet them and know who they were.

But this last year something a little different was revealed. It is true that I won't actually meet these children. But, because of some information one of our volunteers has received from the shelters, I can get more of a sense of who they are.

Our Mission...

For 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.



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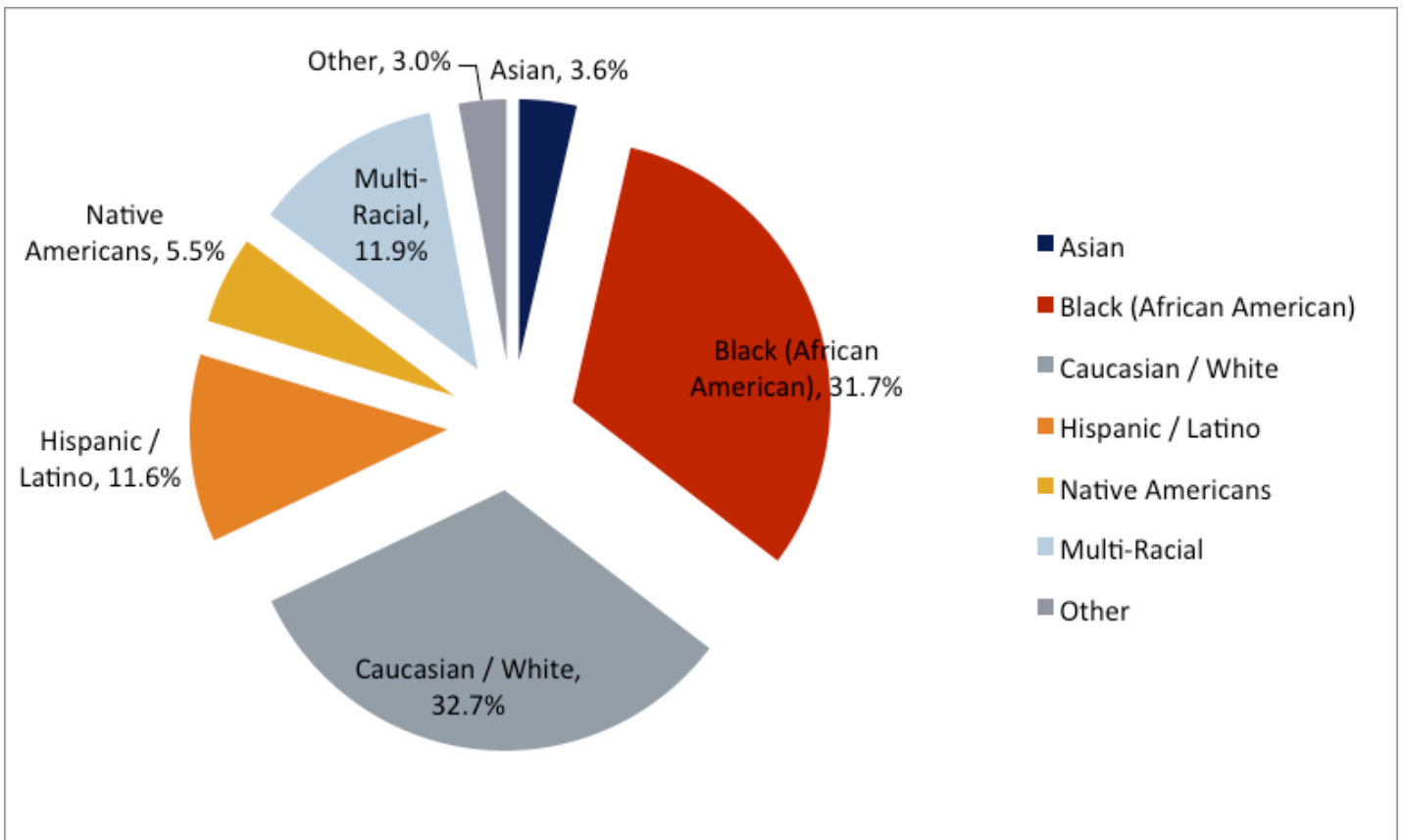
Who Are They? Continued



As you can see from the charts, almost one third of our recipients are Caucasian, 31% are African American and 11% are Latino/Latina. And there are other groups: Multi-racial, Native American, and Asian.

This is the face of homelessness in the Puget Sound area. Homelessness doesn't just belong to one face or even two. *It doesn't discriminate.* There are many faces.

This is a charity that reaches out to all these children. As we prepare for this season's



5 Ways You Can Help



Host a donation Box at your church, school or place of business collect small toys, hats, socks, gloves and other new items for children. Packets of flyers, posters, a donation list and a sample stocking, are available for you to make it easy to set this up.

Sew Stockings We will need over 3,000 stockings made for 2013. A pattern can be mailed, picked up or delivered along with fabric. If you have a stash of holiday fabric you'd like to donate we'll accept that too. We also have bib patterns and yarn for hats or scarves. Contact Pearl at pearl@holidaystockings.org or 425-641-8577.



Send a Holiday Stocking Greeting card to a friend or family member this year. By donating \$20 to fill a stocking, we'll give you a greeting postcard that you can send to someone pledging that you donated a Holiday Stocking to a Homeless Child in their name. Available now, just visit www.holidaystockings.org for instructions on how to order them. Or contact Bobette@holidaystockings.org 206-232-9854.

Shop at Bartell Drugs with a "B Caring Card" Sign up with eScrip for a "B Caring Card" and simply designate Holiday Stockings for Homeless Children #500042501. Up to 4% of every dollar you spend goes to Holiday Stockings. It's free and easy. Complete the registration form enclosed, give it to the clerk at Bartell Drugs and pick up a card. When you get your card, register it online at eScrip.com/BCaringCard or call 800-931-6258.



Donate Funds Whether your gift is cash or matching funds your support makes a big difference. We are currently 20% below our budget for this year. Remember 98% of your donation goes to a homeless child. Checks payable to "Holiday Stockings" and mailed to PO Box 6392, Bellevue WA 98008, or by credit card via PayPal, www.holidaystockings.org, or Marianne Parsons 425-957-0469

Get Involved

***Volunteer on Friday, December 7** Holiday Stockings is fortunate to have a growing number of volunteers so we are full on Saturday December 8, but we still have openings on Friday, December 7, from 1-6pm for sorting toys & boxes, labeling bags, preparing shelter stations and more.

Our **registration deadline is December 1, 2012**. Base security requires all volunteer names be submitted by this date; any Non-US Citizen volunteers with passports must register by November 1 for security verification.

All vehicles must have proof of insurance and registration and ALL persons over the age of 18 must have photo ID. **Volunteers must be registered by name and meet insurance, registration, and ID requirements to be allowed on the site.** Register with Bobette Scheid, Bobette@holidaystockings.org or (206) 232-9854. As space fills quickly, we recommend groups sign up early and you may add group member names up until the deadline.

***We need volunteers for our shelters in Tacoma.** Currently we have a family that brings a couple of trucks and delivers to 5 shelters (over 400 stockings). We would like to pick up a couple more shelters but we need another family or two that could be responsible to oversee a shelter of stockings on Dec 8th and deliver them during the week by Dec 14th. If interested contact

We owe a big THANK YOU to these businesses who have donated \$1000 or more to Holiday Stockings in 2012

*Microsoft Matching Gifts Program * Gates Foundation
*Puyallup Tribe of Indians *Ernest R. & Audrey M. Turner Foundation * Horizons Foundation *Starbucks Community Service Program *Seattle Foundation and 9 donors to GiveBIG



Way to Go Mary Ann!

Mary Ann Liebert, Coast Guard Auxiliary member, received the Sustained Auxiliary Service Award for the most volunteer hours for District 13 Flotilla 21 for 2011 on June, 2012

She's on the Board of Directors for Holiday Stockings, and organizes the stockings for street kids. She was very surprised to receive this award and loves volunteering for us



Thanks to... Puyallup Tribe of Indians, Gaming Commission

On behalf of the CG Holiday Stockings we would like to thank the Puyallup Tribe of Indians for the \$5,000 check in June 2012. Kaylin is the lovely lady in the middle that was instrumental in the process.

What We Need For 2012

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.

Donations need to be delivered by December 5. For pick up or questions contact:
Bobette at Bobette@holidaystockings.org, Pearl at Pearl@holidaystockings.org or
Marianne at Marianne@holidaystockings.org

For Infants & Toddlers:

Infant washcloths
Baby rattles
Small stuffed animals, for infants
Infant bibs & hats
Diapers, or
Pull-Ups for 25 lb. child
Small chunky books
Bubbles
Fat crayons and coloring books for toddlers
Baby thermometers

For Elementary School Age:

Boy & Girl socks
Hats & warm gloves
Child toothbrushes & travels size paste
Small brushes & combs
Chap sticks & lip-gloss
Crayons, markers or colored pencils
Sidewalk chalk
Small craft kits
Yo-Yos
Bendable characters
Flashcards or game cards such as Uno or Go Fish
Activity, coloring, & maze paperback books
Punching balloons
Stickers
Play clay
3" balls or bouncy balls
Ready-to-Read paperback books

For Teen Age Youth:

Adult size socks, girly, regular & thermal
Knit or fleece hats
Toothbrushes, wrapped
Travel size toothpaste
Dental floss
Small brushes, combs for girls
Pedicure/manicure sets
4' - 6" nail files
Deodorants for men & women
Body Wash & lotion in small size bottles
Clear chap sticks & lip-gloss
Nail polish
Blush, eye shadow & mascara
Small package of hair ties
Hair-pic, or wide toothed comb
Latest type bracelets
Fancy/fun writing pens & highlighters
Glue sticks
5X7" paperback journals
Jewelry making bead kits
Playing cards
Hacky-Sac balls
Paperback game books: Sudoku, Crossword, Word Find, etc.
Small stuffed animals (Beany Baby size)
Breath mints & sugarless chewing gum
Travel alarm clocks
Batteries (AA & AAA)
4 – 8 GB USB flashdrives

For Street Youths:

Gift cards, Target, Fred Meyer, Ross, grocery stores or \$5.00 food coupons
Phone cards
Bus pass
Hand or Foot warmers
Warm gloves



GIFT CARDS NEEDED FOR STREET YOUTH



This year we are planning on distributing 720 stockings to street youth and we need additional gift cards from Target, Fred Meyer, QFC, Safeway, etc.

The stockings for street kids are filled with survival items such as caps, gloves, thermal socks, hand warmers, flashlights, water bottles, and healthy snacks. We are also including wallets this year and our idea was to tuck in a gift card to give them a great surprise and allow the kids to select a gift they'll truly love this year.

Thanks for helping us out! For more information contact Mary Ann Liebert at maryann@holidaystockings.org or 206-283-9318.

Visit us on our website, www.holidaystockings.org



Holiday Stockings for Homeless Children
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