

Laurel Advocacy & Referral Services, Inc.

311 Laurel Avenue

Laurel, MD 20707

Phone: (301) 776-0442, ext. 34

Fax: (301) 604-7076

Email: skessler@laureladvocacy.org (Holiday Program Only)

Holiday Program Donor Application

Thank you for inquiring about our holiday program. Each year, LARS assists approximately 100-200 families with food and gifts during the holidays. Applicants from the Greater Laurel Area meet with individual caseworkers from LARS to determine need and eligibility. There are several ways that you can get involved and help during this time:

- 1) "Adopt a Family" by providing gifts and food for a family during the holidays. The approximate cost of this commitment is \$50-\$100 per family member.
- 2) Purchase gifts to be distributed to those who are not adopted either because their applications were received after the deadline or because there were not enough donor families to adopt them.
- 3) Purchase gift cards for local grocery stores, Target, Wal-Mart, Old Navy, Macy's, etc., to be used to complement gifts already provided or to give to families whose "wish lists" could not be fulfilled (We can always use gift cards because teenagers' and toddlers' wish lists are very difficult to fulfill).
- 4) Volunteer for a 2-4 hour shift to help sort gifts or food.

In addition to the standard gifts that may be purchased such as dolls and toy trucks, listed below are some recommended items that could be donated:

- Individual CD Players/MP3 Players (for teens)
- Movie Gift Passes
- McDonald's (or other restaurant) gift cards
- Toddler (under age 3) gifts
- Gift Cards for Clothing (Suggested Stores: Wal-Mart, Target, Old Navy, Macy's or other similar stores)

NOTE: All donations must be received by Friday, December 17th at 5:00 p.m.

Holiday Program Donor Information

Name (if business, please indicate name of business and contact person):

Mailing Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Daytime Phone Number: _____

Fax Number: _____

Preferred Method of Communication: _____ Mail _____ Email _____ Phone _____ Fax

In what way would you like to help? (Please feel free to check more than one)

_____ Adopt a Family (Please complete the questions below before **11/25/11** with your preferences)

_____ Donate items

_____ Donate gift card(s)

_____ Volunteer to sort gifts or sort/stock pantry food

If you are interested in volunteering for the Holiday Program, please email Shelly Kessler at skessler@laureladvocacy.org or call 301-776-0442, ext. 34.

If you are willing to Adopt-a-Family, please complete the following and return it to LARS before Friday, November 25th so that we can complete the matching process:

Family Size Preference:

If you are willing to adopt more than one family, please indicate the number of families and the number of persons per family that you are willing to adopt. Please write the number of families in the blank. (*Example: If you are willing to adopt 2 families with 3-4 members write a 2 in the blank next to “3-4 member family”*)

_____ **1-2 member family**

_____ **3-4 member family**

_____ **5-6 member family**

_____ **7+ member family**

Age Preference:

If you have an age preference for the children in the family, please enter it below. Please be advised that we cannot always make perfect matches but we will do our very best!

Upon receipt of your application, we will match you with a family and mail you a letter with information on your family including the ages of the children and the items from their wish list. If you have any questions about the Holiday Program, please call Shelly Kessler, Holiday Coordinator at (301) 776-0442, ext. 34.

Thank you for your time and your concern for helping others!

Please return this form to:

Laurel Advocacy & Referral Services, Inc.

311 Laurel Avenue

Laurel, MD 20707

OR

Email form to: skessler@laureladvocacy.org