



**THE MAINE
CHILDREN'S HOME**
for Little Wanderers

Serving families and children since 1899

Dear Giving Tree Participant:

Enclosed, please find all materials for your Giving Tree. These items include:

- A poster to be hung on the front of your tree
- Giving Tree tags

Instructions:

- Hang the poster on the front of your giving tree and place your tree in an area visible the public
- Hang the enclosed Giving Tree tags on your tree
- Each day, collect gifts and store them in a secure area

If possible, we ask that you drop gifts off at our Christmas House (building #3) located at 93 Silver Street in Waterville. We sincerely appreciate your effort to get your gifts to us as soon as possible as we work to keep a constant supply of inventory available to our volunteer packers. However, we do accept Christmas donations any day of the year.

Thank you, in advance, for helping make the holidays brighter for over 1,700 Maine children.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth

Elizabeth Barron

Director of Development

93 Silver Street, Waterville, ME
(207) 873-4253, ext. 217 · ebarron@mainechildrenshome.org



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CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

The holiday season brings one of The Maine Children's Home's biggest efforts into focus. Each year, 1,700 children in the state of Maine receive packages of toys, books, warm clothing and more through our Christmas Program.

This Giving Tree is one way you can help keep our inventory stocked and ready to make the holidays brighter for area children.

Please select a tag from the Giving Tree and return your unwrapped gift to this location as soon as possible. The earlier you can get your gifts to us, the easier our job is. We begin packing the first week of October and end in mid-December.

Please note that tags are not specific to a child. These are generated based on requests, popular items, and items that we struggle to keep in stock. If you cannot find the exact item, please feel free to substitute a similar item.

Thank you from the bottom of 1,700 little hearts!

Qualifications

In order to qualify, families must:

- Meet state income guidelines (we currently work at 133% of the federal poverty level)
- Agree not to accept Christmas assistance from any other organization (except for food)
- Be the custodial parent or legal guardian of the children for whom they are applying
- Apply only for children who are 12 or under
- Provide social security numbers for each income-earning individual in the household
- Provide their annual gross household income and any food stamps or child support received
- Be willing to provide proof of income

Christmas applications open on October 1, 2020 on our website: MaineChildrensHome.org/Programs/Christmas/Apply



Services

on the Dorothy 'Bibby' Alford Campus

Christmas Program

Harland A. Turner Family Counseling Center

George J. & Mary S. Mitchell Adoption Unit

The Connected Community

Sharon Abrams Teen Parent School Program

Summer Camp Support Program



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WATERVILLE:
93 Silver Street
Waterville, ME 04901

HappyHolidays@mainechildrenshome.org

(207) 873-4253
www.mainechildrenshome.org



THE MAINE CHILDREN'S HOME
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THE CHRISTMAS PROGRAM



Contact

(207) 872-0261

About Our Program

Each year, the Christmas Program distributes boxes of gifts and clothing to more than 1,700 children of low income families throughout the state.

Families must be income eligible following federal guidelines and must agree not to seek help from any other source. Our program is available to any eligible child in the state of Maine between the ages of 0-12.



CHRISTMAS PROGRAM



IN 2019, WE SERVED:

- 1,711 children
- 845 families
- 149 towns/cities

What Do Children Receive?

While we do not distribute large electronics, game systems, or high end items, we do strive to provide a complete basic Christmas to each child that we serve. We do our best to match the interests of the child using age and gender as guidelines.

Each child might receive:

- A hat and mitten set
- A pair of pajamas
- An outfit of clothing
- A package of socks
- A package of underwear
- One reading book
- A coloring book and crayons
- A large and a small toy
- Stocking stuffers
- Each family will also receive a board game to share

(Items may vary by individual, depending on availability, age of children, and needs.)



How You Can Help

Donate

We accept donations of new toys, books, games, pajamas, clothing or money for the purchase of items for the program. The Christmas Program is a year-long effort and **it is never too late or too early to donate.**

Host A Toy Drive or Giving Tree

Local businesses, schools or organizations can host a toy drive or Giving Tree. We can provide a Needs List or if you prefer, tags for a tree.

Volunteer

(For Christmas 2020, volunteer positions are not open to the general public. Thanks to everyone who has volunteered in the past!)

Fundraise

Host a Party with a Purpose or check out our needs list on our website and do some holiday shopping for us!

Our Mission

To build and strengthen families and their children, instilling hope for the future and a better quality of life.