WAYS TO GIVE: BE A HOLIDAY HELPER!

Gather your community, colleagues, friends, and family to make the holidays brighter for the children and families in our care.

Below are a few ideas on ways you can help:

• **Collection box**: Place a large cheerful and inviting box in your lobby or other common area asking for new unwrapped toys. We will help you with all the details . . . including a poster, a wish list, and even the box!

• **Giving tree**: Place ornament tags on a tree with items from our wish list. Give your participants a deadline to bring in their new, unwrapped toys.

• **Secret Santa**: Instead of placing the names of your coworkers into a hat, place items from our wish list! Ask participants to draw an item and bring the unwrapped toy to a holiday-themed party.

• **General fundraiser**: Raise money to purchase gifts from our wish list or donate to our program.

• **Cook-off**: Invite guests to compete for bragging rights as you charge guests to come, sample, and vote for the best.

• **Potluck days**: Have participants bring their favorite dish along with copies of the recipe and charge each person to eat lunch or dinner. Additional funds can be raised if you sell or auction the recipes.

• **Holiday cookie swap**: Put your Grandma’s favorite cookie recipe to good use! Host a cookie swap and charge $10 to participate.

• **The lunch-out**: Ask all your colleagues or fellow students to bring in sandwiches for their lunch and donate the money they saved.

• **Blue jeans dress down day**: Have participants pay to have a day to dress in comfy jeans.

• **Ugly sweater**: Have an ugly sweater party with a $10 entrance fee and give a prize for the ugliest sweater (as voted upon by the guests).

• **Carolining**: Gather your group and rehearse a few songs, then dress in your warmest and head out into the neighborhood to bring joy to each household. Have a decorated donation bucket out in front of the group.

• **When will the first snow fly?**: If you live in an area where it snows but it hasn’t snowed yet, host a contest where the winner who guesses the closest date to the first snowfall of 2 inches or more wins a prize.

Please contact Kimberley Belleville, 518.579.3517 or Kimberley.Belleville@northernrivers.org, for more details on becoming a Holiday Helper.

We would love to come and visit your office, take photos, and thank you for all of your help!