



Sandusky County Community Christmas

c/o United Way of Sandusky County
826 W. State St.
Fremont, OH 43420
(419) 334-8938

Dear Interested Donor,

On behalf of the Community Christmas Committee, I would like to thank you for your interest in “adopting” a child or family in need this holiday season.

Community Christmas helps to connect organizations and individuals who wish to help others in need during the holiday season with families struggling to put food on their tables and provide gifts for their children. By acting collaboratively, we are able to avoid duplication of giving and, therefore, reach a greater number of families. Last year, with the help of over 132 businesses, organizations, churches, and individuals, we were able to assist 2,732 Sandusky County residents!

Families with children ages 12 and under are able to request clothing and toys for their children. Seniors, aged 65 or older, may also apply for gifts – this generally includes clothing and household goods. The households of qualifying children and seniors may also request a meal for the holiday. These families and seniors are then matched with organizations and individuals wishing to “adopt” them. A copy of the family “wish list” is provided to the donors to assist them in purchasing gifts. Donors are also given a choice to either deliver the gifts personally or drop them off at a location where families can later pick them up. Please see the enclosed “Guidelines for Giving” for additional information.

To participate this year, please complete and return the enclosed Adoption Application to the United Way of Sandusky County office by November 11, 2016.

Sincerely,

Jill Simpson, Program Specialist
United Way of Sandusky County

The Community Christmas Committee

Cassandra Anderson
Lisa Celek
Larry Faist
John Havens

Gary Pollock
Janet Quaintance
Jill Simpson
Abby Slemmer

Steve Snyder
Helen Tonkin
Marie Zimmerman



2016 Sandusky County Community Christmas

ADOPTION APPLICATION

Name of Organization/Family/Individual: _____

Contact Person: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone #: _____ E-Mail Address: _____

Who would you like to help?

Family/Families - How many families with children would you like to adopt? _____

Maximum number of children per family: _____

Children Only - Total number of children you wish to adopt: _____

Senior Citizens - Total number of seniors you wish to adopt: _____

Any of the Above (one of the above will be chosen based on the area of greatest need) - Total number you wish to adopt: _____

Additional Information: _____

What type of assistance would you like to give?

Holiday Meal (food items or gift cards for seniors or children and their families)

New Toys (for children)

New Clothing (for children or seniors)

Personal Care Items and Household Goods (for seniors)

Donation in the amount of \$ _____ (Checks can be made payable to: Community Christmas)

How would you like your gifts delivered to the family?

I would like to personally deliver my gifts before December 21, 2016.

I would like to drop off the gifts on December 20, 2016 between 10 am – 5 pm and any perishables on December 21, 2016 from 8-9:30 am at the American Legion, 2000 Buckland Avenue, Fremont, for my adoptees to pick up there.

By what date do you need the information about your adoptees? _____

Please return to:

Mail: United Way First Call for Help, 826 West State Street, Fremont, Ohio 43420

Fax: (419) 334-8930 or E-Mail: jsimpson@uwsandco.org



2016 Sandusky County Community Christmas Guidelines for Giving

1. Please do NOT give cash to families. Gift cards are a better option.
2. Give the same number of gifts to each member of the family. We suggest a maximum of five gifts per person.
3. NO used clothes or toys. Used items are discarded.
4. Food baskets should contain enough food to provide a holiday dinner for the size of family you have adopted. Suggested items: Turkey, chicken, or ham; potatoes; vegetables; canned cranberry; stuffing mix; rolls; and dessert.
5. Wrapping is optional; however, if you choose not to wrap children's gifts, please provide wrapping supplies (ex. wrapping paper, name tags, ribbon, bows, tape) for the family.
6. Label each gift with the child's/person's first name.
7. If you have chosen to deliver your gifts personally, you must contact your family by December 9th and do the following:
 - ✓ Identify to the family that you have "adopted" them through Community Christmas. Otherwise, the family may think your giving is over and above Community Christmas.
 - ✓ Verify the family's address and set a delivery time.
 - ✓ Deliver the gifts no later than December 21st unless special arrangements are made.
8. If you have chosen not to deliver your gifts and/or food items personally, they must be dropped off at the American Legion, 2000 Buckland Avenue, Fremont, during the following times:
 - ✓ Gifts & Non-Perishable Items- December 20 between 10 am - 5 pm
 - ✓ Perishable items - December 21 between 8 - 9:30 am
9. When dropping off gifts to the American Legion, please make sure that each box/bag of family's gifts are numbered and labeled with the head of household's name. If there is more than one bag/box of items, please number them as follows: 1 of _, 2 of _, 3 of _, etc. For example: If Joe Smith is the head of the household and there are two boxes of gifts for the members of his family, the first box would be labeled "Smith, Joe, Box 1 of 2" and the second box would be labeled, "Smith, Joe, Box 2 of 2."
10. If you would like a thank you from your family, you should include a post card or card including postage for their reply.
11. Please remember that these families are relying on your generosity and Christmas spirit. Following through with your commitment to provide them with assistance is extremely important.