



November 1, 2017

Dear Friend,

Every fall, the Howard Center community comes together to give special gifts of toys, games, clothing, and other items to the people we serve for the holiday season. Friends like you, employees, and volunteers have for many years written checks and donated warm coats, boots, stuffed animals, backpacks, and other gifts to brighten seasonal celebrations for those who would otherwise go without. This year, we're pleased to continue the Holiday Giving tradition and grateful to all who will participate.

To streamline the program and give more flexibility to our clients and their families, all gifts this year will be presented in the form of gift cards. This enables people to try on clothing and shoes and gives parents the opportunity to shop for their children. Though some friends have enjoyed purchasing and donating toys and clothing in the past, this year we instead ask for gift cards to local department, grocery, clothing, and toy stores. We recommend gift cards in denominations of \$25. Here's a list of recommended stores: Price Chopper, Hannaford, City Market, Walmart, Toys R Us, TJ Maxx, Kohls, Sears, JC Penney, Bon-Ton.

As the community we serve continues to grow in diversity, so do the holidays and observances our clients embrace. No matter what their traditions and backgrounds may be, many of the people we serve tend to have greater needs as the weather turns cold, making this the perfect time to provide extra help. The Holiday Giving Program tradition complements Howard Center's ongoing client needs and client enrichment funds which help the people we serve address basic needs and provide funds for enrichment activities throughout the year. Contributions to the client needs and client enrichment funds are always welcome and can be made anytime.

To participate in the Holiday Giving Program, please [CLICK HERE](#) to print the Holiday Giving Project Contribution Form and return it along with your gift card preferably by November 15, but no later than December 15. Last year we helped nearly 700 children and adults through the Holiday Giving Program and we hope to help even more this year.

Thank you very much for your past participation and for your consideration again this year.

With Best Wishes,

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[HowardCenter.org](http://HowardCenter.org)

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