

Share
Holiday Cheer
Program
Giving Trees



A Giving Tree is an opportunity for community members to ensure that more than 1,000 local individuals and families receive gifts through Share's Holiday Cheer Program. Hosting a holiday giving tree at your business or office to collect these gifts is a simple, creative, and tangible way to help out families in need in your community. Your gifts will be shared with families in our shelters and supportive housing programs, as well as low-income Clark County adults and families through our annual holiday parties.

Share will provide hang-able gift tags with suggested gift items for different age groups. You can display the tags as ornaments on your Christmas tree or menorah in a common space, pin them on a board, or do something new and creative with them to inspire the holiday spirit.

Giving tree tags and gift wish lists can be picked up on: **Monday, October 30 to Friday, November 3 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at: The Share Fromhold Service Center, 2306 NE Andresen Road Vancouver, WA 98661**

If you are unable to pick up your tags, we will mail them on November 6.

Gifts should be delivered to the Share Fromhold Service Center **between December 10 and December 13, by appointment only**. Please contact Meaghann Ande at 360-952-8229 or devcoor@sharevancouver.org to make an appointment.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Should I wrap my gift?

A. No, please do not wrap your gifts. All items are displayed on shelves so that we may fill requests from individuals and families. Our holiday volunteers take pleasure in ensuring that every person receives the items they need or desire most during the holiday season. We send gift wrap home with parents so they may experience the joy of watching their child unwrap a gift on Christmas morning.

Q. What if I cannot afford the item requested?

A. That's okay, as the items listed are merely suggestions. Every gift is deeply appreciated.

Q. Can I donate a gift card?

A. We are enormously grateful for gift card donations, as we give them to clients and guests to purchase items they may need when we do not have adequate supplies.

Q. What happens if someone takes a Gift Tag and loses it or is unable to purchase the gift?

A. We will make sure every child's wish list is fulfilled. Donations of cash and gift cards help us fill in the gaps.

Q. I would like a receipt. How will that be provided?

A. In-kind donations of gifts are tax-deductible. Please send detailed donation information including name, address, and value to Meaghann Ande at devcoor@sharevancouver.org for a receipt.

Giving Trees make a difference for families across Clark County. People who receive the gifts would likely have no gifts at the holiday otherwise. We are grateful for your help!



If you have questions or to make an appointment, please contact:

Meaghann Ande: (360) 952-8229 or devcoor@sharevancouver.org | sharevancouver.org



Adopt-A-Family Frequently Asked Questions

Thank you for considering adopting a family in need through our Holiday Cheer program. Below, please find frequently asked questions and basic information that may be helpful as you proceed with your gift giving for adopted families.

How are families chosen to be adopted? Families chosen for this program are low income members of our community who receive a housing subsidy while a part of the Share ASPIRE Housing Programs. Additionally, clients in our HEN program—disabled adults with zero income—will sometimes be adopted out to ensure their needs are met in this important time.

Will I be able to meet my family? Share takes the privacy of our clients very seriously, and due to that we are unable to arrange for clients to meet with donors. We will ensure you have an opportunity to learn the depth and effect of your support.

How will I know the ages and genders to buy for, what they want, and what they need? Each family is given a form to fill out for each family member. The form includes: name, age, gender, clothing and shoe size, favorite colors and more to better assist with your donation selection. The family will also be able to indicate if household items are needed, such as a vacuum, dishes, silverware, or bedding. Please donate NEW ITEMS only.

How does my family purchase their holiday meal? Many of our clients are unable to afford a holiday meal. Please consider providing a food box with your family's gifts. It is recommended that the box contain non-perishable food items for a holiday dinner and a gift card for perishable items. An alternative is to provide a gift certificate so that they may choose items themselves.

What happens to my gifts if my family moves or is terminated from Share's programs? As we move towards the Housing First model, it is infrequent that someone is terminated from the program. In that situation, a solution would be considered on a case-by-case basis. If our clients move, they remain in contact because they know they are going to receive the assistance for this Christmas. We adopt most of our graduates (families with children) who moved on from our programs in the current calendar year.

Do the donation receipts need to be filled out for each family? Yes. To ensure that we deliver every item that you donate for the family, please fill out the donation receipt form provided to help us track the gifts and the number of items. Please itemize all donations given for each family adopted. Each family should have its own receipt form. To save time during the delivery process, please complete these forms prior to coming to your drop off appointment. All donations should be brought unwrapped to our Fromhold Service Center.

Other important information:

- Remember, the holiday gift items that you provide must be new and unwrapped.
- Cost per family member is typically \$75 to \$100. You are welcome to partner with others to support a family.
- After the holidays, families write a thank you note that will be shared with you.
- The dates for donation drop-off will be December 5 through December 10 in specific time slots (note: excludes December 10th, on which date the office will be closed). **We ask that you deliver to the location below and only on your scheduled date and time.** This is to ensure that we will have adequate staff and volunteers available to receive and confirm the donations. When we provide the information about your family, we will also tell you the date and time for your drop-off. Gifts will be distributed to families December 12 through December 15.

Share Fromhold Service Center, 2306 NE Andresen Road, Vancouver, WA 98661

Please contact Becky West at 360-952-8223 or officemgr@sharevancouver.org with additional questions.

**Thank you for your gift of caring. We could not do it without you.
We wish you a wonderful holiday season!**