



Adopt-a-Family:

Frequently Asked Questions.

Your generosity will make a positive impact on a local family.

How are families chosen to be adopted? Families chosen are low-income members of our community who receive a housing subsidy while a part of Share's Affordable Housing & Stability program. Clients in our HEN program (disabled adults with zero income) will sometimes be adopted. We also partner with local schools to adopt unaccompanied youth.

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? We are encouraging the donation of gift cards and stocking stuffer items for each family. Gift cards provide "the gift of choice" to families and allow them the ability to purchase their most needed items. Each family is given a form to fill out for each family member. The form includes: name, age and gender. This information will help determine the number of gift cards needed.

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 grocery gift card for the entire meal.

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 holiday season. 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 **items that you provide must be new and unwrapped**. Donors bring in an itemized list that is verified by staff and again by the recipient so that Share can ensure that the correct gifts get to the intended party.
- Cost per family member is typically \$100 to \$125. 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 9, 10 and 13 in specific time slots. **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 coordinate the date and time for your drop-off. Gifts will be distributed to families December 14 & 15.

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

Contact Amy Hammerstrom at 360-952-8231 or ahammerstrom@sharevancouver.org with questions.