

DVS CHRISTMAS SPONSOR INFORMATION

Thank you in advance for your interest and/or participation in our Christmas Family Sponsorship Program.

For victims of domestic violence, maintaining normal routines and traditions in times of crisis is important in nurturing the resilience and healing for their families. Many of our clients struggle to make ends meet day-to-day, but the struggle is especially difficult during the holiday season.

In effort to provide that extra special assistance to our clients, every year DVS coordinates the sponsorship of families for Christmas. Sponsors provide the family with, at minimum, gifts for each family member, but may also provide food, decorations and meet other needs.

We have taken the time to ask each family what some of their needs and wants are for the Christmas Holiday. In hopes of making it easier for the sponsor and making sure the items will benefit the family we have included clothing sizes for each family member as well as the individual likes and needs.

We respectfully request that all items given to a family for Christmas be new. If you are interested in donating slightly used items, sponsoring the shelter rather than a family might be a better fit for you.

Some of the clients are very excited to work directly with the individual and/or group that will be sponsoring them. If this is the case with your family you will see the contact information for the family on the family information form with their needs. You may contact the family with any questions that you may have for them and to set up a delivery date and time. I would also encourage any sponsor to call and check in with the family when you first get their information to let them know who you are and give them your contact information (you only have to share as much information as you feel comfortable with – just a name and phone number is sufficient). This is important in case the families contact information changes at any time they have a way to contact you.

Other families that we work with may choose to keep their personal information confidential. In these cases the sponsor will work directly with DVS staff to coordinate delivering the items. It will then be the responsibility of the DVS staff to deliver the items directly to the family.

If a family has been sponsored while in the shelter and moves into their new place before the holiday they will be asked if they would like to change and have the sponsor to deliver to them or not. In this case all of the contact information will then be forwarded to the sponsor.

We do not tell the families who they were sponsored by, if you want to share that information that will be up to you. One way to do this is to leave a card with the items to let the family know who sponsored them.

During this process you can anticipate being contacted by DVS staff to touch base. If at any time during the process you are finding it difficult to contact your family or deliver, or you have questions about a confidential family you are working with please contact DVS staff at anytime. If you are working directly with a family and have set up delivery please contact DVS to let them know this has been completed.

We hope that all goes well for you and the family. You can expect to hear from DVS after the holidays to get feedback on how everything went.

If you have any questions between now & then, please contact us at 582-9841.