Holiday Connections:
A Holiday Project and Agency Wish List
Why Help?

Every year hundreds of members of our community rely on the generosity of strangers throughout the holiday season. Whether it’s receiving the ingredients for a special meal, gifts for family members, or warm clothing to wear, your caring gift makes a difference in someone’s life! Holiday Connections was created to assist individuals and groups in our community identify and select holiday giving projects.

Choosing a Project

Whether you’re part of a group or an individual who wants to help, here are some hints to help you choose the right project for yourself or your family or group:

- Look over the complete list to get an idea of what projects are available.
- Think about how many people might want to get involved, i.e. will you invite your whole company or just your department to participate?
- Think about the resources available to the people in your group and choose an option that will allow the most people to participate at some level.
- Before making a selection, talk to a few people who might be helping to see if there is a strong area of interest, such as seniors, children or animals.
- Make sure your group understands and is comfortable with any restrictions requested by the agency, such as early deadlines or not wrapping gifts.

- If you would like more information about a particular agency and what they do, or you’d like some suggestions, call The Volunteer Center at 717.732.0700.
- If possible, decide on your project by early November. This is particularly important if you choose to adopt a family. While monetary donations are always welcomed by nonprofit agencies, most attempt to find “adoptive families” for their clients by this time.
- If you happen to get a late start, don’t despair. Many agencies have last-minute needs and The Volunteer Center is available to help.
- Once you’ve chosen a project, call the agency contact person to let them know your plans. It’s important the agencies know in advance what you are doing so they can plan appropriately and avoid duplication.
- If you plan to have 10 or more people involved in your project, consider asking a few to help you with planning and spreading the word.
- Don’t forget to let us know how it went! We count on your feedback to evaluate the success of the program. You can use the report form on the next page or simply send us an e-mail about your experience. If available, send us a photo of your group in action, too!

Thank you for making the holidays brighter for our less fortunate neighbors!
United Way of the Capital Region
HOLIDAY CONNECTIONS PROJECT REPORT

Thank you for taking the time to answer the following questions. Providing this valuable data will help us determine the success of our Holiday Connections program. In addition, we’d like to use some of the information to recognize your group in the January issue of The Volunteer Center e-newsletter. If you have questions, feel free to call Heidi Neuhaus at 717.724.4055. Thank you!

Agency chosen: ________________________________________________________

Project selected: _______________________________________________________

Total number of people from your company/group who participated: __________

    _____ Male _____ Female   _____ Youth (under age 18)

Any comments about your project that you’d like to share:

______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________

May we use your comments in the January 2016 Volunteer Center e-newsletter? _____

Name of person completing this questionnaire: ____________________________

Phone number (just in case we have questions): __________________________

Company/group name: ________________________________________________

Please complete and fax by January 9, 2016:

Heidi Neuhaus
Director, The Volunteer Center
United Way of the Capital Region
Fax: 717.732.5100

We’d love to hear from you! E-mail us (hneuhaus@uwcr.org) a photo of your group in action – wrapping gifts, loading up cars, hosting a party for shelter residents, etc. – or your comments about your volunteer experience, and we’ll do our best to include it in the January issue of The Volunteer Center e-newsletter.
American Red Cross Serving Central Pennsylvania
Contact: Hope Roaten, 717.234.3101, ext. 1202
E-mail: hope.roaten@redcross.org
Youth: Appropriate for youth, minimum age 14

Infant Comfort Kits: The American Red Cross needs infant comfort kits containing baby supplies for families who have been displaced from their homes due to disasters. All items should be clean and new. Needed items include the following: diapers (sizes 3 or 4 preferred), baby wipes, diaper rash ointment, pacifiers, bottles, baby toys, baby blankets, baby soap/shampoo (trial size bottles), baby lotion (trial size bottles), washcloths, baby powder (trial size bottles) and bibs.

Note: Please make sure these kits are small enough to be easily stored and transported. Everything should be packed neatly into new, clean bags without a lot of extra space.

Contact: Lori Demchak, 717.571.3198, ext. 1251
E-mail: lori.demchak@redcross.org
Youth: Appropriate for youth, minimum age 14

Totes of Hope: The American Red Cross needs supplies for their Totes of Hope campaign. Please send only new items. Needs include: socks, rain ponchos, fleece lap throws, flashlights with batteries, pocket mirrors, decks of cards, personal first aid kits, adhesive bandages, sewing kits, toothbrushes, toothpaste, dental floss, deodorant, bars of soap, disposable razors, shaving cream, combs/brushes, pocket tissues, hand sanitizer, nail clippers, pens, note pads, sturdy backpacks (at least 17” deep) and a personal note of thanks to each veteran receiving a backpack.

All items may be dropped off at the Red Cross office at 1804 N. 6th Street, Harrisburg, PA 17102.

Amiracle4sure, Inc.
Contact: Marsha Banks, executive director, 717.232.0100 (voice), 877.601.5298 (fax)
E-mail: amiracle4sure@gmail.com
Youth: Appropriate for youth. Girls, minimum age 12

Donations are needed for the women’s residential facility including: personal care bags with slippers, hats and gloves, washcloths, towels, lotion and shampoo. Please also include a gift card for each bag (example: movie passes, Target, Walmart, etc.) so residents can buy a gift for their child or do something special with them during the holidays.

Donations are also needed for 20 personal care bags for middle school students in our Ladies First after-school program (ages 12-14 years old). Items needed are bags, nail polish, nail polish remover, combs/brushes, lotion and scented body sprays. Please also include a gift card for each bag (example: Claires, Piercing Pagoda, Walmart, Target).
The Arc of Cumberland and Perry Counties (formerly CPARC)
Contact: Adrienne Williams, 717.249.2611 (voice), 717.249.9411 (fax)
E-mail: awilliams@cparc.org
Youth: Appropriate for youth, no minimum age

Donors are needed to purchase gifts for The Arc of Cumberland and Perry Counties’ (CPARC) Angels Program. This program provides gifts anonymously to specific individuals with disabilities receiving services from CPARC. Holiday gifts tags are prepared with the first name of the individual and an item from their wish list. Donors are asked to select a tag and purchase the item listed. We ask for gifts to be new, wrapped and returned with the tag to CPARC. All gifts will remain anonymous and will be signed “From a CPARC Angel.” The agency requests that gifts be received by December 9.

For those unable to shop for gifts, The Arc of Cumberland and Perry Counties will gladly accept monetary donations to the Angels Program and volunteers will purchase gifts.

The Arc of Dauphin County
Contact: Sam Primak or Barbara Bressler, 717.920.2727 (voice)
E-mail: sprimak@arcofdc.org or bbressler@arcofdc.org
Youth: Appropriate for youth, no minimum age

Donations and/or donors are needed to purchase gifts for 10 individuals with disabilities participating in The Arc of Dauphin County’s Super Six Program and Aktion Club. The individuals will each have one item selected as their gift of choice, which will be entered onto a list. Interested donors can access this list by calling or visiting The Arc. Once donors pick gifts from the list, they will have until December 16 to return them to The Arc. We ask that all returned gifts be new and wrapped. The Arc will also accept monetary donations to purchase gifts.

Bethesda Mission
Contact: Debbie King, 717.257.4442, ext. 222 (voice), 717.257.5486 (fax)
E-mail: dking@bethesdamission.org
Youth: Appropriate for youth, minimum age 14

Donations of food are greatly appreciated and needed. The shelter also needs donations of men’s deodorant, socks and underwear. Collections could be sponsored through churches, schools and/or businesses. The shelter is also looking for groups of up to six people (ages 12 and up) to serve in the Soupline for dinner from 4:15 to 6:00 p.m.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Capital Region
Contact: Megan Halpin, 717.236.0199 (voice), 717.236.0633 (fax)
E-mail: mhalpin@capbigs.org

The agency would benefit from donations of the following items: activity books, cards, coloring books, craft supplies, crayons, gift certificates/coupons to local events, and a new digital camera.
**Bountiful Blessings, Inc.**
Contact: Theresa Orendi or Ron Orendi, 717.802.1222 (voice)
E-mail: ronorendi@gmail.com
Youth: Appropriate for youth, if accompanied by an adult

The agency needs a dolly or hand cart, pallet shelving, push cart, and manual pallet stacker or hand hydraulic stacker. The agency also seeks businesses or groups to conduct drives for non-food items. The core items needed are: toilet paper, trash bags, paper towels, dish liquid, shampoo, bath soap, cleaners, baby wipes and toothpaste. These items are then distributed to struggling families and seniors.

Additionally, Bountiful Blessings seeks companies interested in running “jeans day” promotions where the proceeds benefit the agency.

**Boys & Girls Club of Harrisburg, Inc.**
Contact: Yvonne Hollins, 717.234.3268 (voice), 717.234.3273 (fax)
E-mail: yvonneec1952@aol.com
Youth: Appropriate for youth, minimum age 6

The agency needs personal care gift bags for 250 youth ages 6-18. Contents needed for the bags include: soap, towels, washcloths, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, combs, gloves, hats and scarves.

**Bread of Life Outreach**
Contact: Heidi Ladd, 717.567.9181 (voice), 717.567.7013 (fax)
E-mail: mrshladd@gmail.com
Youth: Appropriate for youth, minimum age 14

The agency needs help collecting food for more than 1,600 families in Perry County. Items are also needed for a toy distribution in December. The agency also needs holiday items for teenagers, including gift cards.

**Brethren Housing Association**
Contact: Marilyn Bellesfield, program director, 717.233.6016 (voice), 717.233.5489 (fax)
E-mail: mbellesfield@bha-pa.org
Youth: Not appropriate for youth

The agency welcomes donations of household items such as toilet paper, paper towels, all purpose cleaners, dish detergent and female toiletries. Gift cards to Walmart and Giant are also welcome.
Bridge of Hope Harrisburg Area
Contact: Johanna Fessenden, 717.635.5957 (voice)
E-mail: bridgeofhope.hbg@gmail.com
Youth: Appropriate for youth, no minimum age

This agency needs donations of Christmas gifts for single homeless mothers and their children. Volunteers can contact the agency and obtain a wish list of items for a specific family. Donations of gift cards and cash to be used toward gifts for the families are always welcome.

Caitlin’s Smiles
Contact: Cheryl Hornung, 717.412.4759 (voice)
E-mail: caitlinssmiles@comcast.net
Youth: Appropriate for youth, minimum age 5

The agency is looking for organizations, businesses and schools to collect arts and craft supplies for children who are hospitalized over the holidays. Especially needed are coloring books, journals, markers, pony beads and lacing (elastic and gimp).

Camp Koala
Contact: Lisa Liebetrau, 717.258.1122 (voice)
E-mail: director@campkoala.org

Camp Koala would greatly appreciate donations of gift cards to Walmart, Target, local grocery stores, Michael’s, Staples, Office Max, Panera, Subway, Amazon, etc. These donations help to buy activity supplies and art therapy supplies for our grief camps and support groups. Donations of any amount are greatly appreciated, as well as gift baskets that can be auctioned at fundraisers.

Capital Area Therapeutic Riding Association (CATRA)
Contact: Michael Babbitt, 717.623.5553 (voice), 717.469.0095 (fax)
E-mail: Outreach.Coordinator@CATRA.net
Youth: Appropriate for youth, minimum age 13 (unless accompanied by an adult)

Volunteers are needed daily to help maintain the facility. All work is outdoor farm-focused and ideal for small group projects. Opportunities are available to care for horses and small animals. This is an excellent family atmosphere where parents and children can volunteer together. Additional help is needed to prepare the facility for the holidays.

Contributions to CATRA’s wish list are also a great way to support the facility during the holidays. Items on the wish list include: both dry and wet dog/cat food, salt blocks, hot chocolate, hot cider, paper products (tissues, paper towels, cups, toilet paper), garbage bags and cleaning supplies (Pine Sol, dish soap, sponge mops).
**Castaway Critters** (James A. Hueholt Memorial Foundation for Animals)  
Contact: Jamie Balla, 717.466.6582 (voice)  
E-mail: info@castawaycritters.org  
Youth: Appropriate for youth, minimum age 10

The agency is requesting donation drivers for the following items: canned pâté cat food for cats that have no teeth, Purina Smart Blend dry cat food, dry and canned dog food, bleach, paper towels, HE laundry detergents, Simple Green Pro 3, trash bags, plastic or paper soup bowls, paper plates, and/or USA made cat and dog treats.

**Catholic Charities - Interfaith Shelter for Homeless Families**  
Contact: Yvette Dick, 717.652.8740 (voice), 717.545.0145 (fax)  
E-mail: vabel@cchbg.org  
Youth: Appropriate for youth, no minimum age

The agency needs donations of bed pillows, bath towels, washcloths, twin sheet sets, twin blankets, toiletries, baby wash/dove soap, paper towels, toilet paper, laundry detergent, dish washer detergent, and bathroom cleaning supplies.

**Central Pennsylvania Food Bank**  
Contact: Chris Gray, 717.564.1700, ext. 2342 (voice)  
E-mail: cgray@centralpafoodbank.org  
Youth: Appropriate for youth. No minimum age for food donation. Age 12 for volunteerism.

The Central Pennsylvania Food Bank needs donations of frozen turkeys and hams, canned vegetables, instant potatoes, applesauce and cranberry relish. By providing a nutritious holiday meal, families struggling with hunger will carry your blessings into 2016. Holiday donations will be accepted through December 20.

Donations of non-perishable foods and fresh produce are welcome throughout the year.

**Children’s Cancer Recovery Foundation**  
Contact: Madeline Chronister, 717.688.7940, ext. 102 (voice), 717.688.7938 (fax)  
E-mail: mchronister@cancerrecovery.org  
Youth: Appropriate for youth, no minimum age

Sponsor a toy drive for the BEAR-Able Gift® program. This program distributes gifts, games and toys to children who are in hospitals undergoing cancer treatments. Wish list includes: new stuffed animals, crayons and other art supplies, Legos, Hot Wheels, hand-held games, card and board games, books, activity sets, coloring books, puzzles, hats and any other sort of new toy.
Christian Churches United/HELP Ministries
Contact: John Scarpato, 717.238.2857 (voice), 717.238.1916 (fax)
E-mail: jscarpato@ccuhbg.org
Youth: Appropriate for youth, no minimum age

The agency seeks donations for the Holiday Help-a-Family program where staff will match individuals or groups with families in need of holiday gift assistance. Miscellaneous gift cards (Walmart, grocery stores, etc.) and personal care items are also needed for last-minute holiday gifts for homeless and near-homeless individuals. Men’s socks (white) are also needed.

Do you have a friend, family member or boss who has everything and is difficult to buy for? Consider a monetary donation to Christian Churches United in their honor.

Volunteers are also needed to assemble the holiday newsletter.

Claremont Nursing Home and Rehab
Contact: Nancy Hahn, 717.240.1937 (voice)
E-mail: nhan@ccpa.net
Youth: Appropriate for youth, minimum age 14 unless accompanied by an adult

Volunteers are needed to decorate the facility’s 22 trees and outside areas for the holidays. Volunteers can choose between decorating the trees or the areas. Decorating will occur from November 25 - December 3. There are eight holiday socials which volunteers can assist with hosting or providing musical entertainment.

Community Carepoint, Inc. (Adventure Zone Playground & Park)
Contact: Stacey McDonald, 570.336.0443 or Lori Cartmill, 717.580.7279
E-mail: smcdonald@capitalareachurch.com or lcartmill@capitalareachurch.com

Community Carepoint, Inc., would greatly appreciate donations of branch loppers (up to 20) and manual hedge clippers (up to 10) to help clear additional trails and disc golf holes at Adventure Park. This unique family park on the campus of Capital Area Christian Church is open to the public and includes a fully-accessible one-acre playground, one-mile paved fitness trail with accessible fitness stations, a nine-hole disc golf course with accessible tee pads, two sand volleyball courts, a soccer field, and a 150-seat pavilion.

Volunteers are welcome to join in on the fun and physically exhilarating work days in the woods. Simply contact Stacey McDonald and work dates will be emailed to you in advance.

Community Check-Up Center
Contact: Linda Hengst, 717.233.1700 (voice), 717.236.8752 (fax)
E-mail: cccdirector@comcast.net

The center needs donations of new books for children ages birth to early teens for the waiting room. The children are then encouraged to take these books home.
Dauphin County Library System
Contact: Joni Williamson, 717.232.7286, ext. 104 (voice)
E-mail: jwilliamson@dcls.org

The agency needs donations of new children’s books and early reader books, hard-cover or paperback, to provide a positive learning experience for children of adult offenders during parole visits. Please deliver to any of the eight libraries in the Dauphin County Library System and specify “for children’s outreach.”

See http://www.dcls.org/ for locations and hours.

Domestic Violence Services of Cumberland and Perry Counties
Contact: Carolene Dobbins, supervisor, 717.258.4806 (voice)
E-mail: cdobbins@dvscp.org
Youth: Appropriate for youth, minimum age 14

The agency provides emergency shelter to victims of domestic violence and their children. The holidays are especially hard on the families, many of whom have never been away from home before. Two holiday programs are available:

• Adopt-a-Family: Purchase gifts for a specific family, wrap the gifts and deliver them to the family in time for Christmas. The agency will work with you to choose a family and provide a wish list from the family.

• Angel Tree: Each angel tag will have the name, gender and age of an adult or child hoping for a holiday gift. The tag will also include three items on the person’s wish list. Companies, groups or individuals may request as many tags as appropriate for the size of the group.

In addition, the agency also has a list of immediate and ongoing household needs. A list of items can be provided for employees or groups wishing to hold a holiday drive.

Downtown Daily Bread
Contact: Elaine Strokoff, 717.238.4717 (voice), 717.232.9341 (fax)
E-mail: estrokoff@pinestreet.org
Youth: Appropriate for youth, minimum age 15

Downtown Daily Bread needs the following items: #10 canned foods, non-perishable food items, holiday paper products, turkeys, hams, beef, pies, cakes and cookies for the holidays.

The agency also seeks small groups that would like to volunteer to do a lunchtime (12:30 – 1:30 p.m.) holiday party with special foods, small gifts and possibly entertainment.
Family Promise of Harrisburg Capital Region
Contact: Kristina Marshall, 717.737.1100 (voice)
E-mail: fphcrdirector@gmail.com
Youth: Appropriate for youth, minimum age 5

Family Promise serves families experiencing homelessness. The agency welcomes donations of gift cards (Giant, Karns, Target, Walmart, CVS) or items for guest including: laundry detergent, soap, shampoo, cleaning supplies, envelopes, deodorant, baby wipes, diapers, toilet paper, paper towels, toothbrushes, toothpaste and first aid items.

Friendship Center
Contact: Lynn Wuestner, 717.657.5635 (voice), 717.657.5022 (fax)
E-mail: lwuestner@lowerpaxton-pa.gov
Youth: Appropriate for youth, minimum age 16

Be part of a wonderful holiday celebration for the community at the annual tree lighting ceremony on Friday, December 2. Assist with games, arts and crafts, or be a Santa's helper. Lots of fun while volunteering!

Gaudenzia
Contact: Megan Jones, 717.238.4200 (voice)
E-mail: mjones@guadenzia.org

Gaudenzia is looking for donations of hats, gloves, and blankets for the clients at their Chambers Hill Adolescent Facility. These clients are teenage boys between the ages of 14-18. Extra blankets will be given to the agency’s women and children’s facility in Lancaster. They are not in need of volunteers.

Helen O. Krause Animal Foundation, Inc.
Contact: Julie Swenson, 717.432.3807 (voice), 717.432.3807 (fax)
E-mail: julie4horses@aol.com
Youth: Appropriate for youth, 13 to 16 years old must be with a parent for cat shelter; 18 years and older for the dog kennel.

Hold a collection drive for the following needed items: dry cat food (Purina Cat Chow, Purina One cat food and Purina kitten food), dry dog food (Purina One dog food), pâté canned cat food (Friskey), non-clumping litter, rag mops, sponge mops, replacement heads for mops, paper towels, laundry soap, hand doap, dish soap, towels and toys for animals. Donations of gift cards to PetSmart, Giant, Home Depot, Staples and Office Max are also needed.

Volunteers are always needed for the dog kennel and cat shelter.
Historical Society of Dauphin County
Contact: Barbara Pollihan, 717.233.3462 (voice), 717.233.6059 (fax)
E-mail: office@dauphincountyhistory.org
Youth: Appropriate for youth, minimum age 13

Volunteers are needed to give public tours of the Harris-Cameron Mansion, to assist with archives data entry and exhibits, to assist in the office, and to assist with gardening and grounds maintenance.

Hospice of Central Pennsylvania
Contact: Elizabeth Mihmet, 717.732.1000 (voice), 717.234.0384 (fax)
E-mail: Eihmet@hospiceofcentralpa.org

Hospice of Central Pennsylvania's Carolyn Croxton Slane Hospice Residence is the area's only hospice house and provides 24-hour care to individuals who are unable to remain at home. Donations of gift cards to Bed Bath & Beyond, Home Depot, Target or Giant are needed to purchase supplies for the residence and for patients and their families.

Gifts cards to Amazon are also needed to provide books for families who are grieving.

Humane Society of Harrisburg Area (HSHA)
Contact: Nancy Valdez, 717.564.3320, ext. 122 (voice), 717.564.1867 (fax)
E-mail: nancyv@humanesocietyhbg.org
Youth: Appropriate for youth, minimum age 10

Each year HSHA cares for thousands of homeless animals in its shelter. This holiday season, the greatest needs are: non-scoopable kitty litter, latex/nitrile/vinyl gloves and peanut butter. Also needed are gift cards for grocery, pet or hardware stores to handle special or emergency needs at the shelter. Conducting a donation drive for these items would be very helpful and greatly appreciated!

Isaiah 61 Ministries
Contact: April Ocasio, 717.557.5166 (voice)
E-mail: aprilocasio@isaiah61min.org
Youth: Appropriate for youth, no minimum age

Isaiah 61 Ministries serves the homeless and less fortunate in Harrisburg and the Upper Dauphin area. We are currently looking for groups who would be willing to run drives to collect any of the following items: turkeys, hams, non-perishable food items, new white socks, blankets (new or like new - no stains or rips), toiletry items and cleaning supplies.

Monetary donations are also accepted.
**Jewish Federation of Greater Harrisburg**  
Contact: Jennifer Ross, 717.236.9555, ext. 3104 (voice), 717.236.0965 (fax)  
E-mail: j.ross@jewishfedhbg.org  
Website: www.jewishharrisburg.org

The agency would appreciate donations including two heavy duty tub serving carts, card tables and gift cards (Giant, Weis, Lowes, Target). These items will benefit the agency’s early learning center, after-care program and seniors program. This agency serves individuals of any denomination.

**Join Hands Ministry**  
Contact: Michael Burns, 717.582.7844 (voice), 717.582.7844 (fax)  
E-mail: info@joinhands.help  
Website: www.joinhands.help  
Youth: Appropriate for youth, no minimum age

Join Hands coordinates the Holiday Network Program for Perry County. The agency needs new, unwrapped children’s toys, gift cards or sponsorships for needy families. For those who don’t have time or are unable to shop, the agency welcomes cash donations and will have volunteers purchase the gifts. To sign up to volunteer or donate, call 717.582.7844 or visit www.joinhands.help.

**Joseph T. Simpson Public Library**  
Contact: Sue Erdman, 717.766.0171 (voice), 717.766.0152 (fax)  
E-mail: serdman@ccpa.net  
Youth: Appropriate for youth, minimum age 13

The Joseph T. Simpson Library in Mechanicsburg needs gift cards to AC Moore, Michaels, JoAnn Fabrics, Target, Walmart and local grocery stores which would be used to purchase materials for children, teen and adult programs. Also needed are reams of 20 pound, white, photocopy paper.

**Joshua Group**  
Contact: Deb Miller, 717.236.4464 (voice), 717.232.4536 (fax)  
E-mail: joshcenter@comcast.net  
Youth: Appropriate for youth, minimum age – middle school

The Joshua Group welcomes donations for students participating in its pre-school program and J Crew after-school program. The agency wish list includes school supplies (construction paper, crayons, markers, pens, pencils, paint) and personal care supplies. The Joshua Group supports at-risk youth living in Harrisburg.
The Kidney Foundation of Central PA  
Contact: Tina Fornstrom, 717.652.8123 (voice), 717.671.9444 (fax)  
E-mail: tina@kfcp.org  
Youth: Appropriate for youth, minimum age 6

Donations of arts and crafts items and children’s books/DVDs are needed for use at Camp Kyndie, a week-long summer camp for children with kidney disease. Items needed include, but are not limited to, crayons, markers, construction paper, paints, child-safe scissors, books and DVDs for children ages 6-16. The agency also welcomes donations of gift cards to purchase those items. Items should be delivered to the agency’s office at 1500 Paxton Street, Suite 101, Harrisburg.

Keystone Service Systems, Inc.- Susquehanna Service Dogs  
Contact: Kerry Wevodau, 717.497.4430 (voice), 717.469.4268 (fax)  
E-mail: kwevodau@keystonehumanservices.org

Susquehanna Service Dogs is a local nonprofit that breeds, raises and trains service dogs to be placed with individuals with mental and physical disabilities. Items needed include: laundry detergent, dryer sheets, bleach, soft dog training treats (such as Pupperoni), paper towels, Clorox wipes, mops, mop buckets, gift cards to local pet stores, bags of Purina Pro Plan Large Breed Focus, chest freezer, dog poop bags, large plastic storage containers and Kuranda beds.

Love INC of Greater Hershey  
Contact: Michelle Miduri, 717.835.0101 (voice)  
E-mail: mmiduri@loveincgreaterhershey.org  
Youth: Appropriate for youth, no minimum age

Love In the Name of Christ of Greater Hershey would appreciate gift cards for gas at places such as Sheetz, Giant, Sunoco and Exxon/Mobile.

The agency would also appreciate personal care items for their personal care closet as these necessary non-food items are not available through food assistance programs. Personal care items needed include: hand soap, dish soap, paper towels, tissues, shaving cream, disposable razors, body wash, feminine hygiene products and baby wipes.

Volunteers of various ages and skill sets are always appreciated.

MidPenn Legal Services  
Contact: Paula Burkett, 717.234.0492 (voice), 717.234.0496 (fax)  
E-mail: pburkett@midpenn.org  
Youth: Appropriate for youth, no minimum age

Donations of wrapped books and small toys are needed for children who come into the office.
National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Pennsylvania Keystone Chapter  
Contact: Kimilie Pugh, 717.652.2108, option 2 (voice), 717.652.2590 (fax)  
E-mail: kimilie.pugh@nmss.org  
Youth: Appropriate for youth, no minimum age  

Holiday Angels: The National MS Society serves individuals who are diagnosed with multiple sclerosis. Donations of Christmas gifts are needed for families in financial crisis who have a family member diagnosed with multiple sclerosis. Volunteers can contact the agency and obtain a wish list to provide gifts for a specific family. Gift cards (Giant, Karns, Target, Walmart, CVS) are also needed to be used toward gifts for the families. Cash donations are always welcome.

Nativity School of Harrisburg  
Contact: Felicia Ellzy, 717.908.5384 (voice), 717.236.8604 (fax)  
E-mail: fnellzy@gmail.com  
Youth: Appropriate for youth, minimum age 11  

Nativity School is a private, independent, faith-based middle school for low-income boys from the City of Harrisburg. These families are aided throughout the year but especially during the holiday season. Donations of gift cards from various stores such as Walmart, Kmart, Target, Giant, etc. are needed to help the families. Also needed are toiletry supplies such as Lysol wipes, paper towels and toilet paper.

Ned Smith Center for Nature & Art  
Contact: Beth Sanders, 717.692.3699 (voice)  
E-mail: bsanders@nedsmithcenter.org  
Youth: Appropriate for youth, no minimum age  

Contributions to the center’s wish list are a great way to support this education-based facility during the holidays. Items on the wish list include: Sharpie permanent markers (ultra-fine point or fine point, black and multi colors), Elmer’s extra strength glue sticks (net weight .88 oz.), Crayola markers (“chubby” size for small hands, washable or non-washable, all colors), laminating pouches (8.5 x 11 letter size, 50-100 sheets, 3 mils thickness), clear heavy weight sheet protectors, neon post-it notes for a pop-up dispenser (neon green, neon yellow, neon pink, etc.), green index cards (3x5) and clear packing tape (“Duck” brand preferred).

The center is also looking for volunteers to help in the gift shop all year long, but especially during the holiday season. The days and hours of need are: Tuesdays through Fridays, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.; and Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 1-4 p.m.
Neighborhood Center of the United Methodist Church
Contact: Ronda Peters, 717.233.6541 (voice), 717.233.6554 (fax)
E-mail: rpeters@neighborhoodcenterumc.org
Youth: Appropriate for youth, no minimum age

Hold a Christmas toy collection drive and help the Neighborhood Center provide toys for 300 children from low-income families. Toys should be new, unwrapped and preferably non-violent.

Winter accessories such as hats, gloves and scarves are needed for children and adults. Personal care and baby care items are also needed. The center gives Christmas gifts to teens and could use donations of gift cards for Giant, Walmart, Kmart, Payless Shoes or Target.

New Hope Ministries
Contact: Alicia Roth, 717.766.7333, ext. 3014 (voice)
E-mail: aroth@nhm-pa.net
Youth: Appropriate for youth, minimum age 16

Volunteers are needed for the agency’s annual Christmas Blessing Express program. Help is needed to sort and set up on December 14. The actual program will be December 15-16. Personal shopper volunteers are needed to help guide guests around as they pick out gifts for their family members. Volunteers are also needed to be greeters, serve as hospitality volunteers and to restock the tables. Sign up online at https://www.timetosignup.com/nhm/ to reserve your time and spot to help volunteer.

Newport Public Library
Contact: Jeanne Heicher, 717.567.6860 (voice), 717.567.3373 (fax)
E-mail: nppublib@pa.net
Youth: Not appropriate for youth

Over half of Perry County residents live in areas without a “home library” and they must pay to use libraries. A donation of $50 will sponsor a family’s library usage at Newport Public Library for one year. Your sponsorship will open the doors of reading for your sponsored family.

Northern Dauphin County Branch YMCA
Contact: Carol Bostdorf, 717.362.9494 (voice), 717.362.8583 (fax)
E-mail: carol.bostdorf@ymcaharrisburg.org
Youth: Appropriate for youth, no minimum age

Donations of new, unwrapped toys are needed to distribute to local families in need. Donations of new blankets are also welcomed.
Northern Dauphin Human Services Center  
Contact: Bonnie Kent, 717.905.2700 (voice), 717.362.3135 (fax)  
E-mail: bkent@dauphinc.org  
Youth: Appropriate for youth, minimum age 7  

The agency will be collecting toys and food for holiday food baskets, and gifts for the “Be a Santa to a Senior Citizen” program. The agency also needs volunteers to create games and songs, and provide decorations for the program’s party. The agency also needs volunteer bell ringers for their Salvation Army Unit.

Paxton Ministries  
Contact: Diane Buckwalter, 717.236.5508 x126 (voice), 717.236.3099 (fax)  
E-mail: dibuckwalter@paxtonmin.org  

Paxton Ministries is a Christian nonprofit organization that provides affordable housing and support services to adults challenged with poverty, mental illnesses and intellectual disabilities.

Their needs this year include hygiene products of all sorts, twin sheet sets, bath towels, wash cloths, craft items, puzzles, card games, wall calendars, hats, scarves, gloves and socks. Additionally, gift cards are always welcome in denominations of $5 or $10 for Giant, Walmart, Target, Dollar Tree or A.C. Moore.

The Partnership for Hope  
Contact: Dave Seaman, 717.545.7555 (voice), 717.545.5509 (fax)  
E-mail: daveseaman@partnershipforhope.org  
Youth: Appropriate for youth, no minimum age  

Join The Partnership for Hope to provide presents, a great meal and an evening of entertainment to more than 2,000 struggling people at the Farm Show Complex in December.

The agency will be collecting toys, games, educational items, movie tickets and gift cards starting December 1.

Volunteers are needed, too. E-mail volunteer@partnershipforhope.org before November 30 indicating your area of interest (serving food, preparing and distributing presents, assisting with registration, setting up and tearing down, providing transportation).
Penn State Hershey Children’s Hospital – Child Life Program  
Contact: Sarah Miller, 717.531.8366  
E-mail: smiller29@hmc.psu.edu  
Youth: Appropriate for youth, no minimum age  

The agency needs the following items donated: thin coloring books, adult coloring books (for teen patients), crayons (8, 16, or 24 count only), washable markers (8 or 16 count), colored pencils, Lego Kits (all sizes), craft kits (paintable sun-catchers, individual perler bead kits, fuzzy posters, latch hook kits), Play-Doh (all sizes); 4 oz. Bubbles (non-scented), board games (Sorry, Guess Who, Trouble, Battleship, UNO Games, Candy Land, Chutes & Ladders, Memory, Boggle, Boggle Jr., Connect 4, Monopoly, Bop-It), card games (regular playing cards, UNO, Skip-Bo, Phase 10, etc.), sketch pads, snap together model car kits, current teen magazines, Chapstick/lip gloss, LipSmackers, body lotions and sprays, make-up kits, and nail polish.

Please call to schedule a drop-off appointment. We would like to have all holiday donations by December 19.

Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central PA (Hershey)  
Contact: Patrice Stillwell, volunteer manager, 717.533.4001 ext. 158  
E-mail: pstillwell@rmhc-centralpa.org  
Youth: Appropriate for youth, if under 18 must be accompanied by an adult  

Donations of single serving foods (chips, crackers, cookies, cereal, soup, etc.) and gift cards for gas stations, local restaurants, grocery stores and long distance phone cards are needed for the house guests. Our complete wish list can be found on our website at www.rmhc-centralpa.org.

Groups of volunteers (up to 10 people at a time) are needed to prepare breakfast (weekends) and dinner (daily) for all house guest families (approximately 70 servings). Information on the Guest Chef Program is available at http://www.rmhc-centralpa.org/get-involved/meal-providers/.

RSVP of the Capital Region  
Contact: Juli Obaya, 717.541.9521 (voice), 717.754.0307 (fax)  
E-mail: office@rsvpcapreg.org  

The agency seeks volunteers to knit hats, gloves, blankets, etc. to donate to kids and the elderly. Donations of yarn are also needed for this project.

Donations of non-perishable food and drink are needed for inner-office volunteers.
The Salvation Army Harrisburg Capital City Region
Contact: Melissa Snyder, 717.233.6755, ext. 111
E-mail: melissa.snyder@use.salvationarmy.org
Youth: Appropriate for youth, no minimum age

Adopt-a-Family Program: Purchase gifts and a holiday dinner for a specific family, wrap the
gifts and deliver them to the family in time for Christmas. The agency will coordinate with you
to choose a family and provide the family’s wish list.

Adopt-a-Senior Program: Purchase the ingredients for a holiday dinner and deliver it to a
senior in time for the holidays.

Giving Tree Program: Purchase gifts for local children in need and deliver them to the agency.
Each giving tree tag includes the name, gender, age, clothing sizes and gift ideas for a specific
child. Companies, groups or individuals may request as many tags as appropriate for the size
of their group.

Provide a holiday meal basket: Provide a holiday meal for a family in need. Go to
http://www.timetosignup.com/calvationarmyhbg to see the collection list and to sign up.

General Gift Collection: Collect NEW toys and/or clothing for children in our Christmas
Assistance program whose Giving Tree tag was unfulfilled.

Contact: Melissa Snyder, 717.233.6755, ext. 111
E-mail: melissa.snyder@use.salvationarmy.org
Youth: Appropriate for youth, minimum age 15

Volunteers are needed to sort, pack and distribute gifts for children from December 14-22. This
project is appropriate for individuals and groups. Sign up at:
http://www.timetosignup.com/salvationarmyhbg

Contact: Major Elizabeth Griner, 717.233.6755, ext. 120
E-mail: elizabeth.griner@use.salvationarmy.org
Youth: Appropriate for older youth

Brighten the holidays of local senior citizens through friendly visits and gift delivery at nursing
homes and corporate residences. Visits will occur in December.

Contact: Jessica Johnson, 717.233.6755, ext. 138
E-mail: Jessica.johnson@use.salvationarmy.org
Youth: Appropriate for youth, children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult

Volunteers are needed to help man the standing kettles. Five hour shifts are available at 20
different locations throughout the area. Sign up at:
http://www.timetosignup.com/salvationarmyhbg
Shalom House
Contact: Denise Britton, 717.920.4906 (voice), 717.441.1159 (fax)
E-mail: dbrittonshalomhouse@verizon.net
Youth: Appropriate for youth, minimum age 15

Volunteers are needed to staff a holiday gift wrap booth at the Colonial Park Mall in December from 10 a.m. - 9 p.m. Three to five people are needed per shift; more people may be needed on weekends. Lots of flexibility with shift times.

Cash donations are also welcomed to support shelter operations and the veteran’s program.

Gift cards to Walmart, Target, Giant, Weis, Karns, Home Depot, Lowes, Kmart, Staples and Office Max are appreciated. Gas cards from Sheetz, etc. are also needed to help defray transportation costs for clients.

The agency also welcomes ongoing donations of individual bus tickets, paper towels, toilet paper, feminine hygiene products, large (sturdy) garbage bags, adult size bars of soap, body wash, shampoo, conditioner, women’s deodorant, adult toothbrushes, Lysol spray or wipes, cleaning products, masking tape, scotch tape, business-sized plain white envelopes, large three ring binders, postage stamps, white printing paper, large plastic storage bins, radios, flat screen televisions, home furniture (if it can be delivered), rugs, coffee pots, small appliances, dishes, umbrellas, rain ponchos, linens, silverware, and pots and pans.

St. Francis of Assisi Soup Kitchen
Contact: (Ms.) Chucky Palmer, 717.236.4506 (voice), 717.232.4536 (fax)
E-mail: cfagan@hbqdiocese.org

The agency would like volunteers to help serve Thanksgiving dinner on Thursday, November 24. Volunteers are also needed to decorate between December 9-11 for the soup kitchen’s holiday party as well as help with the holiday party on December 17.

Suits to Careers, Inc. (formerly Dress for Success South Central PA & Tied to Success)
Contact: Pam Jones, director of operations, 717.232.1333 (voice), 717.232.1332 (fax)
E-mail: pjonessuits2careers.org

Office Supplies: large trash bags, business-sized plain white envelopes, postage stamps, gift cards (Giant, Walmart, Sam’s, Sheetz), cleaning products, white printing paper and packing tape.

Personal Care Items: soap, adult tooth brushes, toothpaste, razors, shaving cream, body wash, shampoo, conditioner, women’s or men’s deodorant.

Clothing: packaged socks, undershirts and briefs, steel toe shoes and boots.

Consider having a donation made in your name when family and friends ask what would like this holiday season. Visit our website at Suitstocareers.org to learn more.
Susquehanna Harbor Safe Haven  
Contact: Iris Thomas, 717.232.5029 (voice), 717.232.5091 (fax)  
E-mail: ithomas@ccuhbg.org  
Youth: Appropriate for youth, no minimum age

The agency needs trimmings for a full holiday meal for 25 men. Donations of gift cards to Giant, Target, Walmart and Kmart, as well as food donations of eggs, milk, beverages, bottled water, produce, condiments, salt and pepper, coffee, creamer and sugar are also welcome. Also needed are toiletries such as toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, razors, deodorant, lotion, shampoo and conditioner, along with bath towels, wash cloths, twin bedding sets, and pillows for the bed. Monetary donations in honor of a family member or friend are always welcome and appreciated, as well.

Tri County Community Action  
Contact: Kathleen Lacomba, 717.232.9757, ext. 113 (voice), 717.234.2227 (fax)  
E-mail: klacomba@cactricounty.org  
Youth: Appropriate for youth, no minimum age

Donations of educational toys and books for children of all ages, and baby items for new moms and dads are greatly appreciated. We also welcome donations of school supplies for kids and office supplies for families to help them maintain budgets and household schedules. Donations are accepted during the holidays and throughout the year.

Volunteers age 45 and older are also needed to work with youth enrolled in our Harrisburg-based intergenerational mentoring program throughout the year.

Tri County OIC Adult Learning Center  
Contact: Jeffrey Woodyard, 717.238.7318 (voice), 717.238.3304 (fax)  
E-mail: jwoodyard@tricountyoic.org  
Youth: Appropriate for youth, no minimum age

The agency is looking for math or science games, puzzles, experiment/activity kits, etc., for elementary age-children and adults who are preparing to take the math and science high school equivalency test.
**UCP Central PA**
Contact: Janeen Latin, 717.975.0611 (voice), 717.975.0839 (fax)
E-mail: jlatin@ucpcentralpa.org
Youth: Appropriate for youth, minimum age 16

Holiday Gift Wrap: Volunteers are needed to staff a gift wrap booth at the Capital City Mall from December 1-24. Daily shifts are available and require at least four people per shift during the week and five during the weekends. This is ideal for individuals or groups.

Adopt-a-Family: Purchase gifts for a family with young children (including children with disabilities) or an adult with intellectual and/or physical disabilities. The gifts should be wrapped and delivered in time for Christmas. Agency staff will work with you and your group to select a family or an adult and provide a wish list from that family.

Donate Supplies: Art supplies for programs are needed. These include paper, paint, markers, crayons, colored pencils, etc. The agency also needs small appliances (Crock Pots, blenders, toaster ovens) and small electronics (CD players, DVD players), recreational items including board games, outdoor games, puzzles, instruments, etc., and magazine subscriptions.

**United Methodist Home for Children**
Contact: Kim Hanford, 717.766.7652
E-mail: khanford@umhcservices.com
Youth: Appropriate for youth, ages 12-20

Gift cards are greatly appreciated! Visa gift cards in $25, $50 and $100 amounts for emergencies, special occasions, movies, and technology. $20 gift cards to Sheetz, Target, Kohl’s, Dick’s Sporting Goods, Walmart. $10 gift cards to Applebee’s, Pizza Hut, Papa John’s, Subway. $5 gift cards to McDonald’s, Burger King, Wendy’s.

The agency also welcomes cash gifts to help provide clothing, resident activities, recreational activities, furniture, etc., for the kids living at the home.

**United Way of the Capital Region - Literacy for Life**
Contact: Heidi Neuhaus, 717.724.4055 (voice), 717.732.5100 (fax)
E-mail: hneuhaus@uwcr.org
Youth: Appropriate for youth, no minimum age

Craft supplies are needed for literacy kits. Almost any craft item can be used, but the most-needed items include: construction paper, crayons, markers, colored pencils, glue sticks and/or glue, foam stickers of any kind (animal shapes especially), pom poms, popsicle sticks, paper plates (not foam), white or colored tissue paper, peel and stick googly eyes, tape and stickers.

The items will be utilized by volunteers to assemble literacy kits. Each kit contains a book as well as activities related to the book that help to promote family reading and reinforce what the child has learned in the book. The kits will be distributed to children through area schools in the spring.
Upper Dauphin Human Services Center, Inc.
Contact: Audrey Maule, 717.453.9352 (voice), 717.453.8299 (fax)
E-mail: hmansvcs@epix.net
Youth: Appropriate for youth, minimum age 16

Each year the agency provides Thanksgiving and Christmas food baskets for families in need. Donations of turkeys (or canned hams) for 100-120 families are needed for both holidays. The agency can make arrangements to pick up donations of multiple (10 or more) turkeys. The agency also needs gift cards in the amounts of $10 or $15 for Weis or Giant.

The agency needs volunteers to help pack the food boxes for distribution to recipients and sort donations for the Christmas program.

Vision Resources of Central Pennsylvania
Contact: Cheryl Cuddy, 717.238.2531 (voice)
E-mail: ccuddy@vrocp.org

Vision Resources relies greatly on generous volunteers who give their time in order to support their mission. Volunteers are needed for the reading services department to read news, sports, and other information that will be broadcast over the radio for clients who are not able to read the news due to vision loss. There is also a need for volunteers to perform administrative duties in reading services and other departments. Volunteer drivers are needed to help transport clients to the monthly support group meetings in Harrisburg.

YWCA of Greater Harrisburg
Contact: Tiffanie Keck, 717.724.2250 (voice), 717.234.1779 (fax)
E-mail: tkeck@ywcahbg.org
Youth: Appropriate for youth, minimum age 16

Adopt-a-Family: Purchase gifts for a specific family and bring the unwrapped gifts to the YWCA. The YWCA will coordinate with you to choose an appropriately-sized family and provide a list from the family consisting of two needs and one wish.

Shop for items on the general holiday giving wish list or organize a gift drive using a wish list supplied by the agency. The organization also welcomes volunteers to help wrap the presents.