

Donor Guidelines: Shopping & Financial Guidelines

The following guidelines have been provided for you with the intention of simplifying your shopping experience.

We value each and every one of our Holiday Angels. We do not want to curb your creativity! In the past we have told our donors to purchase what they are comfortable with. We continue to stand by this recommendation, as we know that each gift you are giving is purchased with an open heart, caring and generosity towards someone in need. Below is a basic budget to indicate the financial commitment of being a Holiday Angel.

We would like to emphasize that this is a rough estimate, based on some of the most common 'wish' items (wish lists vary greatly from family to family).

Holiday Angels with smaller or larger budgets are more than welcome to participate!

SAMPLE BUDGET - Cost for purchasing gifts for 1 adult & 1 child

*Please note this is a **SAMPLE**. Prices are estimated based on a shopping trip to Wal-Mart. Also note: two adults would not necessarily equate to \$700 – as a family would not request two sets of cutlery, pots and pans etc. as these are household items for the whole family.

Adult		Child	
Winter coat, hat, scarf, gloves	\$65	Snowsuit (gift card)	\$60
Winter boots (gift card)	\$50	Winter boots (gift card)	\$25
Bedding (i.e. pillows, sheets, duvets)	\$50	Winter hat, gloves, scarf	\$15
Towels	\$15	Winter clothing (i.e. jeans, sweater)	\$40
Toiletries	\$20	Socks & underwear	\$15
Household (i.e. pots & pans, cutlery, dishes, drinking glasses)	\$50	Books & toy	\$25
		Backpack	\$20
		Twin sheets & duvet	\$50
+ FOOD VOUCHER	\$100	+ FOOD VOUCHER	\$50
Approximate total:	\$350	Approximate total:	\$300

Thank you for your participation in the Holiday Angel Program!

We sincerely hope that participating in this gift-giving program will be a memorable and fulfilling experience for you.

As one recipient shared.....



"I hope you have a wonderful holiday season and please know that you have truly made a difference in my life."



OTHER FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

1) How do I know the family assigned to me is in need of a Holiday Angel?

Each family is registered with New Circles. During intake, each family is interviewed and financial eligibility is verified.

2) Can I choose my family?

If you have specific requests for a family in terms of family size and ages of family members, please be sure to complete the appropriate section on the registration form. We will do our best to accommodate your request.

3) Do I get tax receipts for the gifts I purchase?

Tax receipts will be issued for **gift cards only**. In order to qualify for a tax receipt, the gift card must be of **\$20.00** or more in value and the receipt for this purchase must be submitted to New Circles. Unfortunately, we cannot offer tax receipts for purchased gifts.

4) Does the recipient family know who I am?

Holiday Angels is an anonymous gift giving program. New Circles will not share your personal information but in the spirit of breaking down barriers, we encourage you to enclose a note to your family telling them about yourself.

5) How will I know that my family has received their gifts?

We take great care in organization and accuracy. We deliver the gifts within hours of receiving them. Additionally, you will receive a thank you letter or email to acknowledge your participation in the program.

6) Should I wrap the gifts for my family?

It is nice for families, especially children, to receive some wrapped gifts but it is not absolutely necessary. If you choose to wrap your gifts, please indicate what items are included in your basket on the provided gift list.

7) What type of container should I use to pack the gifts for my family?

We suggest packing items into practical containers such as large plastic bins, laundry baskets or a shopping cart; shopping carts serve as a basic necessity for the majority of New Circles' clients and carts facilitate the transportation of food and clothing for their family throughout the year.



8) Is it possible for me to give gifts to this program, if I am not registered as a Holiday Angel?

We welcome the donation of money, gift cards, new toiletries, new toys or new household items. We are able to use these gifts to create packages for more of our families in need.