

City of Alexandria, Virginia
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
Community Services Program
holidaysharing@alexandriava.gov
2525 Mount Vernon Avenue Alexandria, VA 22301

Fall 2009

Dear Friend:

Please reach out to the neediest in our community in these especially hard times and join us in the ***Holiday Sharing Program*** to **Sponsor a Family, Sponsor a Senior Citizen, Sponsor a Foster Child, and Sponsor a Teen**. You can help with your TIME by volunteering or with your RESOURCES by donating gifts. Enclosed is a form that lists how groups and individuals of all ages can help. Please note the suggested level of support is ***approximately \$75 - \$100 per person or family member***.

If you have participated in our Holiday Sharing program before, you will see changes this year. Because so many more families will sign up for our help, we will limit requests on the Wish Lists **to necessities only** and in families, **for the children only**. This will allow more of our donors to contribute ***desperately needed grocery store gift cards and clothing*** to families and senior or disabled individuals. We hope, if you are able, that you will increase the number of families and seniors that you sponsor. There may also be one major or family gift requested; if you can fulfill that wish, perhaps with a “gently used” item, that would be a wonderful bonus for the family.

The options for giving and volunteering are listed on the enclosed form, with important times and dates. Please MAIL or FAX the form **by November 11 or as soon as possible** after you have receive this letter. The fax number and address are on the form. Please share the information and photocopy the form for others who also want to help.

This year, you can also sign up via our website. Check out <http://www.alexandriava.gov/holidaysharing>. When you do so, you will receive a confirmation email with instructions. The Wish Lists will then be mailed or emailed to you after mid-November.

The value of all your contributions is tax-deductible to the full extent of the law. Please feel free to call or email with your questions and concerns. And do call **if you have not heard back from us by December 5**. Thanks for supporting our Alexandria neighbors in the best spirit of the holidays.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Kratzok

Coordinator, Community Resources

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Sharon Crampton & Christine Coussens

Holiday Sharing Committee

